

November 9, 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian:

As a parent/guardian of a student in Douglas Magnet Elementary School, I am writing this letter to let you know that Douglas has been designated as a Targeted Support & Improvement Additional Targeted Support (TSI-AT) school by the North Carolina State Board of Education. As stated in ESSA Section 1111(d)(2), North Carolina had to identify schools for targeted support and improvement. **TSI-AT schools in North Carolina are those that have a subgroup that is under-performing.** The intent of this opportunity is to improve educational outcomes for all students, close achievement gaps, increase equity, and improve the quality of instruction.

As a TSI-AT school, Douglas is required to develop a comprehensive plan that specifically addresses how the school will improve student achievement. The plan will also include how our district will support us and monitor the progress of our school. The comprehensive plan will address the following areas:

- Classroom Management
- Standards-aligned Instruction
- Professional Learning Communities (PLCs)
- Instructional Leadership
- Recruitment & Retention of Effective Teachers
- Support for Grade-to-Grade Transitions
- Implementation of a Tiered Instructional System
- Data-Driven Decision Making
- Student Support Services
- Family and Community Engagement

We have set the following goals for Douglas this year:

- By June 2024, 75% of Douglas Creative Arts and Science Magnet Elementary School students will demonstrate proficiency, and all subgroups, specifically Hispanic, Black, Students with Disabilities, and English Language Students, will meet or exceed growth goals in Reading and Math as measured by state and local assessments and EVAAS data.

Here are some strategies Douglas will be implementing:

- Enhance Professional Learning Communities to improve learning outcomes for students
- Standards-aligned units of instruction for each subject and grade level
- PLCs engage in weekly collaborative planning and utilize a common structure that includes arts integration and opportunities for enrichment.

- Administration informally and formally visits classrooms and provides either verbal and/or written feedback.
- Engage in data-driven discussions to tailor teaching methods to improve student learning and achievement.
- Differentiated instruction so all students, regardless of their ability, can access learning and grade-level material.

Also, parent engagement is at the heart of our school improvement efforts. Here are some ways we can work together:

- Ensure that both you and your child know the academic expectations set for your child this school year. A list of learning objectives in student-friendly language is available from your student's teacher(s).
- Email Ms. Marcia Hefner, Instructional Facilitator, at [mhefner@wcpss.net](mailto:mhefner@wcpss.net) if you have questions or concerns about your student or to set up an appointment to meet with a school staff member who will be working with your child.
- Make sure that your child is prepared and attends school each day.
- Monitor your child's homework.
- Monitor the progress your child is making and attend meetings with your child's teacher(s).
- Keep track of our website and social media sites <https://www.wcpss.net/douglases> and twitter: @DouglasESDragon
- Volunteer.
- Join Douglas PTA

Additionally, listed below are a few resources available to help:

- Douglas Creative Arts and Science Elementary School: <https://www.wcpss.net/douglases>
- Graduation requirements: [www.ncpublicschools.org/gradrequirements/](http://www.ncpublicschools.org/gradrequirements/)
- K-12 standards in academic subjects: [www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/](http://www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/)
- State student achievement test results: [www.ncpublicschools.org/accountability/](http://www.ncpublicschools.org/accountability/)
- N.C. School Report Cards: <https://ncreportcards.ondemand.sas.com/src>

We are committed to improving student performance. It is important to remember that just as no single score or grade tells the whole story of a student, neither does it tell you everything about a school's performance or the opportunities that our school provides. The intent of receiving these designations is to improve educational outcomes for all students, close achievement gaps, increase equity, and improve the quality of instruction. We're excited about this school year and are working to make it a success for your child. Already, we have:

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact Tiffany Faison-Bullock at [tfaison-bullock@wcpss.net](mailto:tfaison-bullock@wcpss.net) or 919-881-4894.

Sincerely,

Tiffany Faison-Bullock