



School Year 2020-2021

Dear Parent/Guardian:

I hope you and your child are having a good school year. We are excited to share in the daily triumphs of our students and our community. We have had plenty of accomplishments to celebrate over our 20 years at Bethany Community School such as our Advanc-Ed accreditation and our partnership with Rockingham Community College. As we look ahead, we are continuously finding ways to grow and strengthen our practices for all of our students.

As a parent/guardian of a student in our school, we want to let you know that Bethany Community School, has been designated a Targeted Support & Improvement school with Additional Targeted Support (TSI-AT) by the North Carolina State Board of Education. As stated in ESSA Section 1111 (d)(2), North Carolina identified schools for targeted support and improvement. TSI-AT designated schools are those that have subgroups that is under-performing. The intent of this opportunity is to improve educational for all students, close achievement gaps, increase equity, and improve the quality of instruction.

As a TSI-AT school, Bethany Community School is required to develop a comprehensive plan that specifically addresses how the school will improve student achievement. This comprehensive plan, also known as our School Improvement 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, and Family and Community Engagement.

We have set the following goals for Bethany Community School during the 2020- 2021 school year:

- Increase proficiency for all students in math by three percentage points or higher
- Increase proficiency for all students in reading by three percentage points or higher
- Increase proficiency for 8th-grade students in Science by three percentage points or higher
- Increase student growth for all students by three percentage points or higher
- Increase proficiency in all subgroups by two percentage points or higher. (In our school a subgroup met growth, but needs to meet proficiency. Two of our subgroups need to meet growth, but met proficiency.) Information on subgroups, search for internet for Performance and Growth of NC Public Schools Executive Summary Addendum.

Our students need to experience higher achievement levels and it will require dedicated work on the part our staff, students and families. Here are some strategies Bethany Community School will be implementing:

- Continue differentiating instruction in the regular classroom to meet individual needs.
- Scholar program: intervention classes, focus groups, peer tutoring, and one-on-one interventions.
- Frequent evaluation and feedback to parents and students regarding specific skills.
- Added researched-based programs for special needs in reading and math (Moby Max) which target individual learning needs.

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

- Make sure that both you and your student are aware of the academic expectations set for this school year. A list of learning objectives in student-friendly language is available from your student's teacher(s).
- Contact the school if you have questions or concerns about your student or to set up an appointment to meet with a school staff member about your student's progress.
- Make sure that your student is prepared for and attends school each day.
- Monitor your student's homework.
- Monitor the progress your student is making and attend meetings with your student's teacher(s).
- Keep track of our website and social media sites: bcmschool.com
- Volunteer.

Though it sounds like a lot, preparing our students so they can succeed is a group effort. Here are some resources available to help:

- K-12 standards in academic subjects: www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum
- State student achievement test results: www.ncpublicschools.org/accountability/
- N.C. School Report Cards : <https://ncreportcards.ondemand.sas.com/src>
- Graduation requirements: www.ncpublicschools.org/gradrequirements/

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact Vicky Bethel at vbethel@bcmschool.org or (336) 951-2500.

Sincerely,

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