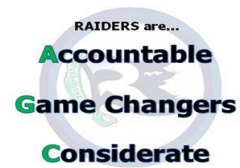


# A.G. Cox Middle School



2657 Church Street

Winterville, N.C. 28590

PH # 252-756-3105

Fax # 252-756-1081

Linda Brantley, Assistant Principal

Norman McDuffie, Principal

Chaquita Avent-Hollomen, Assistant Principal

10/17/24

Dear Parent/Guardian:

I am writing this letter to notify you that AG Cox Middle School has been dually designated as both a North Carolina Low-Performing school and a federally identified Targeted Support & Improvement Additional Targeted Support (TSI-AT) school by the North Carolina State Board of Education.

As defined in G.S. 115C-105.37: "The State Board of Education shall identify low-performing schools on an annual basis. Low-performing schools are those that earn an overall school performance grade of D or F and a school growth score of "met expected growth" or "not met expected growth" as defined by G.S. 115C-83.15." Legislation (G.S. §115C-83.15) passed during the 2013 long North Carolina General Assembly session provides parents with an additional measure of school performance in the form of School Performance Grades. Beginning with the 2013–14 school year, the annual North Carolina School Report Cards display a letter grade of A, B, C, D, or F for each school in the state.

School Performance Grades are based 80 percent on our school's achievement score (student proficiency) and 20 percent on students' academic growth. AG Cox Middle School's achievement score for the 2023-2024 school year is based on how well our students performed. See the table below.

## 23-24 EOG Proficiency – Percent of Students that Pass EOGs

	Reading	Math	Science	Math 1
6 <sup>th</sup> grade	56.9	54.8	NA	NA
7 <sup>th</sup> grade	43.5	53.5	NA	NA
8 <sup>th</sup> grade	50.0	38.5	67.7	87

AGC Cox Middle School received a School Performance Grade of "D" and a growth designation of *Did Not Meet* for the 2023–2024 school year.

In addition, per the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Section 1111(d)(2), schools receive the federal identification of TSI-AT in North Carolina by having one or more of the following subgroups receive a subgroup performance grade score at or below the lowest 5% of schools across the state during the 2022-2023 academic year; and being identified as a consistently underperforming subgroup for the previous year. Subgroup performance scores are provided for the following subgroups of students: (1) Students with Disabilities, (2) Economically Disadvantaged, (3) Black, (4) White, (5) Hispanic, (6) Asian-Pacific Islander, (7) Multi-racial, and (8) English Learners.

As a dually designated TSI-AT and NC low-performing school, AG Cox Middle School is required to develop a comprehensive improvement plan that specifically addresses how the school will improve student achievement. The plan will also include strategies that our district or charter will employ to support AG Cox Middle School's improvement efforts. The comprehensive improvement plan will address the following areas:

- Standards-aligned Instruction
- Professional Learning Teams (PLTs)
- Schoolwide PD to Build Instructional Capacity
- Recruitment & Retention of Effective Teachers
- Student Support Services

**ACCOUNTABLE**

**GAME CHANGERS**

**CONSIDERATE**

- Family and Community Engagement

We have set the following goals for AG Cox Middle School this year:

1. AG Cox will make continued progress through the School Improvement / MTSS Implementation Timeline by consistently meeting deadlines and due dates.
2. AG Cox will increase school proficiency by 5% from the 23-24 school year and will revisit after EVAAS projection.
3. AG Cox will reduce Out-of-School Suspension (OSS) days by 15% compared to 23 - 24 school year.
4. An AG Cox Leadership Team will consist of the principal, teachers who lead the Instructional Teams, and other professional staff meets regularly (at least twice a month) to review the implementation of effective practices.

Here are some strategies that AG Cox Middle School will be implementing to improve student outcomes:

- *Weekly District Specialist visits*
- *Biweekly PST updates in PLTs*
- *Data Analysis of CFAs and Check-Ins*
- *Instructional Rounds, Instructional Walkthroughs, and Camera Reflections periodically*
- *Schoolwide PD – Vocab / Collaborative Pairs / Activating Thinking (Connect the Text & Beyond the Books)*

Parent engagement is at the heart of our school improvement efforts. Here are some ways you can help:

- Ensure you and your child know the academic expectations for your child this school year. A list of learning objectives in student-friendly language is available from your child's teacher(s).
- Make sure that your child is prepared and attends school each day.
- 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: Facebook – AG Cox
- Join the PTO
- Call N. McDuffie @ 252 756-3105 if you have questions or concerns about your child or to set up an appointment to meet with a school staff member.

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

- 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://www.dpi.nc.gov/data-reports/school-report-cards>

We are committed to improving student performance. It is important to remember that just as no one single score or grade tells the whole story of a student, neither does it tell you everything about the performance of a school or the opportunities that our school provides. We are excited about this school year and working to make it a success for your child. Already, we have:

- **Finally completed 3.5 years of construction**
- **A strong Beta Club representation at state and national competitions.**
- **Seen improvement in student engagement due to Cell Phone policy.**
- **A Peer Helper elective in which regular education students help special needs students.**

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact N. McDuffie, principal at [mcduffn@pitt.k12.nc.us](mailto:mcduffn@pitt.k12.nc.us) or 252 -756-3105.

Sincerely,

N. McDuffie

**ACCOUNTABLE**

**GAME CHANGERS**

**CONSIDERATE**