

WELLCOME MIDDLE SCHOOL

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Keith Neal
Principal

Courtney Dubis
Assistant Principal

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Dear Parent/Guardian:

I hope the school year is off to a successful start for you and your child. I am writing this letter to let you know that Wellcome Middle School has been designated as a Targeted Support & Improvement Additional Targeted Support (TSI-AT) school by the North Carolina State Board of Education. Per ESSA Section 1111(d)(2), schools are identified as TSI-AT schools in North Carolina because one or more of the following subgroups received a subgroup performance grade score at or below the highest identified CSI-LP school's All Students group during the identification year; and is on the TSI-CU list for the subgroup(s) for the previous year. Subgroup performance scores are provided for the following subgroups: (1) Students with Disabilities, (2) Economically Disadvantaged, (3) Black, (4) White, (5) Hispanic, (6) Asian-Pacific Islander, (7) Multi-racial, and (8) English Learners. This letter is to notify our parents and guardians of Wellcome Middle School's intentions to improve educational outcomes for underperforming student subgroups and close achievement gaps for all students.

As a TSI-AT (ATSI) school, Wellcome Middle School is required to develop an Additional Targeted Support and Improvement (ATSI) plan that specifically addresses how the school will improve outcomes for underperforming subgroups. The plan will also include strategies that our district or charter will employ to support Wellcome Middle School improvement efforts. The ATSI plan will address the following areas.:

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

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

- At the end of the 2024-25 school year, WMS will move the school report card grade from a D (exceed) to a C (exceed). As a result, WMS will exit low-performing status.
- Formal and informal data will be used to assess staff and determine/provide appropriate support that will result in teacher retention and WMS turnover being below the district average

Here are some strategies that we will be implementing to improve student outcomes:

- Each staff meeting will incorporate AVID Professional Learning.
- Teachers will incorporate 3 school-wide high-yield strategies into their Learning-Focused Lesson Plans
- Provide/support professional learning and instructional practices that use data and result in increased student growth
- Grade levels will use PLCs and **content school support-tiered** meetings to create learning activities that meet the needs of all students
- Increase the time observing instruction and providing quality feedback
- Every staff member will participate in a reflection exercise before and after their first observation.
- Reflection opportunities will be presented to staff members through their walk-through forms.
- Data from formal and informal assessments will be utilized to determine teacher accountability to effective instructional strategies.
- Coaching conversations - Classroom/Instruction/PLC/Behavior support from Admin, IC & District specialists

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).
- Call 252 752 5938, Wellcome Middle School, 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.facebook.com/WellcomeWildcats>
- Volunteer.

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

- Graduation requirements: www.ncpublicschools.org/gradrequirements/
- 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>

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:

- AVID
- STEM
- Dual Language
- Athletics
- National Honor Society
- Science Olympiad

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact Keith L. Neal at 252-752-5938.

Sincerely,

Keith L. Neal