

NB Mills Elementary

Nurturing Brave Minds Inspiring Lifelong Learners for Success

August 17, 2026,

Dear Parent/Guardian:

As a parent/guardian of a student in N.B. Mills, I am writing this letter to let you know that N.B. Mills, has been designated as a Comprehensive Support & Improvement Low-Performing (CSI-LP) school and has been designated as a low-performing school by the North Carolina State Board of Education. As stated in ESSA Section 1111©(4)(D)(i), North Carolina had to identify schools for comprehensive support and improvement. CSI-LP schools in North Carolina are those found in the lowest-performing 5 percent of all schools receiving Title I funding. 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." The intent of this opportunity is to improve educational outcomes for all students, close achievement gaps, increase equity, and improve the quality of instruction.

Legislation (G.S. §115C-83.15) passed during the 2013 long session of the North Carolina General Assembly 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.

The School Performance Grades are based 80 percent on our school's achievement score and 20 percent on students' academic growth. At N.B. Mills, our achievement score for the 2024-2025 school year is based on how well our students performed on Grades 3-8 Mathematics, Grades 3-8 English Language Arts/Reading, Grades 5 Science. N.B. Mills received a School Performance Grade of F and a growth designation of Not Met Growth for the 2024-2025 school year. Although we are committed to improving this score, 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. N.B. Mills has a non-traditional calendar that provides students the opportunity to be in school for continued learning through our intersession remediation and camps. These opportunities are unique to N.B. Mills.

1410 Pearl Street, Statesville, NC 28677
Phone (704)-873-8498 Fax (704)-872-3755

NB Mills Elementary

Nurturing Brave Minds Inspiring Lifelong Learners for Success

As a CSI-LP school and as a school designated as NC low-performing, N.B. Mills 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
- Standard-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 N.B. Mills this year:

- By June 2028, the percentage of 5th grade students achieving grade level proficiency (Level 3, 4, or 5) on the Math EOG will increase from their 4th grade baseline of 31.4% to 41.8%. Annual targets to guide progress toward this goal are 34.7% proficient by the end of the 2025–2026 school year.
- By June 2028, the total number of office referrals for aggressive behavior will decrease from the 2024–2025 baseline of 78 to 55. Annual targets are set to ensure steady improvement: 70 referrals by the end of 2025–2026.
- By June 2028 chronic absenteeism will decrease by 10% each year over the next three years for identified students in grades K–5, as measured by school attendance records. Chronic absenteeism will go from 56 students (24-25 baseline) to 40 students. Annual targets to guide progress toward this goal are 50 student by the end of the 2025–2026 school year.
- By June 2028, our school will increase the percentage of students achieving proficiency (Levels 3, 4, or 5) on the Science EOG from the current 23.9% to 40%. To achieve this, annual targets will be set and monitored: by the end of the 2025–2026 school year, proficiency will rise to at least 30%.

NB Mills Elementary

Nurturing Brave Minds Inspiring Lifelong Learners for Success

Our students need to experience higher achievement levels, but it will require hard work on the part of staff, students, and families. Here are some strategies N.B. Mills will be implementing:

- Differentiated instruction
- Rigorous instruction
- Intervention support
- Small group instruction
- Tutoring

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

- Make sure that both you and your student are aware of academic expectations set for your student this school year. A list of learning objectives in student-friendly language is available from your student's teacher(s).
- Call Principal, Sally Schultz at 704-873-8498 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 student.
- Make sure that your student is prepared 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, Class Dojo, and N.B. Mills Facebook page
- Volunteer
- Join the N.B. Mills PTO (contact Tabatha Alls at tabatha_alls@iss.k12.nc.us)

It sounds like a lot, but preparing our students so they can succeed is not easy and is a group effort. Here are some resources available to help:

- <https://nbmills.issnc.org>
- 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://www.dpi.nc.gov/data-reports/school-report-cards>

NB Mills Elementary

Nurturing **B**rave **M**inds **I**nspiring **L**ifelong **L**earners for **S**uccess

We're excited about this school year and are working to make it a success for your student.

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact Sally Schultz at sally_schultz@iss.k12.nc.us or 704-873-8498.

Sincerely,

Sally Schultz