

	John F. Kennedy High School	
	890 E. 11th Street Winston-Salem, NC 27107 Office (336) 703-4143, Fax (336) 748-4129	www.wsfcs.k12.nc.us/jfkhs

Date:

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 **JF Kennedy HS** has been designated as an Additional Targeted Support & Improvement (ATSI) school by the North Carolina State Board of Education. Per ESSA Section 1111(d)(2)(C), schools are identified as ATSI 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 **JF Kennedy HS's** intentions to improve educational outcomes for underperforming student subgroups and close achievement gaps for all students.

As an ATSI school, **JF Kennedy HS** 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 **JF Kennedy High School** improvement efforts. The ATSI plan will address the following areas:

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

We have set the following goals for **JF Kennedy HS** this year:

- By June 2026, increase EOC proficiency scores in Math 1 from 19.4% to 25%, in Math 3 from 54.3% to 60%, and in English 2 from 56.4% to 60%, and in Biology from 24% to 30% with a targeted focus on improving proficiency with Multilingual Learners.
- By June 2026, increase the percentage of students reaching proficiency on the ACT from 18% to 22%.
- To increase the graduation rate from 80.8% in 2024 to 100% in June of 2026.
- By June 2026, increase the percentage of students reaching proficiency on the WorkKeys assessment from 39.6 % to 45%.

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

- *Individual Student Conferences*
- Individual student, class, and teacher goal setting and data documentation.
- Intentional small group instruction
- Pre/Post-Assessment (starting point of where they are and ending point how much did they grow)
- Implementing student engagement activities
- Tiering of students and teachers
- PLT departmental data meetings
- Coaching and collaborating

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).
- If you have questions or concerns about your student we encourage you to set up an appointment to meet with school staff members who will be working with your child.
- Make sure that your child is prepared, on time and attends school each day.
- Monitor your child's grades, homework and other activities they have been charged to complete.
- 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
wsfcs.k12.nc.us/jfkhs and <https://www.instagram.com/johnfkennedyhighschoolws/>.
- Volunteer and inquire about starting a Parent Student Association.

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:

- John F. Kennedy offers a small inclusive environment for learning where students are well prepared for their next educational journey, job or career.
- John F. Kennedy has been recognized by the Piedmont Triad Education Consortium as a Signature School
- John F. Kennedy Exceeded Growth for the 2024-2025 school year and increased our school letter grade.

In closing, share the word about our wonderful school and encourage others to join our JFK family. If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact Dr. Smith asmith@wsfcs.k12.nc.us.

Sincerely,

Dr. Alfreda Smith