



Educational Programs and Services
1717 West Fifth Street
Greenville, North Carolina 27834

TEL: 252-830-4235
FAX: 252-830-4290

November 12, 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I hope the school year has started successfully for all of you. As a parent/guardian of a student in Elmhurst Elementary I am writing this letter to let you know that Elmhurst has been designated as a Targeted Support & Improvement Additional Targeted Support (TSI-AT) school by the North Carolina State Board of Education. As stated in ESSA Section 1111(d)(2), North Carolina had to identify schools for targeted support and improvement. TSI-AT schools in North Carolina are those that have a subgroup that is under-performing. The intent of this opportunity is to improve educational outcomes for all students, close achievement gaps, increase equity, and improve the quality of instruction.

As a TSI-AT school, Elmhurst 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
- 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
- Family and Community Engagement

We have set the following goals for Elmhurst Elementary this year:

By June 2020, Elmhurst Elementary will increase EOG composite score from 52.5 to a 62.5 and increase Growth from 78.2 (1.0 MET) to 85 exceeds growth (greater than 2.0).

- Goal 1: To increase Math EOG proficiency by 11 percentage points from 48.9% to 59.9% in grades 3-5 by June 2020.
- Goal 2: To increase Reading EOG proficiency by 9 percentage points from 49.5% to 58.5% in grades 3-5 by June 2020.
- Goal 3: To increase Science EOG proficiency by a minimum of 2.4 percentage points from 75.4% to 77.8% in 5th grade by June 2020.



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 Elmhurst Elementary will be implementing:

- Improve lesson Planning
- Provide 35 minutes of daily uninterrupted remediation (PAWS time)
- Implement District Pacing and Curriculum Guides in Canvas in 3rd & 5th Grade
- CFA's to be administered at minimum 2x/month pre- and post-test with PLC's bimonthly analyzing student growth and completing PLC Planning Guide that identifies and graphs student performance in 4 levels based on proficiency

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 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 Mrs. Burt at (252) 756-0180 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 and social media sites: <https://www.pitt.k12.nc.us/elmhurst>
- Volunteer.
- Join the Elmhurst Elementary PTA/PTO. <https://www.pitt.k12.nc.us/elmhurst>

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

- Links to student programs on our website at <https://www.pitt.k12.nc.us/domain/456>
- 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're excited about this school year and are working to make it a success for your student. Already, we have:

- Increased proficiency (all areas) school performance score increased from a 53-D to a 59-C.
- Reading proficiency in 3rd-5th grade from a 44.2% to 49.5%
- Math proficiency in 3rd-5th grade from 46.7% to 48.9%.
- Science proficiency in 5th grade from 47.6% to 75.4%.

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact Colleen Burt at burtc@pitt.k12.nc.us.

Sincerely,
Colleen Burt
Principal
Elmhurst