

Emma Elementary School
37 Brickyard Rd
Asheville, NC 28806
(828) 232-4272

Dear Parent/Guardian:

I hope the school year has started successfully for all of you. As a parent/guardian of a student in Emma Elementary School I am writing this letter to let you know that Emma Elementary School, 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, Emma Elementary School 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 Emma Elementary School this year:

Goal 1: At the end of 2019-2020 school year ,K-4 students will increase proficiency from 27.7% to 60% as measured by the Galileo ELA Benchmark.

Goal 2: Kindergarten will increase math proficiency in NC.K.CC.4 (perceptual subitizing) understand the relationship between numbers and quantities from 51.4% to 60.0%.

First grade will increase math proficiency in NC.1.OA.3 from 43.1% to 48% as measured by county assessments.

Second grade students will increase math proficiency in NC.2.NBT.7 from 40% to 50% as measured by common assessments.

Third grade will increase math proficiency in NC.3.OA.8 from 16% to 40% as measured by grade level pre and post assessments.

Fourth grade will increase math proficiency in NC.4.MD Measurement, Data, and NC.4.G Geometry from 50.7% to 53% as measured by End of Grade test scores.

Goal 3: In the 2018/2019 school year Emma Elementary had a reading proficiency of 43.4 % as measured by End of Grade Tests in 3rd and 4th grade. At the end of 2019/2020 reading proficiency will be increased in 3rd and 4th grade by 10% to 53.4% proficiency as measured by End of Grade Tests.

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 Emma Elementary School will be implementing:

- **Teachers will be trained in Reading Foundations**
- **Teachers will participate in a booktalk to help build awareness of the needs of individual readers.**
- **Teachers will participate in weekly PLCs to help build collaboration and ensure depth of lesson planning.**

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 Emma Elementary School at 232-4272 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 progress on our website and our Facebook page.
- Volunteer.
- Join the **Emma Elementary PTO**

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:

- 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!

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact Carla Shipman at carla.shipman@bcsemail.org or 828-232-4272

Sincerely,



Carla Shipman, Principal