

August 26, 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian:

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

- Eblen Intermediate will increase student proficiency in reading by 4%.
- Eblen Intermediate will increase student proficiency in math by 4%.
- Eblen Intermediate will increase student proficiency in science by 2%.
- Eblen Intermediate will decrease the percentage students with one or more major referrals.

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 Eblen Intermediate School, will be implementing:

- common formative assessments to drive instruction
- Scheduled intervention and enrichment block
- Differentiated literacy instruction through research-based strategies to meet the needs of individual students
- Increase home/school connections through various school events
- Student progress monitoring through small-group reading instruction
- Use of Wit and Wisdom Curriculum
- I-Ready computer program 45 minutes a week
- Title I Math tutor
- STEMscopes program

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 (828) 255-5757 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.facebook.com/search/top/?q=joe%20p.%20eblen%20intermediate%20school&epa=SERP>  
TAB

- Volunteer.
- Join the Eblen 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:

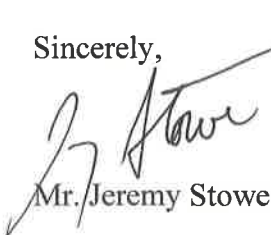
- Home Diner at Erwin Middle school on Monday nights- free homework assistance and a meal
- Children First Communities in Schools – Danielle Wilbor
- Graduation requirements: [www.ncpublicschools.org/gradrequirements/](http://www.ncpublicschools.org/gradrequirements/)
- K-12 standards in academic subjects: [www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/](http://www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/)
- State student achievement test results: [www.ncpublicschools.org/accountability/](http://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:

- Implementation of a fulltime Instructional Coach
- Designated intervention/enrichment block in daily schedule
- Check In/Check Out Intervention/Mentoring

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact (828) 255-5757.

Sincerely,



Mr. Jeremy Stowe