

Eastway Middle School PARENT LETTER —School Performance Grades of D or F  
Low Performing School

*Eastway Middle School  
1501 Norland Road  
Charlotte, NC 28205*

10/2/2023

Dear Parent/Guardian,

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 (student proficiency) and 20 percent on students' academic growth. At Eastway Middle School, our achievement score for the 2022-2023 school year is based on how well our students performed on Grades 6-8 Mathematics End of Grade Test, Grades 6-8 English Language Arts End of Grade Test, Grade 8 Science End of Grade Test, and the NC Math 1 End of Course Test, as well as additional indicators including English Learner Progress.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that Eastway Middle School has been designated as a low performing school by the North Carolina State Board of Education. 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."

Eastway Middle School received a School Performance Grade of F and a growth designation of Met for the 2022–2023 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 including a school-wide positive reinforcement plan that has improved school culture & student behavior; clubs and extracurriculars for all students; Leadership elective that provides students with opportunities to take the lead in all facets of school life; Out of School Tutoring Time; and much more.

As a low performing school, we are required to develop an improvement plan that specifically addresses how the school will improve both the school performance grade and school growth score. The plan will also include how the superintendent and other central office administrators in the district will work with us and monitor the progress of our school. We are already engaged in the work of refining our plan and will present the plan to our school board at their next meeting, where the plan will be presented for approval. The final plan will be available for review <https://www.cmsk12.org/eastwayMS>.

One of our top priorities for 2023–2024 is to improve our School Performance Grade. There are a number of key programs we have in place to help improve student performance. Some of these include:

- Teachers collaborate with their team during PLC meetings to create lesson plans that align with the NC Standard Course of Study utilizing the Curriculum assigned by the district through our school-wide instructional planning process
- Engage Teachers in Response to Data meetings to review & analyze student outcomes on assessments, formal and informal, to develop instructional plans that address the data (Relay GSE)
- Teachers implement student tasks that are intentional, rigorous, and aligned to the standards for the grade level and content area
- Provide coaching and support using the Get Better Faster model (Relay GSE) to support novice teachers and those needing additional assistance

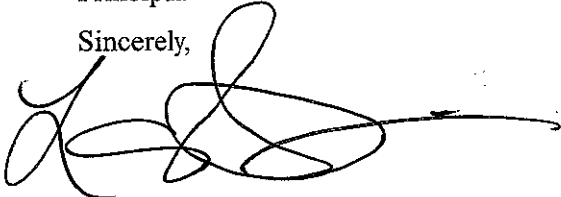
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- Instructional Leaders will facilitate PLC meetings for planning and responding to data
- Provide professional development for all staff that is aligned to the data collected during class visits and student performance results
- Offer Practice Clinics for select staff members based on data collected during class visits and student performance results
- Provide students with quality Social Emotional Learning lessons daily
- Comprehensive MTSS Plan to provide research-based interventions that align to student needs

We hope you will closely follow your child's academic progress and work with his or her teacher(s) to help ensure they stay on track academically. Working together as a team, we can improve not only how well our students are performing individually, but how our school is performing as a whole. There is nothing more important to administrators and teachers at Eastway Middle School than ensuring students are ready for the next step in their academic careers. I look forward to working with you to make sure your student is on track for success.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding our School Performance Grade and how we plan to improve, please don't hesitate to contact Kathy Shea, Chairperson of the School Improvement Team, or Larenda Denien, Principal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Larenda B. Denien', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Larenda B. Denien,  
Principal