

December 17, 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian:

I hope the school year has started as successfully as possible for all of you. As a parent/guardian of a student in Quail Hollow Middle School, you are receiving this notification that Quail Hollow Middle 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, Quail Hollow Middle 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 student achievement goals for Quail Hollow Middle School this year:

- By May, 2021, 60% of students will master 75% of the power standards in math as measured by the NC End of Grade (EOG) Test.
- By May, 2021, 60% of students will master 75% of the power standards in science as measured by the 8th Grade NC End of Grade (EOG) Test.
- By May, 2021, 50% of students will master 70% of the ELA standards (RI 1-4; RI 6, RL 1-4; RL 6) as measured by the NC End of Grade (EOG) Test.

Our full School Improvement Plan is housed in the online NCStar platform and can be accessed via our school website.

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 Quail Hollow Middle School will be implementing:

- We are implementing the new, district-wide curriculum for all grade levels in Math and ELA this school year.
- Math and ELA teachers and students will track their academic progress based on their common assessment data and will create and evaluate goals during each MAP assessment.
- Science teachers and students will track their academic progress based on common and district benchmark assessments.
- Instructional leaders will provide coaching to teachers to support their implementation of our new curriculum resources, teaching strategies in the remote and in-person context, and use of virtual learning tools.
- The principal, assistant principals, and Dean of Students will follow all guidelines to conduct

observations and provide feedback to teachers in post-observation conferences using the NCEES system.

- During daily homeroom lessons, we will implement Social Emotional Lessons from the Leader in Me and the Caring School's curriculum. This includes lessons to help students get organized and manage their time in the remote learning context.
- All instructional staff are engaging in additional professional development to support our students with IEPs.

Parent engagement is at the heart of our school improvement efforts. Here are some ways we can work together:

- Make sure your contact information is up to date at the school and ensure you receive ParentSquare notifications. This is the fastest way to receive communication from the school in your language of choice.
- 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). This information is also included in your student's learning materials in Canvas.
- Monitor your student's grades and attendance in PowerSchool. If you need the information to set up your Parent PowerSchool account, call 980-343-3620.
- Make sure that your student is prepared and attends school each day, even in the remote setting.
- Monitor your student's work completion. You can see all your student's assignments in Canvas.
- If you have concerns or questions, reach out to your student's grade level counselor.
- Keep track of our website <https://schools.cms.k12.nc.us/quailhollowMS/Pages/Default.aspx> and social media sites: <https://www.facebook.com/QuailHollowMiddleSchool> ; <https://www.instagram.com/quailhollowmiddle/> ; <https://twitter.com/QuailHollowMS> ; and weekly communication via ParentSquare.
- Join the Quail Hollow Middle School PTSA. <https://sites.google.com/cms.k12.nc.us/qhmsptsa/home>

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:

- Counseling Department, School Social Worker, or School Psychologist at Quail Hollow Middle School, 980-343-3620.
- 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 working hard to make this school year a success for your student. Already, we have learned so much to be able to pivot our instructional model to operate in the remote context. We have implemented new, daily social-emotional learning lessons, and we have expanded our new curriculum adoption to cover all three grade levels in Math and ELA.

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact Rachael Neill at rachaelv.neill@cms.k12.nc.us or 980-343-3620.

Sincerely,



Rachael Neill, Principal