SOUTH VIEW MIDDLE SCHOOL

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Dear Parent/Guardian:

I hope the school year is off to a successful start for you and your child. I am writing this letter to let you know that South View Middle School has been designated as an Additional Targeted Support & Improvement (ATSI) school by the North Carolina State Board of Education. Per ESSA Section 1111(d)(2), schools are identified as ATSI schools in North Carolina because one or more of the following subgroups received a subgroup performance grade score at or below the highest identified CSI-LP school's All Students group during the identification year; and is on the TSI-CU list for the subgroup(s) for the previous year. Subgroup performance scores are provided for the following subgroups: (1) Students with Disabilities, (2) Economically Disadvantaged, (3) Black, (4) White, (5) Hispanic, (6) Asian-Pacific Islander, (7) Multi-racial, and (8) English Learners. This letter is to notify our parents and guardians of South View Middle School's intentions to improve educational outcomes for underperforming student subgroups and close achievement gaps for all students.

As an ATSI school, South View Middle School is required to develop an Additional Targeted Support and Improvement (ATSI) plan that specifically addresses how the school will improve outcomes for underperforming subgroups. The plan will also include strategies that our district will employ to support South View Middle School's improvement efforts. The ATSI 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 South View Middle School this year:

- *SVMS will increase overall proficiency on EOG/EOC performance from 38.7% to 48.7%*
- *SVMS will close the proficiency gap between Black and White subgroups to less than 5% in all subject areas as measured by GLP on the EOG/EOC Assessments.*
- *By the end of the academic year, all teachers will consistently use standards-aligned instruction, integrate data-driven planning into their lesson designs, and actively participate in PLC meetings to collaboratively solve instructional challenges, as evidenced by both formal/informal observations, lesson plan reviews, and documented meeting outcomes.*

Here are some strategies that we will be implementing to improve student outcomes:

- *PLCs are utilized by our Instructional Leadership team to ensure that teachers are examining*

assessment data, designing standards-aligned lessons and engaging in professional discourse with the focus of data driven instruction and improved student performance.

- *Weekly meetings with Administration and Instructional Coaches to review completed observations and feedback data in order to continue in building the capacity of teachers through differentiated Professional development*
- *Instructional Coaches will utilize data from mastery connect, EVAAS projections and classroom performance in order to help teachers build strategically focused lesson plans during weekly PLC meetings. Administration will ensure delivery of these lessons occur through ELEOT and informal walkthroughs.*

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

- Ensure that both you and your child know the academic expectations set for your child this school year. A list of learning objectives in student-friendly language is available from your student's teacher(s).
- Call your child's teacher(s) if you have questions or concerns about your student or to set up an appointment to meet with your child's team.
- Make sure that your child is prepared and attends school each day.
- Monitor your child's homework.
- Monitor the progress your child is making and attend meetings with your child's teacher(s).
- Volunteer for school activities.
- Keep track of our website and social media sites:
  - ***SVMS Facebook Page***
  - ***Twitter @SouthViewBobcat***
  - ***School Website***

Additionally, listed below are a few 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 are committed to improving student performance. It is important to remember that just as no single score or grade tells the whole story of a student, neither does it tell you everything about a school's performance or the opportunities that our school provides. The intent of receiving these designations is to improve educational outcomes for all students, close achievement gaps, increase equity, and improve the quality of instruction. We're excited about this school year and are working to make it a success for your child. Already, we have:

- *Changed the master schedule to allow for more instructional time.*
- *Targeted Learning Walks for teachers to visit other classrooms and learn from one another.*
- *Data and Dinner Night (Fall and Spring Semester*
- *Focussed on implementing Social and emotional student support through Satchel Pulse, Alongside and Mentoring Groups (BOLD and EmpowerHER)*

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact **Shawn O'Connor at shawnoconnor@ccs.k12.nc.us or 910-424-3131**.

Sincerely,

Shawn O’Connor