



Every Child. Every Day. For a Better Tomorrow.

September 30, 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian:

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

- Increase proficiency for all subgroups by 5% from the 2019-2020 school year

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 Shamrock Gardens will be implementing:

- TSI Coordinator will attend Professional Development throughout the 2020-2021 year
- Professional Development provided to staff to implement strategies for engagement
- PLC's will meet regularly to review data and make adjustments based upon the trends

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



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- 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 Trina Potter @ 980-343-6440 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://schools.cms.k12.nc.us/shamrockgardensES/Pages/Default.aspx>
- Volunteer.
- Join the Shamrock Gardens PTA

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:

- Jennifer Collins, Social Work (jenniferl.collins@cms.k12.nc.us)
- 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. Already, we have:

- Increased our methods and frequency with communication. We now send a grade level newsletter every Friday afternoon.

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact Trina Potter @ 980-343-6440 or trina.potter@cms.k12.nc.us

Sincerely,

Trina Potter