



# Rocky Mount High School

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1400 Bethlehem Road  
Rocky Mount, NC 27803  
Telephone: (252) 937-9050 – Fax: (252) 443-6686

10/18/24

Dear Parent/Guardian:

I am writing this letter to notify you that **Rocky Mount High School** has been dually designated as both a North Carolina Low-Performing school and a federally identified Targeted Support & Improvement Additional Targeted Support (TSI-AT) 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.” Legislation (G.S. §115C-83.15) passed during the 2013 long North Carolina General Assembly session 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.

School Performance Grades are based 80 percent on our school’s achievement score (student proficiency) and 20 percent on students’ academic growth. At **Rocky Mount High School**, our achievement score for the 2023-2024 school year is based on how well our students performed on **NC Math 1, NC Math 3, English II, and Biology, and additional indicators including English Learner Progress, ACT/ACT WorkKeys, Math Course Rigor, and the 4-Year Cohort Graduation Rate.** **Rocky Mount High School** received a School Performance Grade of **D** and a growth designation of **Met** for the 2023–2024 school year.

In addition, per the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Section 1111(d)(2), schools receive the federal identification of TSI-AT in North Carolina by having one or more of the following subgroups receive a subgroup performance grade score at or below the lowest 5% of schools across the state during the 2022-2023 academic year; and being identified as a consistently underperforming subgroup for the previous year. Subgroup performance scores are provided for the following subgroups of students: (1) Students with Disabilities, (2) Economically Disadvantaged, (3) Black, (4) White, (5) Hispanic, (6) Asian-Pacific Islander, (7) Multi-racial, and (8) English Learners.

As a dually designated TSI-AT and NC low-performing school, **Rocky Mount High School** is required to develop a comprehensive improvement plan that specifically addresses how the school will improve student achievement. The plan will also include strategies that our district or charter will employ to support **Rocky Mount High School’s** improvement efforts. The comprehensive improvement plan will address the following areas:

- Classroom Management
- Standards-aligned Instruction

- Professional Learning Communities (PLCs)
- Instructional Leadership
- Recruitment & Retention of Effective Teachers
- Implementation of a Tiered Instructional System
- Data-Driven Decision Making
- Student Support Services
- Family and Community Engagement

We have set the following goals for **Rocky Mount High School** this year:

- Goal 1: Rocky Mount High School will increase overall attendance by 5% for the 2024-2025 school year.
- Goal 2: By June 2025, student proficiency will increase by 5% in all state tested areas in all sub groups. Teachers will meet or exceed expected growth as evidenced by EVAAS.
- Goal 3: By the end of June 2025, RMHS will decrease classroom discipline referrals by 10% by creating a school environment focusing on students' social emotional health, school safety, and appropriate training of faculty and staff.
- Goal 4: By the end of the 2024 - 2025 school year, RMHS will enhance school culture by increasing the sense of community and mutual respect among students and staff by 10% within the next academic year.

Here are some strategies that **Rocky Mount High School** will be implementing to improve student outcomes:

- Use a system of recognition incentives (I.E. holding drawings for perfect attendance once monthly, add student names to the school-wide TV slideshows)
- Address potential barriers for student attendance such as transportation issues, and mental health services
- Monitor student attendance to identify potential chronically absent students early and address the root of their attendance issues. Use prior attendance issues to identify students to monitor early
- Have staff and faculty contact parents and guardians to check on students that missed school 3 or more days in a short period of time
- Administrators will conduct at least 3 classroom walkthroughs per day, and provide timely, constructive feedback to teachers.
- Administrators will provide timely feedback on weekly lesson plans.
- All beginning teachers will receive additional support through participation in professional development during monthly meetings.
- Teachers will utilize regular formative assessment data for informed classroom decision-making.
- Teachers will implement high-quality core and targeted instructional practices to increase student outcomes.
- School climate survey
- Positive Initiatives for students and staff
- Repeat offenders receive "counseling" to better regulate emotions, etc
  - Guidance counselor
  - Dean of Student
  - Village/I Define Me
  - Buddy teacher

Parent engagement is at the heart of our school improvement efforts. Here are some ways you can help:

- Ensure you and your child know the academic expectations for your child this school year. A list of learning objectives in student-friendly language is available from your child's teacher(s).
- Call *Ms. Saya Parker* at 252-937-9050 if you have questions or concerns about your child or to set up an appointment to meet with a school staff member who will be working with your child.
- 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).
- Keep track of our website and social media sites <https://rockymounths.ncpschools.net>.
- Volunteer.

Additionally, listed below are a few resources available to help:

- 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://www.dpi.nc.gov/data-reports/school-report-cards>

We are committed to improving student performance. 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. 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:

- WIN Time allocated for each instructional period daily.
- Main streamed attendance policies to assist our students with arriving to school daily and on time.
- Devised biweekly PLCs to review assessment data and make instructional decisions to meet the needs of all learners.
- Conducts daily instructional walkthroughs with timely feedback to assist with enhancing instruction to meet all learners' needs.

To view the school's improvement plan, visit Rocky Mount High School's website, click the "About Us" tab, and select "School Improvement Plan." We welcome your feedback and encourage you to share your input by clicking the "submit feedback" button on the same page.

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact **Ms. Keil Dawson** at [kadawson@ncpschools.net](mailto:kadawson@ncpschools.net) or 252-937-9050.

Sincerely,



**Keil A. Dawson**