

November 26, 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian:

I hope that the 2019-2020 school year has been a positive one for you and your child. As a parent/guardian of a student at Southmont Elementary School, this letter is to inform you that your child's school has been designated as a "Targeted Support & Improvement-Consistently Underperforming (TSI-CU)" and/or "Targeted Support & Improvement Additional Targeted Support (TSI-AT)" school by the North Carolina State Board of Education. As stated in Section 1111(d)(2) of the "Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)", North Carolina had to identify schools for targeted support and improvement. TSI-CU schools in North Carolina are ones that have a subgroup that is consistently under-performing over an extended period of time. TSI-AT schools in North Carolina are ones that have at least one low-performing subgroup. These designations will focus on improving educational outcomes for all students, close achievement gaps, increase equity, and improve the quality of instruction at your child's school.

As a TSI school, Southmont is required to develop a comprehensive school improvement plan that specifically outlines a plan for improving student achievement. The plan also will include our school system's plan for supporting and monitoring the progress of your child's school. This comprehensive school improvement 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

Our students need to experience higher achievement levels. However, the attainment of this result will require hard work on the part of staff members, students, and parents. Our comprehensive school improvement plan can be found at <http://smes.randolph.k12.nc.us/>. This plan outlines our goals and strategies for improvement at Southmont. We also are utilizing data from our Common Formative Assessments, NC Check-Ins, Benchmark Assessments, Data Smart application, and Instructional Rounds to identify areas of strengths and opportunities for improvement for the teachers and students in our school. With this information, we are developing strategies to improve classroom instruction, guide professional development, and personalize remediation and enrichment to help students reach

their academic goals. In addition, teachers are using this information to identify ways to align curriculum and instruction with the specific needs of the students.

The partnership between our school and students' parents will serve as an important part of our school improvement efforts. Examples of actions associated with this partnership are:

- Making sure that you and your student are aware of the academic expectations set for your child through the school's provision of a list of learning objectives in student-friendly language
- Calling Southmont 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 child
- Making sure that your student is prepared and attends school each day
- Monitoring your student's homework
- Monitoring the progress that your student is making and attending meetings with his/her teacher(s).
- Keeping track of our website and social media sites
 - <http://smes.randolph.k12.nc.us/>
 - Twitter: @RandCoSchools
 - Facebook: @randolphcountyschoolsystem
 - Instagram: randolphcoschoolsystem
- Volunteering
- Joining the Southmont Parent/Teacher Organization
- Staying in touch with us if you have ideas or questions

We believe that preparing our students to succeed is a collective effort between home and school. The following list contains resources available to parents and school staff:

- Southmont Elementary School Website: <http://smes.randolph.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>

It is our hope to develop a positive relationship with you while working together to meet the needs of your student(s).

If you have questions about this information, please contact me at 336-625-1558.

Respectfully,

Ann Carol Grant

Ann Carol Grant
Principal