



West Marion Elementary

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Dear Parents of West Marion Elementary

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

- A4.01 The school will implement a tiered instructional system that allows teachers to deliver evidence-based instruction aligned with the individual needs of students across all tiers.
- A4.06 ALL teachers will be attentive to students' emotional states, guide students in managing their emotions, and arrange for supports and interventions when necessary. (5124)
- B3.03 The principal monitors curriculum and classroom instruction regularly and provides timely, clear, constructive feedback to teachers.

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 West Marion Elementary School will be implementing:

- Ready Rosie for Parent Engagement
- Teachers meet weekly to look at reading and math data and plan instruction
- Exceptional Children's teachers meet monthly to look at data to guide instruction
- Support teachers push into classrooms to assist in reading and math instruction
- Sharing grade level standards weekly with specials and support staff so they can support classroom instruction
- Leveled text and supported classroom instruction

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

- 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 Mrs. Dowdle at 738-3353 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 of your student, make sure to attend meetings with your student's teacher(s).
- Keep track of our website and social media sites www.wme.mcdowell.k12.nc.us
- Volunteer.
- Join the West Marion Elementary PTO.

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:

- McDowell County Schools www.mcdowell.k12.nc.us
- West Marion Elementary www.wme.mcdowell.k12.nc.us
- West Marion Facebook Page
- Follow West Marion on Twitter
- 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>

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact **Amy Dowdle at 828-738-3353 or amy.dowdle@mcdowell.k12.nc.us**

Sincerely,

Amy Dowdle