



Ayden Elementary
187 Third Street Ayden NC, 28513
(252) 746-2121/ Fax (252) 746-6470

Michael Casey
Principal

Shakela Knight
Assistant Principal

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 Ayden Elementary has been designated as a Targeted Support & Improvement Additional Targeted Support (TSI-AT) school by the North Carolina State Board of Education. Per ESSA Section 1111(d)(2), schools are identified as TSI-AT 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 Ayden Elementary's intentions to improve educational outcomes for underperforming student subgroups and close achievement gaps for all students.

As a TSI-AT (ATSI) school, Ayden Elementary 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 or charter will employ to support Ayden Elementary's improvement efforts. The ATSI plan will address the following areas:

- Classroom Management
- Standards-aligned Instruction
- Professional Learning Teams (PLTs)
- 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 Ayden Elementary this year:

- AES will improve the implementation of small group instruction by intentionally identifying time for small group instruction in the master schedule and monitoring its efficacy through administrator walkthroughs, IC feedback and Peer Observation.
- AES will use iReady and mClass to monitor and ensure student growth. Students will grow 1 domain in mClass and /or meet typical growth in iReady.
- AES will increase school proficiency by 10% by using Learning Focused Strategies, which include Vocabulary Instruction, Numbered Heads-Collaborative Pairs, and Distributive Summarizing.
- AES teachers will participate in Professional Learning Teams that will discuss appropriate strategies for students who need systematic interventions and extensions.
- AES will implement blended learning strategies and AI powered platforms as tools to improve lesson creation/implementation and student engagement as evidenced by walkthrough feedback.

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

- Increase rigor in all classrooms to assist with students reaching grade level expectations
- Completing common formative assessments
- Data talks among teachers and administration
- Individualized instruction and interventions for students

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 Mr. Casey or Mrs. Knight at 252-746-2121 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.
- 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 (<https://www.pitt.k12.nc.us/aes>) and social media sites (<https://www.facebook.com/aydenangels>).
- Volunteer
- Join the Ayden Elementary Parent Teacher Association or Organization

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

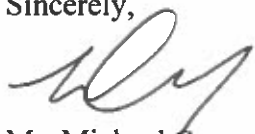
- Graduation requirements: www.ncpublicschools.org/gradrequirements/
- K-12 standards in academic subjects: www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/
- State student achievement test results: www.ncpublicschools.org/accountability/
- N.C. School Report Cards: <https://www.dpi.nc.gov/data-reports/school-report-cards>

We are committed to improving student performance. It is important to remember that just as no 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:

- created a master schedule that incorporates appropriate times for core instruction, intervention, and grade level instructional planning time
- created standards-based units of instruction for each subject area and grade level
- positively taught classroom rules and procedures
- implemented a school wide phonics program- Horizons in grades K-3 and Elevate in grades 4-5
- created data walls and spreadsheets to analyze data and make informed instructional decisions
- created Individual Reading Plans for those students in grades K-4 who are reading below grade level
- implemented a communication folder that goes home and set up Dojo accounts for parents
- recognized students monthly as the Angel of the Month for exhibiting positive behavior and outstanding character traits
- implemented an after school program for 1st and 2nd grade students with a focus on literacy, math, and Stem

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact Mr. Casey at caseym@pitt.k12.nc.us or 252-746-2121.

Sincerely,



Mr. Michael Casey