LAKEFOREST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 3300 BRIARCLIFF DRIVE GREENVILLE, NC 27834 (252) 756-3941 – OFFICE (252) 756-3946 – FAX



Diana Denham Principal LaShaunda Gilbert & Katherine Swain Assistant Principals

12/21/18

Dear Parent/Guardian:

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

- Lakeforest will increase overall proficiency by 10%
- Lakeforest will reduce suspensions school wide

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 Lakeforest Elementary will be implementing:

- We have a targeted intervention block where students are either getting remediation or enrichment based on their individual data.
- Teachers meet weekly in Professional Learning Communities to look at student/school data and create and revise instructional strategies.
- Teachers are given continuous professional growth opportunities.
- Teachers are encouraged to reach out to parents through phone calls, emails, and class dojo.

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. Denham 756-3941 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://www.facebook.com/lakeforestfrogs and the Lakeforest Web Site.
- Volunteer.
- Join the Lakeforest 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:

- Graduation requirements: <u>www.ncpublicschools.org/gradrequirements/</u>
- K-12 standards in academic subjects: <u>www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/</u>
- State student achievement test results: <u>www.ncpublicschools.org/accountability/</u>
- N.C. School Report Cards: <u>https://ncreportcards.ondemand.sas.com/src</u>

We're excited about this school year and are working to make it a success for your student. Already, we have:

- Lakeforest is a PBIS Green Ribbon School
- Lakeforest Exceeded Growth in the 2018 school year

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact Mrs. Denham at <u>denhamd@pitt.k12.nc.us</u> or 252-756-3941.

Sincerely,

Diana Denham Lakeforest Principal