

Oakwood Elementary School

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Ms. Jennifer O'Briant ~ Principal



Date: **October 20, 2020**

Dear Parent/Guardian:

I hope the first quarter has been filled with successful remote learning experiences for you and your student(s). As we prepare for the continuation of successful teaching and learning, we would like to extend wonderful greetings to you and your family as we share some highlights with you. We are excited our students and families may access the internet through WiFi Rangers at Lively Stones Baptist (in Pelham), Kerr's Chapel Baptist (on Kerr's Chapel Road), Sweet Gum's Grove Baptist (on NC Hwy 119), and Shiloh Baptist Church (in Milton). Additionally, we have created a parent and student online resource center which can be accessed at <https://CaswellParentandStudentResources>.

We met Expected Growth for overall, reading, and math End of Grade Tests for 2019. In addition, we grew 10 points from 2016-2017 to 2017-2018 (End of Grade Tests). We are proud of our students and the skills they are showing as they learn online. We continue to recognize students for achievements. Currently, we are recognizing students who are displaying character traits that help make them successful with online learning by presenting Digital Citizenship Awards monthly. We continue to offer enrichment clubs online such as Battle of the Books and Science Olympiad.

Oakwood staff opened the new year with productive goals for the 2020-2021 school year. *Goal 1: 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. Goal 2: All teachers will be attentive to students' emotional states, guide students in managing their emotions, and arrange for support and interventions when necessary. Goal 3: The principal will monitor curriculum and classroom instruction regularly and provide timely, clear, constructive feedback to teachers.* Some of Oakwood's school improvement plan has embedded strategies to improve student achievement, which include:

- Continued Instructional Monitoring (principal and instructional coach) with deliberate and targeted feedback to teachers about instructional practices and ways to improve instruction
- School-wide implementation of Eureka Math curriculum with appropriate support for teachers, students, and parents
- Regularly scheduled meetings with the instructional coach and principal to analyze assessment data, plan appropriate standards-based instruction

- ❑ Tiered interventions, tutoring and remediation to assist students in content mastery

As stated in ESSA Section 1111(d)(2), North Carolina had to identify schools for targeted support and improvement. Oakwood has been designated as a Targeted Support & Improvement Additional Targeted Support (TSI-AT) school by the North Carolina State Board of Education. 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.

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

- *Make sure both you and your student are aware of academic expectations set for your student this school year.*
- *Call 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 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.*
- *Join a parent support/volunteer team*

This may sound like a lot; however, preparing our students to be successful is not always easy and is a group effort. Here are some 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://ncreportcards.ondemand.sas.com/src>
- Remote Learning parent and student resources: <https://CaswellParentandStudentResources>

On behalf of the Oakwood Elementary learning community, I would like to extend a safe, wonderful holiday season to you and your family. If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact **Ms. Jennifer O'Briant** at jennifer.obriant@caswell.k12.nc.us.

Sincerely,

*Ms. Jennifer O'Briant,
Oakwood Elementary School Principal*