

MARJORIE WILLIAMS ACADEMY

129 Allen Circle | Newland, NC 28657 P: 828.733.5241 F: 828.737.7915

www.williamsacademy.org

October 11, 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Legislation (G.S. §115C-83.15) passed during the 2013 long session of the North Carolina General Assembly provides parents with an additional measure of school performance in the form of School Performance Grades. Beginning with the 2013–14 school year, the annual North Carolina School Report Cards display a letter grade of A, B, C, D, or F for each school in the state.

The School Performance Grades are based 80 percent on our school's achievement score (student proficiency) and 20 percent on students' academic growth. At Marjorie Williams Academy, our achievement score for the 2021–22 school year is based on how well our students performed on Grades 3–8 Mathematics, Grades 3–8 English Language Arts/Reading, Grades 5 and 8 Science, NC Math 1, NC Math 3, English II, and Biology, and additional indicators including English Learner Progress, ACT/ACT WorkKeys, Math Course Rigor, and the 4-Year Cohort Graduation Rate.

As a parent/guardian of a student in Marjorie Williams Academy, I am writing this letter to let you know that Marjorie Williams Academy is no longer designated as low performing school by the North Carolina State Board of Education. As defined in G.S. 115C-105.37: "The State Board of Education shall design and implement a procedure to identify low-performing schools on an annual basis. Low-performing schools are those that receive a school performance grade of D or F and a school growth score of "met expected growth" or "not met expected growth" as defined by G.S. 115C-83.15."

Marjorie Williams Academy received a School Performance Grade of a "C" and a growth designation of "Met" for the 2021–22 school year. We are committed to improving this score, but it is important to remember that just as no one single score or grade tells the whole story of a student, neither does it tell you everything about the performance of a school or the opportunities that our school provides.

Again, one of our top priorities for 2022–23 is to improve the School Performance Grade. There are several key programs we have in place to help improve student performance. These include:

• Math and ELA Tutoring



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The leadership team has developed an improvement plan that specifically addresses how we will improve both the school performance grade and school growth score. The preliminary plan was presented to our local school board at our monthly meeting on August 19, 2022, where the plan was presented and approved. The final plan for improvement is available on our website at <u>www.williamsacademy.org</u>

We hope you will closely follow your student's academic progress and work with his or her teacher(s) to help ensure they stay on track academically. Working together as a team, we can improve how well our students are performing. There is nothing more important to administrators and teachers at Williams Academy than ensuring students are ready for the next step in their academic careers. We look forward to working with you to make sure your student is on track for success.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding our School Performance Grade and how we plan to improve our school, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Cyndi Austin, Principal Marjorie Williams Academy (828)-733-5241 caustin@williamsacademy.org