

October 15, 2018

Dear Parents/Legal Guardians of the Statesville Greyhound Student Body:

One of the benefits North Carolina public schools offers to parents is transparency. Public school accountability is a standard practice for North Carolina going back to the early 1990's and the North Carolina School Report Cards provide parents with information on such key issues such as student performance, teacher experience, and school safety. Data are provided at the school, district, and state levels to enable parents to compare the performance of their student's school with others across the district and state.

Legislation (G.S.115C-83.15) passed during the 2013 long session of the North Carolina General Assembly provides 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 (29.80%) and 20 percent on students' academic growth (+3.01 from 2016-17). At Statesville High School, our achievement score for the 2017-2018 school year is based upon how well our students performed on NC Math 1, English II, and Biology End-of-Course tests.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that Statesville High School received a School Performance Grade of "D" for the 2017-2018 school year. Although we are committed to improving this score, 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, such as our Freshman Academy, school reorganization into learning pods, ongoing professional development for new and experienced teachers, and a commitment to embedded instructional support in core content area Academic Resource Centers, or ARC's.

One of our top priorities for 2018-19 is to improve our School Performance Grade. There are a number of key programs we have in place to help to improve student performance. These include:

- The continuation of our Extended Day School, a credit recovery program designed to assist student recover "lost" academic credit due to attendance issues or lack of academic success. Successful completion of this after school program puts students BACK on track for promotion and/or graduation, thereby improving the 4-Year Cohort Graduation Rate.
- The creation of the Freshman Academy, designed to help our incoming freshmen adjust to the academic rigor and routine of high school. The Freshman Academy is located along the B100 hallway, and serves students enrolled in English 1, NC Math 1, Earth/Environmental Science, World History, and Health and Physical Education (located in main gym).
- Careful examination and use of data to develop student schedules so that they are scheduled **APPROPRIATELY** to enhance the likelihood of student success.
- The introduction of Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) learning strategies featuring WICOR (Writing, Inquiry, Collaboration, Organization, and Rigor) that we expect to be used across the school, regardless of grade level.

We hope you will closely follow your student's academic progress and work with his or her teacher(s) to help ensure that they stay on track academically. Working together as a team, we can improve not only how well our students are performing individually, but how our school is performing as a whole. There is nothing more important to us as your servant educators at Statesville High School than ensuring that students are ready for the next step in their academic career. I look forward to working with you to make sure that your student is on track for success.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding our School Performance Grade and how we plan to improve, please do not hesitate to contact me at [hans\\_lassiter@iss.k12.nc.us](mailto:hans_lassiter@iss.k12.nc.us) OR 704-872-7087.

Sincerely,

Hans D. Lassiter, Principal  
Statesville High School