



Hollister Elementary Leadership Academy

37432 NC-561, Hollister, NC 27844

10/1/2024

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 Hollister Elementary Leadership Academy, our achievement score for the 2023-2024 school year is based on how well our students performed on *Grades 3–5 Mathematics, Grades 3–5 English Language Arts/Reading, and Grades 5 Science*.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that Hollister Elementary Leadership Academy has been designated as a 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 identify low-performing schools on an annual basis. Low-performing schools are those that earn an overall 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."

Hollister Elementary Leadership Academy received a School Performance Grade of **F** and a growth designation of **Met Growth** for the 2023–2024 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. Here at HELA we will begin to offer students in grades 3rd, 4th, and 5th the opportunity to participate in the afterschool program after all beginning of year diagnostic testing is complete. We also have members of our team who serve in the role of academic tutors to strengthen the learning that is facilitated by the teacher.

As a low performing school, we are required to develop an improvement plan that specifically addresses how the school will improve both the school performance grade and school growth score. The plan will also include how the superintendent and other central office administrators in the district will work with us and monitor the progress of our school. The final plan will be available for review on the school's website: (<https://www.halifax.k12.nc.us/hollister>).

One of our top priorities for 2024–2025 is to improve our School Performance Grade. There are a number of key programs we have in place to help improve student performance. These include:

- Wit & Wisdom Textbooks
- Reading Horizons Phonics Program
- Ready Reading Workbooks
- mClass data-driven pdf lesson plans
- Exact Path Reading Digital Learning Path & PDF Data-Driven Lesson Plans

- Envision Math Textbooks, workbooks, & online support
- Ready Math Workbooks
- Istation Math Digital Learning Path & PDF Data-Driven Lesson Plans
- Exact Path Digital Learning Path & Digital Data-Driven Lesson Plans
- STEMScopes Science textbooks & online supports

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 not only how well our students are performing individually, but how our school is performing as a whole. There is nothing more important to administrators and teachers at Hollister Elementary Leadership Academy than ensuring students are ready for the next step in their academic careers. I 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, please don't hesitate to contact Principal Lorane Johnson at 252-586-4344 or at johnsonl@ho.halifax.k12.nc.us

Sincerely,

Lorane Johnson

Hollister Elementary Leadership Academy Principal