

November 17, 2022



Dear Parent/Guardian:

I hope the school year has started successfully for all of you. As a parent/guardian of a student in Hanford Dole Elementary School, I am writing this letter to let you know that Hanford Dole, has been designated as a Comprehensive Support & Improvement Low-Performing (CSI-LP) school by the North Carolina State Board of Education. As stated in ESSA Section 1111(c)(4)(D)(i), North Carolina had to identify schools for comprehensive support and improvement. CSI-LP schools in North Carolina are those found in the lowest-performing 5 percent of all schools receiving Title I funding. 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 CSI-LP school, Hanford Dole 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
- Standard-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 Hanford Dole this year:

- Math goal: Proficiency scores for students in grades 3-5 will grow by 10 percentage points based on their math EOG test scores by May 2025.
- Reading goal: Proficiency scores for students in grades 3-5 will grow by 12 percentage points based on their Reading EOG test scores by May 2025.
- Science goal: Proficiency scores for students in grades 5 will grow by 10 percentage points based on their Science EOG test scores by May 2025.
- 85% of students K-5 will have the opportunity for a leadership role in the classroom or school by May 2023.

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 Hanford Dole will be implementing:

- iReady Resources and Curriculum
- Additional professional development for our teachers
- In classroom coaching and support with lesson planning.
- SEL Curriculum during morning meetings.

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 Jessica Rivas at 704-639-3046 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.
- Volunteer.
- Join the Hanford Dole 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:

- Community in Schools Mrs. Washington at 704-639-3046
- Graduation requirements: [www.ncpublicschools.org/gradrequirements/](http://www.ncpublicschools.org/gradrequirements/)
- K-12 standards in academic subjects: [www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/](http://www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/)
- State student achievement test results: [www.ncpublicschools.org/accountability/](http://www.ncpublicschools.org/accountability/)
- N.C. School Report Cards: <https://ncreports.ondemand.sas.com/src/?county=Rowan>

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

- Hired a tutor to work with students in small groups and provide interventions.
- Hired a behavior interventionist to support student SEL needs.

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact Jerri Hunt, Director of Federal Programs at [jerri.hunt@rss.k12.nc.us](mailto:jerri.hunt@rss.k12.nc.us) or 704-680-6838.

Sincerely,

Jessica Rivas