

February 19, 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian:

I hope the school year has started successfully for all of you. As a parent/guardian of a student in Sanderson High School, I am writing this letter to let you know that Sanderson has been designated as a Comprehensive Support & Improvement Low-Graduation Rate (CSI-LG) 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-LG schools in North Carolina are high schools that have any subgroup with a 4-year cohort graduation rate of less than 66.7%. The intent of this opportunity is to improve educational outcomes for all students, close achievement gaps, increase equity, and improve the quality of instruction.

Overall, Sanderson's 4-year cohort graduation rate is above 88% on an annual basis. We have one subgroup that falls in the CSI-LG status (below 66.7%) – our Limited English Proficient speaking students. We have a wonderful program at Sanderson for these students as they take on the challenges of learning a new language and must be assessed through the same academic assessments and benchmarks as their English-speaking peers in the state of North Carolina. Many of these students may audit core classes when they are first enrolled and receive a specialized curriculum to help with language transition. This subgroup needs some extra time to proceed through the curriculum and we build it into 5 years when necessary. This program has a much higher 5-year graduation rate and is what is best for many of the students in this subgroup. We will continue to serve all students equitably regardless of the impact it may have on our 4-year cohort graduation rate.

As a CSI-LG school, Sanderson High School 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.

Parent engagement is at the heart of our school improvement efforts. Here are some ways you can help:

- 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 Sanderson High School at 919-881-4800 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:



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<https://www.wcpss.net/sandersonhs> and <https://twitter.com/spartantweets>

- Volunteer.
- Join the PTO: <http://www.sandersonpto.com>

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:

- 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://ncreportcards.ondemand.sas.com/src>

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact Dr. Gregory Decker at [gdecker@wcpss.net](mailto:gdecker@wcpss.net) or 919-881-4800.

Sincerely,

Dr. Gregory S. Decker



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