



Dream, Believe, Become! Lead.

# Blue Ridge Elementary

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Dear Parent/Guardian:

I hope the school year has started successfully for all of you. As a parent/guardian of a child at Blue Ridge Elementary School, I am writing this letter to let you know that Blue Ridge Elementary, has been designated as a Targeted Support & Improvement Additional Targeted Support (TSI-AT) school by the North Carolina State Board of Education. As stated in ESSA Section 1111(d)(2), North Carolina had to identify schools for targeted support and improvement. TSI-AT schools in North Carolina are those that have a subgroup that is under-performing. 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 TSI-AT school, Blue Ridge Elementary 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
- Standards-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 Blue Ridge Elementary School this year:

- All teachers employ effective classroom management and reinforce classroom rules and procedures by positively teaching them.
- The school implements a tiered instructional system that allows teachers to deliver evidence-based instruction aligned with the individual needs of students across all tiers.
- Instructional Teams develop standards-aligned units of instruction for each subject and grade level.
- All teachers are attentive to students' emotional states, guide students in managing their emotions, and arrange for supports and interventions when necessary.
- The school regularly communicates with parents/guardians about its expectations of them and the importance of the curriculum of the home.

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 Blue Ridge Elementary School will be

implementing:

- Remind App for parent engagement.
- Parent Nights with information on grade level expectations and take-home activities.
- Teachers will plan collaboratively on a weekly basis to create effective math instruction based on schoolwide professional development.
- Classroom teachers, special education teachers, and specialists will meet monthly to discuss student data to guide instruction.
- Grade levels will offer tiered support to students during flex time to meet individual student needs.

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 child are aware of academic expectations set for your child this school year. A list of learning objectives in student-friendly language is available from your child's teacher(s).
- Call Blue Ridge Elementary at 336-384-4500 if you have questions or concerns about your child or to set up an appointment to meet with a school staff member who will be working with your child.
- Make sure that your child is prepared and attends school each day.
- Monitor your child's homework.
- Monitor the progress your child is making and attend meetings with your child's teacher(s).
- Keep track of our website and social media sites <https://www.asheschools.org/bres>
- Volunteer.
- Join the BRES PTSO.

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:

- Ashe County Schools <https://www.asheschools.org/>
- Blue Ridge Elementary School <https://www.asheschools.org/bres>
- Follow Blue Ridge Elementary on Facebook and Instagram
- 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>

We're excited about this school year and are working to make it a success for your child. We have already begun to implement our strategies.

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact **Joallen Lowder** at [joallen@ashe.k12.nc.us](mailto:joallen@ashe.k12.nc.us) or 336-384-4500.

Sincerely,

Joallen Lowder