September 1, 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian:

I hope the school year has started successfully for all of you. As a parent/guardian of a student at Hominy Valley, I am writing to let you know that Hominy Valley has been designated 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, Hominy Valley 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 Hominy Valley this year:

- Goal #1: To increase the Reading proficiency of Kindergarten, First Grade, and Second Grade from their current proficiency level to an average of 5 percentage points higher.
- Goal #2: To increase the Reading proficiency of Third Grade and Fourth Grade from their current proficiency level to an average of 5 percentage points higher.
- Goal #3: To increase Math proficiency in Fourth Grade from 74% to 80% as measured by End of Grade Assessments.

To ensure all students achieve at their highest level of academic performance, staff, students, and families must all work together. The following are some strategies Hominy Valley will be implementing:

- iReady Literacy Training
- New JET Time format and lesson focus

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https://hves.buncombeschools.org/ * https://www.facebook.com/hominyvalleyelementary
• Best 1-1 Training
• The continued use of Buncombe County Pacing Guides and Curriculum Resources

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 Liz Parker, our School Counselor @ 828-665-0619 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 (www.hves.buncombeschools.org) and social media site (Homingy Valley Elementary on Facebook).
• Volunteer
• Join the Hominy Valley PTO by contacting Frank McGowen, Hominy Valley PTO President @ 828-280-6702.

Preparing our students for success is a group effort. Together, we can make a difference. Here are some resources available to help:
• Hominy Valley Elementary website: www.hves.buncombeschools.org
• Graduation requirements: www.ncpublicschools.org/gradrequirements/
• K-12 standards in academic subjects: www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/
• State student achievement test results: 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 student. During this first nine weeks, we’ve had the opportunity of:
• Our Initial iReady training
• PLC training with County Teacher Leaders
• Reading Research Teacher Training
• Our first round of teacher to teacher classroom visits

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact Joanne Walker @ 828-665-0619.

Sincerely,

Joanne Walker
Principal