



Lakeside Charter Academy
17609 Old Statesville Rd, Cornelius, NC 28031
Ph: 704.896.9500

Monday, October 14, 2024

Dear Lakeside 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 Lakeside Charter Academy), our achievement score for the **2023-2024 school year** is based on how well our students performed on the following tests: **Grades 3–8 Mathematics, Grades 3–8 English Language Arts/Reading, and Grades 5 and 8 Science.**

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that Lakeside Charter 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.”***

Lakeside Charter Academy received a School Performance Grade of **“33 F”** and a growth designation of **Did Not Meet** 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. Lakeside is a community-oriented school with a family feel, committed to scholarship, leadership, citizenship and parent partnership. Additionally, this score indicates where the school was



last year. We are confident that our future is brighter under new leadership and with a new comprehensive plan for school improvement.

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 I, as the principal, and the Lakeside Charter Academy Board will work with our School Improvement Team and help monitor the progress of our school. We are already engaged in the work of refining our plan and will present the plan to our school board at their November 21 meeting via Zoom where the plan will be presented for approval. The final plan will be available for review on our website by December 1, 2024.

As the principal of Research Triangle Charter Academy (2015-2020), I was able to lead a strong school and parent community in improving that school's Report Card grade from a 52-D to a 62-C before I left in October 2020. We were knocking on the door of that 66 B and I am confident we would have achieved that B had I stayed on the rest of that school year! Since arriving here in May 2024 as the new school leader at Lakeside Charter Academy, one of my top priorities and singular focuses for 2024–2025 has been to improve our School Performance Grade and our End-of-Grade (EOG) academic results. I am confident we can do that. There are a number of key programs, initiatives, and areas of focus we have in place to help improve student performance. These include:

1. Focus on Literacy and the Science of Reading
2. Align to and Focus on the teaching Standards
3. Instructional Quality Inspection and Support by the Principal and Assistant Principal
4. Professional Development for teachers in Math and ELA
5. Instructional Strategy Accountability
6. Targeted Intervention
7. Intentional and High Quality Staff Hiring
8. Frequent and Effective Data Analysis



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 Lakeside Charter 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 more questions or concerns regarding our School Performance Grade and how we plan to improve, please don't hesitate to contact me at w.muhammad@lakesidesidecharteracademy.com.

Sincerely,

Wayne Muhammad, Principal