Lakeside Charter Academy

17609 Old Statesville Rd.

Cornelius, North Carolina 28031

November 1, 2022

Dear Lakeside Charter Academy family,

As a part of our commitment to communication with families, I am writing to update you on the North Carolina School Report Card for Lakeside Charter Academy.

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. 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% on our school’s achievement score and 20% on students’ academic growth. At Lakeside, our achievement score is based on how well our students performed on Grades 3–8 Mathematics and Grades 3–8 English Language Arts/Reading.

Lakeside Charter Academy received a School Performance Grade of D and a growth designation of “met expected growth” for the 2021–2022 school year. We have been designated as a low performing school by the North Carolina State Board of Education for the 2021-22 school year.

It is no secret that the last few years of education have seen tremendous change and upheaval, disrupting student test scores nationally. The pandemic forced schools to adapt to a model of teaching and learning that was, at times, contrary to Lakeside’s community-based mission of innovative, challenging, and rigorous academics in a safe, nurturing environment.

Lakeside students have made tremendous growth since the last reporting session, however the school performance grade is heavily weighted toward standardized test scores. Changes to the North Carolina Report Card may be on the horizon, with a recent survey suggesting that the performance grade should include factors such as climate, safety and innovative teaching to more accurately reflect school quality.

While we believe that standardized testing provides only a snapshot of our students’ math and reading skills at a particular time in their education, we are committed to improving our students' growth and skills. As required by the State of North Carolina, we are developing an improvement plan that addresses how we will improve the school performance grade. The plan includes how the superintendent and other central office administrators in the district will work with us and monitor the progress of our school. Some highlights of the plan include:

* Meet individual students where they are and help them grow by aligning assessment data with our curriculum
* Increased enrichment and remediation time for math and science
* Increased math and reading instruction of 1 additional hour per week
* Utilize ability grouping to target student skills and areas of need

We hope you will continue to follow your student’s academic progress and work with us to help ensure continued growth. Working together as a team, we believe we can improve not only how well our students perform individually, but also our school performance grade.

Lakeside staff is proud of our scholars' growth and perseverance during unprecedented times and we remain committed to cultivating engaged learners through scholarship, leadership, and citizenship.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding our School Performance Grade and how we plan to improve, please don’t hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jim Montague