



322 South Main Street
Laurinburg, North Carolina 28352
(910) 276-1138 • fax (910) 277-4310

November 3, 2023

Scotland County Schools
322 South Main Street
Laurinburg, NC 28352

Dear 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.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that Scotland County Schools has been designated as a low performing district by the North Carolina State Board of Education. A low performing district is one in which the majority of the schools in the district have been identified as low-performing schools. The State Board of Education has identified seven of our schools in Scotland County as low performing.

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.”

One of our top priorities for 2023–2024 is to improve the School Performance Grade in each school. There are a number of key programs we have in place to help improve student performance. These include:

- By 2026, the percentage of Scotland County Schools that meet or exceed expected growth targets will increase by 75%.
- By 2026, the 4-year cohort graduation rate will increase to meet or exceed 93%.
- By 2026, the in and out of school suspension incident rate will be reduced by 25%.
- By 2026, SCS will reduce the employee attrition rate by 25%.

As a low performing district, we are required to develop an improvement plan that specifically addresses how the district will improve both the school performance grade and school growth score of each low-performing school in the unit, and how the superintendent and other central office administrators will work with each low-performing school and monitor the low-performing school's progress. The preliminary plan will be presented to our local school board at their next meeting, (October 23, 2023 at 4:00 p.m. at the A.B. Gibson Center) where the plan will be presented for approval. The final plan for improvement will be available on our local district website at www.scotland.k12.nc.us.

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 schools are performing as a whole. There is nothing more important to administrators and teachers at Scotland County Schools than ensuring students are ready for the next step in their academic careers. We look forward to working with you to make sure your student is on track for success.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding our School Performance Grade and how we plan to improve the schools within our district, please don't hesitate to contact Barbara Adams, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction at badams@scotland.k12.nc.us.

Sincerely,
Dr. Adell Baldwin, Superintendent
Scotland County Schools