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The School for  
**Creative  
Studies**



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October 15, 2021

Dear SCS Families,

I am writing to inform you that The School for Creative Studies has been designated as a Targeted Support and 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, The School for Creative Studies 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, and Family and Community Engagement.

We have set the following goals for The School for Creative Studies this year:

- In the area of Reading, our goal at The School for Creative Studies is to increase the overall grade level proficiency (GLP) of our students to 73.5%, as measured by End-of-Grade Tests and 60% as measured by End-of-Course Test.
- In the area of Mathematics, it is our goal at The School for Creative Studies to increase the overall grade level proficiency (GLP) of our students to 70%, as measured by End-of-Grade/Course Tests.
- In the area of Science, our goal at The School for Creative Studies is to increase the overall grade level proficiency (GLP) of our students to 70%, as measured by End-of-Grade/Course Tests.

Our students need to experience higher achievement levels, and it will require hard work on the part of staff, students and families. Here are some strategies *The School for Creative Studies* will be implementing:

- At SCS, students will be strategically chosen to attend tutoring sessions over intersession to receive additional support based on assessment data, course grade and teacher feedback from the previous quarter or complete missing assignments. (first 2 weeks)
- At SCS, students will be invited to attend after school tutoring sessions to receive additional support in current course content beginning in January 2022 and concluding in June 2022.
- Teachers will continue to participate in Professional Development as needed.

Parent/Family engagement is at the heart of our school improvement efforts. Here are some ways you

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# The School for Creative Studies



can help:

- 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 Renee Price at 919-560-3535 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 your student is prepared and attends school each day.
- Monitor your student's homework.
- Monitor and limit the amount of time your student spends watching television and playing video games.
- Monitor the progress your student is making and attend meetings with your student's teacher(s).
- Volunteer.
- Join the PTSA.

Sounds like a lot but we owe it to our students to work together to prepare them well for life after graduation. Here are some resources available to help:

- <https://www.dpsnc.net/domain/48>
- Graduation requirements: [www.ncpublicschools.org/gradrequirements/](http://www.ncpublicschools.org/gradrequirements/)
- K-12 standards in academic subjects: [www.ncpublicschools.org/acre/standards/](http://www.ncpublicschools.org/acre/standards/)
- State student achievement test results: [www.ncpublicschools.org/accountability/](http://www.ncpublicschools.org/accountability/)
- N.C. School Report Cards: [www.ncreportcards.org/](http://www.ncreportcards.org/)

We're excited about this school year and are working to make it a success for your student. Already, we have:

- We have added a Mathematics interventionist to provide services throughout the day.
- We have added a Reading Interventionist to provide services throughout the day.
- We have added study skills courses for targeted students.
- The School for Creative Studies was named a Distinguished PLTW School for 2020-2021

We look forward to partnering with you as we work together – to *ignite the limitless potential* of all of our children.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Renee Price". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.