



1489 US Highway 701 South PO Box 37 East Arcadia, North Carolina 28337  
Telephone: (910) 862-4136 | Fax: 1-855-860-6170

**Dr. Jason B. Atkinson, Superintendent**

October 11, 2022

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 the school’s achievement score (student proficiency) and 20 percent on students’ academic growth. At East Arcadia Primary, the achievement score for the 2021-2022 school year is based on how well the students performed on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Reading and Math End-of-Grade Assessments.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that East Arcadia Primary 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.”

East Arcadia Primary did not receive a School Performance Grade due to the low number of students tested, but did receive a growth designation of “met expected growth” for the 2021–2022 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 the school provides.

A low performing school is 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 the superintendent and other central office administrators in the district will work with, and monitor the progress of our school. The school is already engaged in the work of refining our plan and will present the plan to the school board at their next meeting, which be held on Monday, November 21, at 6:00 PM, where the plan will be presented for approval. The final plan will be available for review on the school’s website.

One of our top priorities for 2022–2023 is to improve our School Performance Grade. There are a number of key programs and initiatives that the school has in place to help improve student performance.

These include:

- Individualized professional development for teachers to support quality instruction.
- Addition of enrichment electives to extend student learning.
- Contracting with a retired teacher to tutor students who need additional support.
- Educational activities for students outside of the classroom.
- Purchasing resources to enhance all classes
- Establishing a data room to support the analysis of student data and to plan for appropriate interventions and supports.

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 the school is performing as a whole. There is nothing more important to us 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 the School Performance Grade and how the school plans to improve, please don't hesitate to contact Mr. David Wimert, principal at East Arcadia Primary, by calling (910) 247-4609, or by email, [dawimert@bladen.k12.nc.us](mailto:dawimert@bladen.k12.nc.us).

Sincerely,



Jason B. Atkinson, Ed.D.  
Superintendent