



1400 Jackson St,
Kannapolis, NC 28083

October 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 our school’s achievement score (student proficiency) and 20 percent on students’ academic growth. At **Jackson Park Elementary School** our achievement score for the 2021-2022 school year is based on how well our students performed on End of Grade assessments for Grades 3–8 Mathematics, Grades 3–8 English Language Arts/Reading, Grades 5 Science, and additional indicators including English Learner Progress and participation.

We are proud of all of our staff and students at **Jackson Park Elementary School**. In the 2021-2022, Jackson Park received a School Performance Grade of C and a growth designation of **Exceeded Growth**.

Kannapolis City Schools has been designated as a “low performing” district by the North Carolina State Board of Education. A district with the “low performing” designation is one in which the majority of the schools in the district carry the “low performing” designation. The State Board of Education has found that 75% of schools in Kannapolis City Schools have been identified as having the “low performing” designation.

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.”

At **Jackson Park Elementary School** we are committed to continuing to meet these high expectations with student achievement and growth. 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. With Jackson Park’s schoolwide global integration program, dual language program, STEM and outdoor garden instruction, and fully implemented multi-tiered system of instruction, our school is able to meet the academic needs of our students, and do it in a way that naturally builds the curiosity and intellect of the whole child and develop them as global citizens.

As a district, one of our top priorities for 2022–2023 is to improve the School Performance Grade in schools that did not meet or exceed growth. . There are a number of key programs we have in place to help improve student performance. These include:

- Bolstering our support for classroom instruction
- Ensuring our assessment system is balanced to inform how and what we teach
- Revisiting core behavior to ensure student success
- Conducting going cycles of student assessment, and adjusting our instruction to address the needs of our students and potential gaps in student attainment
- Creating and implementing global units of instruction to enrich student learning throughout the K-5 curriculum
- Ongoing professional development for our teachers in the best ways to meet the needs of our English as a Second Language students.
- Intentional and tiered Social and Emotional instruction, ensuring that all the needs of our students are met
- Robust AIG instruction embedded in daily classroom instruction, as well as provided in targeted small group instruction, ensuring student learning is fully extended where appropriate for all students to meet their full potential.



As a district with the “low performing” designation, 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 school in the unit, and how the superintendent and other central office administrators will work with each school and monitor schools’ progress with the “low-performing” designation. The preliminary plan was presented to our local school board at their last meeting, October 10, 2022, where the plan was presented for review and feedback. The final plan for improvement will be available on our local district website at www.kcs.k12.nc.us following board approval during the November 7, 2022 board meeting.

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 **Jackson Park Elementary** 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 Will Gibson, the Principal at Jackson Park Elementary School at (704) 933-2831 or will.gibson@kcs.k12.nc.us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Garay', written in a cursive style.

Kevin Garay, Superintendent
Kannapolis City Schools