



# Grandfather Academy

Grandfather Academy  
 PO Box 98  
 Banner Elk, NC 28604

March 17, 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian,

As a parent/guardian of a student at Grandfather Academy, I am writing this letter to let you know that Grandfather Academy is currently designated 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 design and implement a procedure to identify low-performing schools on an annual basis. Low-performing schools are those that receive a 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."

All schools receive School Performance Grades as required by the North Carolina Every Student Succeeds Act State Plan and North Carolina General Statute 115-C 83.15. All schools in the state receive an A to F letter grade.

A weighted model using of 80% achievement and 20% growth is used. Schools with a grade span that does not go beyond 8th grade (grades 3-8 Elementary/Middle) use a defined set of indicators for the letter grades. Schools starting at 9th grade (grades 9-12 / High School) use another set of indicators. Schools with grades in both grade spans use the indicators from each combined to create one letter grade. These grades identify schools in need of Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI). In addition, as required by state law, School Performance Grades and a school's growth status determines whether a school is low performing or a district is low performing. The State Board of Education will post lists of CSI schools and low-performing schools and districts on the Accountability Services website after approval in October.

Middle School Indicators	Score
Reading/Mathematics Assessments	80%
English Learner Progress	
Science Assessments	
EVAAS School Growth (Reading, Mathematics and Science)	20%

High School Indicators	Score
Reading/Mathematics Assessments	80%
English Learner Progress	

4-year Cohort Graduation Rate Biology Assessments ACT/WorkKeys Assessments Passing NC Math 3 Course	
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Grandfather Academy received a performance letter grade of an F and growth status, "Not Met." As a low performing school, we are 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 us and monitor the progress of our school. As a new Principal, I recently engaged a team in the work of developing our plan and will present it to our school advisory council on Friday, April 12, 2019, at 8:30 a.m. in the Family Support Center on the Grandfather Home for Children Campus. After the initial approval by our advisory council, we will submit the plan to the State Board of Education for review. The State Board's designee, staff members of NCDPI's District and School Transformation division, will read each plan and provide feedback to the school. After considering the feedback from the state, our Board of Directors will give final approval to the plan. We will post the plan on our website [www.childrenshopalliance.org](http://www.childrenshopalliance.org), as well as, the NCDPI's website at [www.ncpublicschools.org](http://www.ncpublicschools.org).

Grandfather Academy Teachers and Behavioral Staff focus on continuous improvement and I look forward to working with each of you as we continue to focus on providing the best education for our children. Please feel free to contact me with any specific questions as we move through this process.

Sincerely,



Matthew Gaunt

Principal, Grandfather Academy