

December 5, 2017

Dear Mills River Family,

Once a year the state of North Carolina provides you with updates on your school's achievements through the North Carolina School Report Card – which includes important information about school and student performance, class sizes, attendance, school safety, instructional resources, and teacher quality.

There also is information about how our school measured against federal Annual Measurable Objectives (AMO) targets in our school.

This is the fourth year the N.C. General Assembly is requiring that schools receive individual letter grades, which are comprised of student achievement (80 percent) and growth (20 percent) on state standardized assessments.

At Mills River Elementary, we are proud to have met or exceeded expected growth measures established by the state for each of the 16 years those measures have been set, including the 2016-17 school year, during which we also met all 15 of our AMO target goals.

The numbers only tell part of the story. At Mills River School we are proud to have earned the "Model" designation in North Carolina's Positive Behavior Intervention & Support (PBIS) Initiative in 2016-2017, and this school year we have begun implementing FranklinCovey's *The Leader In Me* whole-school transformational program designed to grow leadership potential in students. We continue to offer numerous extracurricular opportunities for our students and have a strong tradition of academic excellence dating back to 1797.

As we move forward, Mills River School's focus is on our continued commitment to excellence and to our Mission Statement: In the Mills River School **Community** we **Love**, **Learn** and **Lead. Learn** – we strive to learn every day in every way. **Love** – we show love for each other and learning. **Lead** – we are empowered to lead ourselves and then inspire others. **Community** – we build family in every classroom, our school and our greater community.

Thank you for your investment in your child's school, and for supporting our efforts to provide your child with a high-quality education.

Sincerely,

Chad. E. Auten, Principal