



## Sugarloaf Elementary School

2270 Sugarloaf Road  
Hendersonville, NC 28792  
(828) 697-4600



**“Building a culture of greatness by empowering leaders  
who positively influence themselves and others.”**

Ashley Newcomer, Principal

Kathy Jones, Assistant Principal

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December 5, 2017

Dear Families,

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

The N.C. General Assembly also requires that schools receive individual letter grades, which are comprised of student achievement (80 percent) and growth (20 percent) on state standardized assessments. Our school’s full Report Card can be found on the NC School Report Cards’ website at <http://www.ncreportcards.org>.

At Sugarloaf Elementary School, we have many things to celebrate! In the past four school years, we continued to meet growth standards as established by the state. With a strong and consistent focus on attendance, our overall attendance rate reached 96 percent.

The numbers only tell part of the story. In May of 2016, Sugarloaf was recognized as a *Leader in Me* Lighthouse School, becoming one of only five schools in the state of North Carolina to reach this milestone. We have seen outstanding results from implementing *The Leader in Me* process with fidelity, including increased academic ownership, student leadership, and parent/community involvement.

Our students are taught by highly qualified teachers, many of whom have achieved additional credentials. Twenty-eight percent of our teachers have earned advance degrees, and 25 percent are National Board Certified – an optional intensive certification process with high standards for educators. As a result, our teachers value research based practices that promote differentiation, feedback, and student engagement. We have on average one digital device per 3.73 students, which help us implement these practices as well.

As we move forward, Sugarloaf’s focus is on the continued implementation of the following: differentiated instruction; specific and descriptive feedback to help move students from where they are academically to where they need to be in regard to standards; and collaboration among teachers in collecting, analyzing, and utilizing data to drive instruction. We will continue to use *The Leader in Me* process to empower our students to set personal and academic goals, create plans of action, and track individual progress. This information will be shared during student-led conferences with families and pep rallies with our whole school throughout the year. We will continue to improve parent and community support as we work together to ensure that ALL children reach their potential for greatness.

Thank you for your investment in your child’s school, and for supporting our efforts to provide your child with a high-quality education. We are proud to be Sugarloaf Mountain Lions! Hear us ROAR as we take pride in all we do and continue to grow as leaders and learners!

Sincerely,  
Ashley Newcomer, Principal