



Upward Elementary School

Jason Joyce, Principal

45 Education Drive
Flat Rock, North Carolina 28731
jjoyce@hcpsnc.org
Phone: (828) 697-4764
Fax: (828) 698-6131

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Dear Parent:

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.

Also, there 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 student growth (20 percent) on state standardized assessments. In 2016-17, Upward Elementary School received an overall grade of “C” from the State of North Carolina, and met the N.C. Department of Public Instruction's growth expectations for the school year. We also are very proud of the fact that we met every targeted AMO target for our school.

We are so much more than test scores; we are truly about providing our students with the best teaching practices in the classroom. Our teachers work diligently each day to provide the best developed lessons so that students can learn and retain information longer. Upward Elementary is using Learning Focused methodologies each day in the classroom to ensure that our students will be better prepared for tomorrow.

As we continue to move forward, Upward Elementary's focus for improvement is on continued student growth, achievement, and leadership. Through well-collected data, we know that reading fluency is the key for student growth in reading and writing. Therefore, we are in our second year of implementing a literacy program called “6 Minute Fluency.” Every student participates in this program daily, which we know will help our students be successful. We have also implemented FranklinCovey's whole-school transformation program, *Leader in Me*, designed to grow leadership potential in students. We are teaching our students the “7 Habits” and we are so proud of their growth through the first nine weeks of this school year.

To see the ongoing instructional activities and student life at Upward, please check out our school Facebook page and our Twitter Accounts: @UpwardEagles and @jasonljoyce.

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

Sincerely,

Jason Joyce, Principal