Dear Parent/Guardian:

I hope that you and your child are having a good school year in these most unusual and trying of circumstances. At Rugby, we are unbelievably proud of the work our students, families, teachers and support staff are doing to continue to push for student growth toward and progress, given the challenges the pandemic has presented. We continue to work hard to address our virtual and in-person learners’ need to grow in this vital time for adolescents.

As with any success, we also target room to grow and improve. This year, Rugby Middle School has been designated as a Targeted Support & Improvement- Consistently Underperforming (TSI-CU) school by the North Carolina State Board of Education. As stated in ESSA Section 1111(d)(2), North Carolina had to identify schools for targeted support and improvement. TSI-CU schools in North Carolina are those that have a subgroup that is consistently under-performing. The intent of this opportunity is to improve educational outcomes for all students, close achievement gaps, increase equity, and improve the quality of instruction.

As a TSI-CU school, Rugby Middle School is required to develop a comprehensive plan that specifically addresses how the school will improve student achievement. The plan will also include how our district will support us and monitor the progress of our school. For example, our comprehensive plan will address focus on the areas outlined in our school improvement plan, which can be found on our website, or through this link: [http://www.hendersoncountypublicschoolsnc.org/district/about-us/school-improvement-plans/](http://www.hendersoncountypublicschoolsnc.org/district/about-us/school-improvement-plans/)

Parent engagement is at the heart of our school improvement efforts. Here are some ways you can help:

- Make sure that both you and your student are aware of academic expectations set for your student this school year. A list of learning objectives in student-friendly language is available from your student’s teacher(s).
- Call John McDaris at 828-891-6566 if you have questions or concerns about your student or to set up an appointment to meet with a school staff member who will be working with your student.
- Make sure that your student is prepared and attends school each day.
- Monitor your student’s homework.
- Monitor the progress your student is making and attend meetings with your student’s teacher(s).
- Keep track of our website and social media sites [http://www.hendersoncountypublicschoolsnc.org/rug/](http://www.hendersoncountypublicschoolsnc.org/rug/).

Preparing our students so that they can succeed is not easy and is a group effort. If you are interested in accessing additional resources that can help your child or your child’s school, please contact your child’s teacher/s or the principal.

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact John McDaris at 828-891-6566 or jrmcdaris@hcpsnc.org.

Sincerely,

John McDaris

Rugby Middle School
“Experience the Excellence”