



CHEEKTOWAGA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

...Where Character, Curriculum, and Community Connect

Middle School: 3600 Union Rd., Cheektowaga, NY 14225 • 716-686-3660 • FAX 716-686-3669 • cheektowagak12.org

September 2023

Dear CCMS Parents, Guardians, and Families:

This letter is to inform you that Cheektowaga Central Middle School has been identified as an Additional Targeted Support and Improvement (ATSI) school for the 2023-2024 school year and will be implementing the required actions as established by the State Department of Education for New York (NYSED).

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) is the main federal law for K-12 public education and it requires every State to establish criteria to measure school performance. The New York State Education Department (NYSED) has developed an accountability system based on student academic achievement, student growth and progress, progress of English language learners, and chronic absenteeism. A good deal of the data generated for these indicators comes from the 3rd-8th Grade English Language Arts, Mathematics and Science exams. The data includes student performance of students both taking and not taking these exams. All schools are identified and classified in a category for their performance in NYS. These identifications can be found on the State Education School Report Card site: <https://data.nysed.gov/>

For schools that meet and exceed performance requirements, they are identified as either a:

1. School in Good Standing
2. Reward School

For schools that do not meet academic and attendance expectations, they are identified as a school requiring improvement. The level of improvement they are required to demonstrate is based upon how much improvement they must demonstrate. There are 4 levels of schools requiring improvement, and are listed in the order of needing most to least improvement:

1. Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI)
2. Additional Targeted Support and Improvement (ATSI)
3. Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI)
4. Local Support and Improvement (LSI)

Schools receive these improvement designations as a result of scores of Level 1 on the different indicators and as a result of performing in the lower percentile of schools across NYS. An accountability subgroup is a group of students who are assigned to a certain category based on their economic status, disability status, race/ethnicity, or English language proficiency. The accountability subgroups are: All Students, American Indian or Alaska Native, Black or African American, Hispanic or Latino, Asian or Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander, White, Multiracial, Economically Disadvantaged, English Language Learner (ELL), and Students with Disabilities.

Cheektowaga Central Middle School has been identified as an ATSI school because of the performance for most subgroups across all of these indicators. CCMS has previously been identified as a TSI school over the past few years. Accordingly, this new designation is that which exists prior to a CSI designation.



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As a result, NYSED has implemented a series of required actions by the schools. These exist within the creation of a School Comprehensive Education Plan (SCEP). CCMS has had this plan in place over the previous years as a result of this designation. Due to the newly identified designation this past year, a new SCEP plan was developed this past spring by a team of school stakeholders and is being implemented in the 2023-2024 school year. To develop this plan, the school was required to do the following:

- Distribute surveys to students, parents, and staff to help identify thoughts on what may be working along with what may need improvement
- Conduct interviews with students, parents, and staff to help identify thoughts on what may be working along with what may need improvement
- Create an on-site needs assessment that includes building and classroom walkthroughs, data collection & analysis, and an academic intervention inquiry

During the school year there will be periodic updates regarding the progress of our SCEP plan and its implementation. There will also be information regarding progress the school is making in achieving proficiency on the established indicators discussed. The School Comprehensive Education Plan (SCEP) has been posted and can be accessed on our website: <https://www.cheektowagak12.org/domain/287>

If you have any questions please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

Chris Salinas, Ed.D.
Principal