

## TSI/ATSI Schools Parent Letter

October 6, 2022

Dear Parent or Guardian,

The purpose of this letter is to notify you that your child's school has been newly identified as a TSI/ATSI school for the 2022-2023 school year. This letter provides important information regarding your child's school and describes the protocol for measuring the academic performance of public schools in Nevada.

In December 2015, the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) was signed into law. Highlights of ESSA include holding all students to high academic standards and identifying low performing schools along with appropriate supports for school improvement. Under ESSA, there are two main school designations: Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) and Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI). Additionally, Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) is another school designation.

The State uses results from its school rating system, the Nevada School Performance Framework (NSPF), to identify CSI, TSI, and ATSI schools.

### **TSI Schools**

TSI schools are schools that meet the following conditions:

- Schools with consistently underperforming subgroups (25 students or more) across these indicators
  - Academic Achievement: Math and ELA proficiency (for elementary schools, Read by Grade 3 proficiency),
  - Academic Growth,
  - English Learner Growth,
  - Student Engagement.
- Schools with underperforming subgroups in the Academic Achievement indicator AND two other indicators

TSI schools are schools with consistently underperforming student subgroups that did not meet targets for two years in a row.

### **ATSI Schools**

ATSI schools are identified annually and are:

- A subset of TSI schools that require additional targeted support because of significant subgroup performance challenges that would, on their own, lead to a CSI designation,
- Based on subgroup number of students greater than or equal to 25.

ATSI schools were those with very low performing subgroups in 2019 only. ATSI schools must reduce the number of non-proficient students identified in subgroup performance by at least 10% for two consecutive years or meet the school's measures of interim progress for two consecutive years.

## **School Specific Information**

This is the 3rd year your child's school has been identified as a TSI/ATSI school. Your child's school has been identified as a TSI/ATSI school because it meets the condition(s) listed above. You can find out specifics about those indicators by clicking on this link:

[http://nevadareportcard.nv.gov/DI/nv/washoe/george\\_l\\_dilworth\\_s.t.e.m\\_academy/2018](http://nevadareportcard.nv.gov/DI/nv/washoe/george_l_dilworth_s.t.e.m_academy/2018)

The following root causes have been identified as reasons why your child's school has been listed as underperforming:

Dilworth Middle School has had a lack of focus on strengthening Tier I core content area literacy and instructional strategies for all students. Lack of a focus on professional learning communities, understanding for implementing a rigorous curriculum, and aligning grade level standards to assessment has also contributed to the need for focuses on Tier I instruction. Language and literacy strategies fail to engage all levels of learners. Dilworth staff should ensure that they are providing the needed supports for all sub-groups in order to see more growth.

With this determination, your child's school will receive increased levels of support which will include:

- Access to the CSI/TSI/TSI-ATSI Microsoft Team which gives updates regarding designation, information and access to trainings, updates from the Nevada Department of Education, and all relevant information for designated schools.
- Priority scheduling for professional development, professional trainings, data analysis, and meetings designed to navigate designation status.
- Access to information that outlines their designation, target areas for improvement, professional development, and guidance in CIP-SPP planning.
- Access to the Nevada Department of Education CSI/TSI/TSI-ATSI presentation which contains information, training updates, and other valuable tools for school improvement.

The following have been identified as district goals for the 2022-2023 school year:

- Academic Growth
- Developing Recruiting, and Training Highly-Effective Personnel
- Family and Community Engagement
- Continuous Improvement
- Safe and Welcoming Schools

## **School Specific Actions:**

To provide support and meet school and district goals, Dilworth MS is using general school funds, Title I funding, and ESSER funding to increase student achievement and growth, boost professional development and understanding of teaching for all teachers, and increase family engagement and participation. The district will support your child's school by working with the school to create a TSI/ATSI plan. You will receive further information on how you can engage in this process, as required under federal law. You will also receive a copy of this plan once it is created.

For more information about the progress being made by your child's school, please review the School Performance Plan on your school's website. The school's NSPF report is available at Nevada Department of Education's Report Card portal. Please contact your school at 775-353-5740 for more information.

Lastly, parent and family engagement is critical to your child's success. You are welcome and encouraged to become involved in the academic progress of your child's school. Please visit your child's school for information about parent and family engagement opportunities.

Sincerely,

Joel Peixoto, Principal