



Bledsoe County Middle School
857 Main Street, Pikeville, TN 37367
Phone: 423-447-3212 | Fax: 423-447-3187

Additional Targeted Support and Improvement (ATSI) Designation Parent Notification

September 21, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Each year, as a requirement of both federal and state law, the Tennessee Department of Education examines schools' performance across several different indicators to provide an overall look at how schools are serving the needs of all students. Schools designated in need of improvement may receive one of the following designations:

- Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) or Additional Targeted Support and Improvement (ATSI); also known as Focus Schools
- Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI); also known as Priority Schools

Due to school closures resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, any school identified for CSI, TSI, or ATSI in the 2019-20 school year will maintain that identification status in the 2020-21 school year. The school will also continue to receive support and interventions consistent with the school's support and improvement plan.

We are writing to inform you that Bledsoe County Middle School was identified for additional targeted support and improvement (ATSI) during the 2019-20 school year based on 2018-19 data and will therefore maintain that designation during the 2020-21 school year. Bledsoe County Middle School received this designation because it has one or more significantly and/or consistently underperforming student subgroups (i.e., Black/Hispanic/Native American, economically disadvantaged, English learners, or students with disabilities) based on 2018-19 data.

In order to be identified as an ATSI school, both of the following requirements must be met:

1. The school has one or more student groups whose overall accountability score includes data from all indicators listed below (More information on each of these indicators and the data used to define them can be found in the 2019 School Accountability User Guide.)
 - Student achievement
 - Student growth o English learner proficiency exam (ELPA)
 - Chronic absenteeism o Ready graduate (high school only)
 - Graduation rate (high school only)
2. The overall accountability scores for a given student group are not only in the bottom five percent for that student group across the state, but also the identified student group would, on its own, be identified as a Priority school, or the bottom five percent of schools statewide.

Our school is working hard with the district and the Tennessee Department of Education to increase student performance by:

- Ensuring students are provided with a rigorous curriculum that is consistently on grade-level
- Purchasing additional programs that are specific to individual student needs
- Getting more input from stakeholders on the development and implementation of our school improvement plan
- Providing teachers with frequent, embedded professional development on the curriculum standards
- Making sure all students' specific skill and standard based deficiencies in Math and English are being addressed through RTI (Response to Intervention)
- Implementing new strategies to improve student daily attendance

We encourage you to help by participating in the development and implementation of our school improvement plan.

Sincerely,

Lance Myhan, Ed.D.
Principal



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