



680 Highway 74 W  
Polkton, NC

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**ACS \* SPCC**  
*Supporting Student  
Success*

*Carri B. Decker, Principal*

Anson County Early College  
680 Hwy 74 West  
Polkton, NC 28135

November 28, 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Legislation (G.S. §115C-83.15) passed during the 2013 long session of the North Carolina General Assembly provides parents with an additional measure of school performance in the form of School Performance Grades. Beginning with the 2013–14 school year, the annual North Carolina School Report Cards display a letter grade of A, B, C, D, or F for each school in the state.

This fall, the NC Department of Public Instruction convened an advisory group to redesign the state’s school performance grades between now and January 2023. A survey requesting public input was shared with the public, and data was collected to help make a decision on possible changes. The School Performance Grades are currently based 80 percent on our school’s achievement score (student proficiency) and 20 percent on students’ academic growth. At Anson County Early College, our achievement score for the 2021-2022 school year is based on how well our students performed on NC Math 1, NC Math 3, English II, and Biology, and additional indicators including English Learner Progress, ACT/ACT WorkKeys, Math Course Rigor, and the 4-Year Cohort Graduation Rate.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that Anson County Schools has been designated as a low performing district by the North Carolina State Board of Education. A low performing district is one in which the majority of the schools in the district have been identified as low-performing schools. The State Board of Education has found that 66.7% of schools in Anson County Schools have been identified as low performing.

As defined in G.S. 115C-105.37: “The State Board of Education shall identify low-performing schools on an annual basis. Low-performing schools are those that earn an overall school performance grade of D or F and a school growth score of "met expected growth" or "not met expected growth" as defined by G.S. 115C-83.15.”

Anson County Early College received a School Performance Grade of B and a growth designation of Met for the 2021–2022 school year. It is important to remember that just as no one single score or grade tells the whole story of a student, neither does it tell you everything about the performance of a school or the opportunities that our school provides. At Anson County Early College, the school culture is intentionally developed through building and developing positive, supportive relationships. Multiple



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stakeholders attest to the safe, close-knit environment which draws families to apply and enroll at the school. There is open communication between school leadership and staff, which builds a stronger school and community. Student support personnel collaborate in response to students' physical, social, emotional, and academic needs, increasing the likelihood of success.

One of our top priorities for 2022–2023 is to improve the School Performance Grade in each school in our district. There are a number of key strategies we have in place to help improve student performance. These include:

- Ensuring a positive school culture in each school in our district
- Recruiting and retaining highly qualified teachers
- Quality instruction in all schools in every subject area

As a low performing district, we are required to develop an improvement plan that specifically addresses how the district will improve both the school performance grade and school growth score of each low-performing school in the unit, and how the superintendent and other central office administrators will work with each low-performing school and monitor the low-performing school's progress. The preliminary plan was presented to our local school board at their October 24, 2022 meeting. The final plan for improvement will be available on our local district website at <https://www.ansonschools.org>.

We hope you will closely follow your student's academic progress and work with his or her teacher(s) to help ensure they stay on track academically. Working together as a team, we can improve not only how well our students are performing individually, but how our schools are performing as a whole. There is nothing more important to administrators and teachers at Anson County Early College than ensuring students are ready for the next step in their academic careers. We look forward to working with you to make sure your student is on track for success.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding our School Performance Grade and how we plan to improve the schools within our district, please don't hesitate to contact our district office at 704-694-4417.

Sincerely,  
*Carri Decker*