



A.C.E Academy Charter School  
7807 Caldwell Road  
Harrisburg, NC 28075

October 31, 2017

Dear Parent/Guardian,

One of the benefits North Carolina public schools offer parents is transparency. Public school accountability is a standard practice for North Carolina going back to the early 1990s, and the North Carolina School Report Cards provide parents with information on such key issues as student performance, teacher experience, and school safety. Data are provided at the school, district, and state levels to enable parents to compare the performance of their student's schools with others across the district and state.

Legislation (G.S. §115C-83.15) passed during the 2013 long session of the North Carolina General Assembly provides 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.

The School Performance Grades are based 80 percent on our school's achievement score (student proficiency) and 20 percent on students' academic growth (student progress of time). At A.C.E. Academy, 80 percent of our achievement score for the 2016–17 school year is based on how well our students performed (or the percentage of students who scored a Level 3, 4, or 5) on End of Grade tests in 3<sup>rd</sup> --7<sup>th</sup> grades English Language Arts/Reading, 3<sup>rd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> grades Mathematics, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade Science. The remaining 20 percent of the School Performance Grade consists of student academic growth, which A.C.E. Academy did meet state growth expectations for the 2016-17 school year.

During the 2016-17 school year A.C.E. Academy met expected growth and although the school score is an F, the growth we made last year and working on in future years enhances the ability to become a school of excellence. While A.C.E. Academy is committed to improving this score, it is important to remember that just as no single score or grade tells the whole story of a student, neither does a score tell you everything about the performance of a school or the opportunities that a school provides. At A.C.E. Academy we are still committed, as stated in our school mission, to “equip students from all backgrounds to succeed in the college and career of their choice by driving academic excellence, developing strong character, and instilling an entrepreneurial mindset.”

**Mailing Address:**  
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[www.aceacademycharter.org](http://www.aceacademycharter.org)



One of our top priorities for 2017–18 is to improve our School Performance Grade. There are a number of key programs we have in place to help improve student performance. These include:

- A.C.E. Academy has added three Curriculum and Instructional Coaches to the instructional staff, with one Coach focusing on each of the three different grade clusters (K-2, 3-5, & 6-8). The Coaches provide direct support to teachers by ensuring teachers are well supported, teaching best practices, and using effective tools and resources.
- A.C.E. Academy has adopted a research based math curriculum to help guide students through math instruction. As teachers implement the new math curriculum, they are supported by a Math Coach who comes on site twice a month. Also, the Coach is available virtually on an as needed basis for the teachers.
- Teachers are utilizing whole class, as well as individual student data to drive instruction. Student data comes from multiple sources, such as: Reading 3D assessments in K-3, Case Assessments in K-8, classroom exit tickets in K-8, and informal and formal classroom assessment in K-8. Teachers are analyzing this data and planning lessons that best fit the learning needs of the individual students in their classroom.
- A.C.E. Academy is providing additional support to students by providing a tutoring program during the school day. Providing flexible tutoring groups during the school day allows students to receive support both inside and outside of the classroom, as well as an opportunity to address academic needs in a timely manner.
- A.C.E. Academy is partnering with UNCC to provide weekly mentoring and support for teachers who are in their first three years of teaching. The UNCC Mentors provide support in the areas of instructional strategies and classroom management.

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 school is performing as a whole. There is nothing more important to administrators and teachers at A.C.E. Academy than ensuring that students are ready for the next step in their academic career. I 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, please don't hesitate to contact me at [m.routh@aceacademycharter.org](mailto:m.routh@aceacademycharter.org).

Sincerely,

Mollie Routh  
Principal

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