



Y.E. Smith Elementary  
2410 E. Main Street Durham NC 27703  
P: 919.560.3900 | F: 919.560.3907

Greetings Y.E Smith Parents

I hope the school year is off to a successful start for you and your child. I am writing this letter to let you know that **Y.E. Smith Elementary Museum School** has been designated as a Targeted Support & Improvement Additional Targeted Support (TSI-AT) school by the North Carolina State Board of Education. Per ESSA Section 1111(d)(2), schools are identified as TSI-AT schools in North Carolina because one or more of the following subgroups received a subgroup performance grade score at or below the highest identified CSI-LP school's All Students group during the identification year; and is on the TSI-CU list for the subgroup(s) for the previous year. Subgroup performance scores are provided for the following subgroups: (1) Students with Disabilities, (2) Economically Disadvantaged, (3) Black, (4) White, (5) Hispanic, (6) Asian-Pacific Islander, (7) Multi-racial, and (8) English Learners. This letter is to notify our parents and guardians of **Y.E. Smith Elementary Museum School** intentions to improve educational outcomes for underperforming student subgroups and close achievement gaps for all students.

As a TSI-AT (ATSI) school, **Y.E. Smith Elementary Museum School** is required to develop an Additional Targeted Support and Improvement (ATSI) plan that specifically addresses how the school will improve outcomes for underperforming subgroups. The plan will also include strategies that our district or charter will employ to support **Insert the name of the school's** improvement efforts. The ATSI plan will address the following areas:

- Classroom Management
- Standards-aligned Instruction
- Professional Learning Communities (PLCs)
- Instructional Leadership
- Recruitment & Retention of Effective Teachers
- Support for Grade-to-Grade Transitions
- Implementation of a Tiered Instructional System
- Data-Driven Decision Making
- Student Support Services
- Family and Community Engagement

We have set the following goals for **Y.E. Smith Elementary Museum School** this year:

- *By June 2026, increase the School Performance Grade (SPG) Letter from a 40 to 50 or higher as measured by EVAAS, EOG Proficiency and EL Progress*
- *By the end of the 2026 school year, 30% of African American or Black Subgroups in Grades 3-5 will meet or exceed growth standards as measured by the state model*
- *By June 2025 Y.E. Smith will decrease the number suspension through implementation of Capturing Kids Heart (CKH) and School-Wide PBIS Strategies*
- *In an effort to maintain high teacher retention rate, By June 2026 increase the NC-TWC category of "Q10.6: Overall my school is a good place to work learn and grow by 15 percentage points or higher from 71.43% to 86.43% as measured by the DPS and NC Teacher Survey*



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Here are some strategies that we will be implementing to improve student outcomes:

- *Meeting weekly as Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) to focus on learning results and collaboration*
- *Professional Development aligned with Eureka Squared Math, HMH Literacy, and ESL Support*
- *Master Schedule to include built in acceleration time, ROAR*
- *Full-time Social Worker to connect families with appropriate community resources*
- *Co-Located services providing mental health support to students (at school) and families at home.*
- *School Counselor provides classroom support, small group interventions, and one-on-one support to students.*
- *Walkthrough feedback to staff by the administrative team on a tiered basis to support teacher growth and professional development.*
- *After School Tutoring for Grade 3-5 to provide students with interventions*
- *We are Kings and We are Queens Programs used to target Students of Color*

Also, parent engagement is at the heart of our school improvement efforts. Here are some ways we can work together:

- Ensure that both you and your child know the academic expectations set for your child this school year. A list of learning objectives in student-friendly language is available from your student's teacher(s).
- Call Assistant Principal Lisa Smith at [lisab\\_smith@dpsnc.net](mailto:lisab_smith@dpsnc.net) or (919) 560-3900 ext 40230 if you have questions or concerns about your student or to set up an appointment to meet with a school staff member who will be working with your child.
- Make sure that your child is prepared and attends school each day.
- Monitor your child's homework.
- Monitor the progress your child is making and attend meetings with your child's teacher(s).
- Keep track of our website and social media sites <https://www.dpsnc.net/YE-Smith>
- Volunteer.
- Join the Parent Teacher Organization by contacting ***Otis Maben Principal, at [otis\\_maben@dpsnc.net](mailto:otis_maben@dpsnc.net) or (919) 560-3900 ext 40222***

Additionally, listed below are a few resources available to help: ***(Insert school and/or community resources with contact information and/or use the list below)***

- Graduation requirements: [www.ncpublicschools.org/gradrequirements/](http://www.ncpublicschools.org/gradrequirements/)
- K-12 standards in academic subjects: [www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/](http://www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/)
- State student achievement test results: [www.ncpublicschools.org/accountability/](http://www.ncpublicschools.org/accountability/)
- N.C. School Report Cards: <https://ncreportcards.ondemand.sas.com/src>

We are committed to improving student performance. It is important to remember that just as no single score or grade tells the whole story of a student, neither does it tell you everything about a school's performance or the opportunities that our school provides. The intent of receiving these designations is to improve educational outcomes for all students, close achievement gaps, increase equity, and improve the quality of instruction. We're excited about this school year and are working to make it a success for your child. Already, we have:



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- **In one year Y.E. Smith moved from a F school to D school. EL progress increased by 14% percent. Student enrollment and student attendance increased.**
- **Year-Round Sports Activities for our students**
- **Y.E. Smith Elementary has strong partnerships with all Durham Museums**

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact **Otis Maben** at [Otis\\_Maben@dpsnc.net](mailto:Otis_Maben@dpsnc.net) or call (919) 560-3900

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Otis Maben". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

*Mr. Otis Maben  
Principal*