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<http://ncva.k12.com>

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. We are required to provide families a letter to notify of our report card grade annually.

Research indicates that a school's first few years are often its lowest performing, so many states choose not to offer a report card or performance grade. North Carolina, however, does create and distribute a report card and performance grade for schools regardless of how long they have been open and operating.

The School Performance Grades are based 80 percent on our school's achievement score (student proficiency) and 20 percent on students' academic growth. At North Carolina Virtual Academy, our achievement score for the 2016–17 school year is based on how well our students' performed on these assessments:

- Grades 3–8 Mathematics
- Grades 3–8 English Language Arts/Reading
- Grades 5 and 8 Science
- NC Math 1 End of Course
- English II End of Course
- Biology End of Course
- ACT
- Math Course Rigor

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that NCVA received a School Performance Grade of D for the 2016–17 school year. Although we are committed to improving this score, 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.

*Every child...Every class...Every day*



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Although the School Report Card indicates that not all of our teachers are certified, I want to take the moment to assure you that they are. Every teacher at NCVA has a valid teaching license from the state of North Carolina. The discrepancy occurs as we have North Carolina licensed teachers operating under a “Lateral Entry” license; however, the State does not count these as licensed teachers on the School Report Card.

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

- Implementing the Math U See curriculum to help students build a stronger foundation;
- Using STAR Reading and STAR Math to help pinpoint and meet student needs;
- Class connect schedule changes to provide students with more support

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 North Carolina Virtual Academy than ensuring that students are ready for the next step in their academic career.

We, as a school, 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 Amanda Jones at [ajones@ncvacademy.org](mailto:ajones@ncvacademy.org).

Sincerely,

*Every child...Every class...Every day*