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DATE: November 14, 2016
TO: NCVA Families
FROM: Joel E. Medley, Head of School
RE: **School Performance Grade**

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. 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.

Research indicates that a school's first year is often its lowest performing, so many states choose not to offer a report card or performance grade. North Carolina, however, does create and distribute both for brand new schools. To help you understand the calculations, 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 (NCVA), our achievement score for the 2015–16 school year is based on how well our students' performed on these assessments:

- Reading and Math – Grades 3 through 8
- Science – Grades 5 and 8
- End of Course Tests – Math I, Biology, and English II.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that NCVA received an overall School Performance Grade of D for the 2015–16 school year. Although 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. One of our top priorities for 2016–17 is improvement, and we have made modifications to our program with the hopes of facilitating that desired growth.

We hope you will closely follow your student's academic progress and work with us 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. 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, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

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