



November 10, 2023

Dear Capital Parents/Guardians,

We are writing to share important information regarding Columbia High School and its recent rating of Unsatisfactory by the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE).

In the recently released report card for the 2022-2023 school year, our school was rated as an Underperforming School. This designation is given to schools whose overall report card score falls in the Below Average to Unsatisfactory range. We understand that this news may be concerning, and we want to assure you that we take this rating seriously.

At Columbia High School our commitment to providing an excellent education for your children remains unwavering. We are dedicated to addressing the issues that have led to this rating and taking steps to ensure your child's success. We recognize that your support as parents and guardians is invaluable in this endeavor.

To address this rating and make necessary improvements, our school is developing a Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP). This plan will outline specific strategies and actions that we will implement to enhance our school's academic performance. We will also work on engaging with you to gain valuable feedback and insights to shape this plan, along with our School Improvement Council (SIC).

The Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP) will be presented to our Board of School Commissioners for approval before the January 15, 2024, deadline for the plan to be delivered to the SCDE. Furthermore, schools ranked as Unsatisfactory will provide regular updates to the Board of School Commissioners on our progress. This ensures transparency and accountability in our efforts to improve.

We encourage you to actively participate in this process by sharing your thoughts and suggestions. Your input is crucial as we work together to enhance the educational experience for your child and all our students. **Please join us in the auditorium November 15, 2023, at 6:00pm to learn about the school's rating and provide valuable input. If you're unable to attend, feel free to reach out to us if you have any questions or concerns, or if you would like to be involved in the development and implementation of the CIP.**

We are dedicated to working collaboratively with our teachers, staff, parents, and the community to address the challenges that have led to this rating. With your continued support, we are confident that Columbia High School can make the necessary changes to ensure a bright future for our students.

Sincerely,

Shawn Washington, Ed.D
Principal
Columbia High School