

October 20, 2023

South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) in accordance with Article 16 has designated Bridgewater Academy as an underperforming school. This designation means that the school received an overall rating of unsatisfactory or below average on its annual school report card.

The state improvement designation provides an opportunity for principals, teachers, and parents to focus on areas of school improvement. BWA and the SCDE are working with the school to improve teaching and learning, especially in the areas of reading and mathematics, by providing technical assistance and professional development opportunities to the teachers and administrators within your school.

BWA is working to improve its academic achievement by implementing many rigorous school improvement strategies. The school, district, and SCDE will be monitoring data documenting the impact of the assistance on student academic achievement. However, parental support is essential to the success of the school improvement efforts.

Parents can effectively assist student achievement improvement in the following ways:

- Communicating frequently with your student's teacher(s)
- Making sure your student attends school regularly
- Helping your student with homework
- Monitoring school and non-school related screen time
- Reading aloud to your student
- Volunteering in the classroom
- Participating in school decision making

We are requesting your help with all the above as the school addresses its academic needs and will invite parents to serve on the committee that will develop the Continuous Improvement/Turnaround Plan.