



Parent's Guide to Student Achievement (PGSA) **Based on Parents' Bill of Rights - SB 49; Session Law 2023-106**

It is the goal of Marjorie Williams Academy to offer parents and guardians access to information regarding student achievement via the district's Parent's Guide to Student Achievement (PGSA). Should you wish to obtain paper copies of this document and its contents, you can make a request through your child's respective school.

<p>1a) How can my child be promoted to the next grade level?</p>	<p>The following are the relevant State and local requirements for a child to be promoted to the next grade level. The relevant part of this link is found in <u>Part 1A (pp. 15-28)</u> regarding retention, promotion, alternatives to show reading proficiency, etc. <u>N.C. Grade Level Promotion Guide</u>.</p> <p>For information about Marjorie Williams Academy promotion and accountability procedures and graduation requirements, please click <u>here</u>.</p> <p>The following information covers minimum state graduation requirements from the state to earn a diploma and graduate. It also covers specific cohort information. Local school districts and other public-school units may require additional courses and credits to graduate. <u>Information on NC High School Graduation Requirements</u>.</p>
<p>1b) What is my child learning at school? How can a parent review these materials?</p>	<p>In North Carolina, all schools use the same Standard Course of Study, determined by the State Board of Education. These standards are the knowledge and skills students should understand by the end of each grade/course.</p> <p>The following standards can be found on the website below: Arts Education, Career Technical Education, Computer Science, English Language Arts, English Language Development, Student Success Standards, Healthful Living, Information and Technology,</p>

Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, and World Language.

[NCDPI Office of Academic Standards website](#)

Local districts, schools and teachers determine how to teach these standards, including curriculum, supplementary materials, books, etc.

Curriculum:

- Letterland K-3
- Envision - 2-3 – Math
- Wonders 2-6 ELA
- CLUE - 3-6 - ELA
- Open Up - 6-8 – Math
- Fusion - 7-8 - ELA
- Wilson Reading K-8 - ELA
- 6 Minute Solutions - K-8 - ELA
- Glencoe - World History - SS - 8th Grade
- Holt - Science and Technology - 8th Grade
- Envision - Math - 9-12
- Pearson – ELA – 9-12

Health:

Marjorie Williams Academy is committed to a sound school health program that provides students with accurate information and encourages them to be responsible for their own health and behavior. The single-school district recognizes the primary role of parents/guardians in providing for the health and well-being of their children and seeks to involve parents/guardians in the school. The school health education program provided by the school will meet all requirements established by state and federal law. The school health education program will meet all objectives in the North Carolina Standard Course of Study adopted by the State Board of Education. Curriculum materials are accessible for review at Marjorie Williams Academy.

The school health education program will be taught to students from grades K-9. In grades

	<p>4-9 students are taught reproductive health and safety. Every effort has been made to provide quality instruction for your child. Teachers will only use approved curriculum materials and supplements when teaching in the classroom.</p> <p>Each school will communicate with parents prior to beginning the reproductive health and safety unit. All parents/guardians have the right to “opt out” of this unit. If you choose to exclude your child, you must do so in writing to the principal and teacher stating you do not want your child to participate. Alternate and comparable assignments will be given.</p> <p>Marjorie Williams Academy’s 2023-2024 Literacy Intervention Plan is linked here.</p>
<p>1c) How will a parent learn about my child’s progress in school or with a class?</p>	<p>Marjorie Williams Academy shares the progress of students through a variety of ways. Weekly At-Risk reports and reports cards (every 9 weeks) are sent to parents to communicate student academic strengths and any areas for improvement. Feedback on conduct is also included.</p> <p>Students in grades K-8 receive Standards-Based Report Cards. Standards-Based Report Cards provide feedback on individual student’s progression toward proficiency on standards aligned to the North Carolina Standard Course of Study. Each quarter hard copy report cards are sent home.</p> <p>Students in grades 9-12 receive a traditional report card calculated using a 10-point grading scale. Parents have access to their child’s grades 24/7 using PowerSchool’s Parent Portal. Parents can login to Parent Portal by visiting this link. If you do not have a Parent Portal login, contact the Academy at 828-733-5241.</p> <p>The NC transcript contains grades from all high school classes, weighted and unweighted Grade Point Average (GPA), standardized test data and student demographics. Students may ask for an unofficial transcript at any time. Marjorie Williams Academy provides each senior with three official transcripts at no charge (for college applications, programs,</p>

	<p>scholarships etc.). In addition, there is no charge for mid-year senior transcript, final transcript after graduation, and transcript for any award or scholarship requested.</p> <p>State Assessments: Individual Student Reports for end-of-grade/course tests and other state assessments (English language proficiency assessment) are accessible in the parent portal of the NC-SIS (PowerSchool) at this link.</p> <p>All NC students take end-of-grade assessments for reading and math in grades 3-8. Students take end-of-grade science assessments in grades 5 and 8. High school students take end-of-course assessments in English II, Biology, NC Math 1, and NC Math 3.</p> <p>Students in Grade 10 take the Pre-ACT. Students in grade 11 take the ACT.</p> <p>An Individual Reading Plan (IRP) shall be developed for any student in kindergarten through third grade demonstrating difficulty with reading. An IRP will have specific strategies/ideas that can be done at home.</p> <p>North Carolina’s Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) selected mCLASS DIBELS[®] 8th Edition as the state’s K-3 Literacy Assessment. mCLASS is an integrated literacy system based on the Science of Reading. mCLASS has been revised and upgraded from the assessment NC districts have used in the past, based on the latest research and the Science of Reading. It is a valid and reliable assessment, supporting universal literacy screening, and progress monitoring.</p>
<p>1d) What are the qualifications of my child’s teachers?</p>	<p>Parents may look up your child’s teacher licensure status at this website Link to the licensure website.</p> <p>The licensure look up webpage does not include current employment information. Parents may need additional information (i.e., middle name or license number) to identify the</p>

	<p>teacher accurately. Substitute teachers (either short or long term) may not hold a NC teaching license.</p> <p>Please contact the principal at 828-733-5241 to verify an educator’s licensure status.</p>
<p>1e) What are the requirements for school enrollment? What are the immunizations needed or recommended for children?</p>	<p>The following are the North Carolina statutory school entry requirements, this includes required immunizations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Admission requirements: GS 115C-364.pdf (ncleg.gov) - Immunization records: GS 130A-155.pdf (ncleg.gov) - Immunization requirements: GS 130A-152.pdf (ncleg.gov) see SL2023-134.pdf (ncleg.gov), Section 5.8(e) on page 64”) <p>Information on school assignment can be located through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● N.C. Law on School Assignment: GS 115C-366 <p>Information on required health assessments and immunizations for students is available through the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS). NCDHHS Immunizations Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Expected Immunization Schedules <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kindergarten Entry Vaccine Requirements - Seventh Grade Entry Vaccine Requirements - Twelfth Grade Entry Vaccine Requirements
<p>2a) How can a parent help their child learn and make progress?</p>	<p>Engaging with your child about school and what they are learning is pivotal to their learning process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ask questions daily about your child’s school day. ● Inquire about topics and assignments they are learning. ● Connect with teachers to understand your child’s progress. ● Ask the teachers how you can help your child learn.

- Attend different events at your child’s school to stay connected and learn how to support them.

Resources: [Parent Resources](#)

Parent Guides for Academic Standards:

The following grade level guides contain information to support parents and caregivers with understanding the North Carolina Standard Course of Study. The purpose of these guides is to inform parents about the standards, as well as provide useful strategies to incorporate at home.

Parent Guides for [ELA](#)

Parent Guide for [ELD](#)

Math Parent Guides: [K-5](#), [6-8](#)

[Social Studies Parent Guides](#)

[Science Parent Guides](#)

Reading and Literacy Support:

This following site provides resources for families to practice and reinforce important literacy skills with their children who are being assessed with mCLASS reading assessments: [Amplify Parent Resources](#)

Home activities, printables, and games to support reading and literacy are also available at North Carolina’s [Digital Children’s Reading Initiative](#) (DCRI). These activities include the following topics, Pre-K-Grade 5:

- (1) Phonemic awareness
- (2) Phonics
- (3) Vocabulary
- (4) Fluency
- (5) Comprehension

	<p>(6) Oral language Printable activities will be made available for students who do not have digital access at home and may be provided to all students as a supplement to digital resources. For paper copies, please contact the Academy at 828-733-5241. DCRI Printables for Families</p>
<p>2b) How can a parent help their child develop citizenship, social skills and respect for others?</p>	<p>Sanctuary Model of Care and Love and Logic are being implemented as a way for students to learn more about character strengths, resiliency, emotional intelligence, and how to display them each and every day.</p> <p>Marjorie Williams Academy embeds Portrait of a Graduate skills in the classroom and school setting. These durable skills were developed by NCDPI and will support a child’s understanding of citizenship, social skills and respect for others.</p> <p>Grade level specific resources, including developmentally appropriate milestones can be found in the following resource repository NC Portrait of a Graduate - Durable Skills.</p> <p>Parents are encouraged to partner with their student services teams in their work to support academic achievement, develop interpersonal skills, strengthen mental wellness, and explore career activities after graduation. Williams Academy faculty and staff encourage students to learn skills in emotional regulation to support healthy decision-making skills and emotional development.</p>
<p>2c) How can a parent help their child develop high expectations and set lifelong learning goals?</p>	<p>Marjorie Williams Academy embeds Portrait of a Graduate skills in the classroom and school setting. These durable skills were developed by NCDPI and will support a child’s understanding of citizenship, social skills and respect for others.</p> <p>Grade level specific resources, including developmentally appropriate milestones can be found in the following resource repository NC Portrait of a Graduate - Durable Skills.</p>

2d) How can a parent strengthen communication with the school/teacher?

Communication with parents and families is very important to us. Our district website is the Primary way that we communicate with parents, students and the community [Marjorie Williams Academy Website](#).

Additionally, Williams Academy uses the following platforms for communication between home/school

- Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/marjoriwilliamsacademy>)
- Call Multiplier System
- Email

Tips for Parents:

- Visit the Curriculum and Instruction website for parent/family resources.
- Stay informed of school activities by visiting school websites and newsletters.
- Check PowerSchool weekly (grades K-12) for missing assignments and current grades.
- Review progress reports and report cards with your child. Set goals with your child.
- Communicate with your child’s teacher about his/her progress and upcoming events.
- Monitor homework by ensuring your child completes his/her homework and it is turned in on time.
- Talk to your child about his/her school experience. Indicate to your child that you expect school to be a positive experience.
- Encourage daily reading by providing opportunities for your child to read both fiction and non-fiction books and articles.
- Utilize digital resources to support your child’s individual learning. Check school and teacher websites for more details.

The following are NCDPI developed parent guides that provide suggestions for building strong relationships with your child’s teacher and supporting communication between home and school.

[Building Strong Relationships with Your Child’s Teacher](#) (NC Rethink Education Program)

	<p>How You Can Use Questions to Support Your Child’s Learning (NC Rethink Education Program)</p> <p>Additional general parent guides and parent resource webinar recordings can be found at the following website.</p>
<p>3) What services are available for parents and their children?</p>	<p>CFNC & NCSEAA: What You Need to Know About the Better FAFSA</p> <p>NC Promise Program</p> <p>Marjorie Williams Academy works with the Appalachian State University College Core program. The College Core Adviser hosts financial aid meetings each year for parents to learn more about various scholarships, financial aid, and how to fill out the FAFSA (Federal Application for Federal Student Aid).</p>
<p>4) What are opportunities for parents to participate with school?</p>	<p>Volunteer</p> <p>Parent Engagement Policy</p>
<p>5. What are the rigorous academic programs available to my child? How can I learn more about them?</p>	<p>Marjorie Williams Academy provides options for students to explore and develop their interests and skills at their academic level.</p> <p>The Innovative Education Initiatives Act (SL 2003-277, Senate Bill 656) and the Cooperative Innovative High School Programs statute (§ 115C-238.50-.55) encourage Local Education Agencies (LEAs) to partner with their local postsecondary Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs) to provide cooperative programs jointly in high schools and colleges/universities that will expand students’ opportunities for education success through high quality instructional programming.</p> <p>NC Cooperative Innovative High Schools</p>

Academically and/or Intellectually Gifted (AIG): In NC, school districts must identify and serve academically or intellectually gifted (AIG) K-12 students. These are students who are performing, or have the potential of performing, at high levels of accomplishment in intellectual and/or specific academic areas, such as reading and/or math when compared with other students of their age, or in their grade level, experience, or environment.

At Marjorie Williams Academy, students are often provided the following services:

- Differentiated curriculum and instruction with flexible student groups;
- Accelerated opportunities (subject and/or grade acceleration, credit by demonstrated mastery (CDM)).
- Enrichment experiences, which may be during the school day or beyond, and may be within the regular calendar year or may include summer opportunities; and
- Other opportunities for extension of content standard.

NCVPS [North Carolina Virtual Public School \(NCVPS\)](#) is NC’s state supplemental program and leader in online education, providing inclusive learning opportunities for students across the state. Founded in 2007, with a strong commitment to ensuring quality education for all students, regardless of location, NCVPS has over 16 years of experience serving diverse learners. Students may enroll in NCVPS courses for a variety of reasons.

Credit by Demonstrated Mastery is the process by which a student may earn credit for a high school course by demonstrating a deep understanding of the content without course enrollment or seat time.

Students will demonstrate mastery through a multiphase process, consisting of:

Phase 1: A standard examination (EOC where applicable) or a final exam developed locally; Score of 90% or higher on exam in order to proceed to Phase 2;

AND

Phase 2: A portfolio which requires the student to apply knowledge and skills relevant to the content standards.

<p>6) What school choices are available for my child?</p>	<p>In addition to the traditional school option, where students are assigned based on their residence, Marjorie Williams Academy is a NC Public Charter School, a school of choice. There are additional options for families to choose for their child’s education.</p> <p>Charter Schools Charter schools are public schools of choice that are authorized by the State Board of Education and operated by independent non-profit boards of directors. State and local tax dollars are the primary funding sources for charter schools, which have open enrollment and cannot discriminate in admissions, associate with any religion or religious group, or charge-tuition. Charter schools operate with freedom from many of the regulations that govern district schools, but charter schools are held accountable through the State assessment and accountability system.</p> <p>If you are interested in NC charter schools, visit NC charter school for information, resources, and contacts.</p> <p>Nonpublic Education and Scholarship Grants Nonpublic education is overseen by the NC Department of Administration.</p> <p>For a list of private schools, visit this NC Private Schools.</p> <p>For information on how to start a homeschool visit: Homeschool Information</p> <p>Scholarship grant programs/voucher information is available via the NC State Education Assistance Authority</p>
<p>7) What rights do students with disabilities have based on the law?</p>	<p>For students suspected of or identified with a disability by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), the following links provide important information regarding the procedural safeguards available to ensure a free, appropriate, public education.</p>

	<p>The Exceptional Children Division of North Carolina Department of Public Instruction is looking for all children and youth ages birth through 21 with special needs who may not be receiving the help needed. These include children and youth with physical disabilities, emotional disabilities and/or intellectual disabilities, and children and youth with suspected disabilities who are highly mobile, migrant and/or homeless. If your child has a disability, or you suspect that he/she may have a disability please contact your child’s school or the Exceptional Children Director at 828-733-5241</p> <p>Project Child Find Project Child Find Parent Info Transfer Procedures Discipline Procedures FAPE NC Department of Public Instruction EC Division Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) MTSS Handbook</p>
<p>8) What is the contact information for the schools and district office?</p>	<p>Parents and guardians may contact Marjorie Williams Academy at 828-733-5241.</p> <p>Williams Academy Website</p>
<p>9) What are some resources to support my child’s health and wellbeing? What immunizations are required and when should they be scheduled?</p>	<p>Information on required health assessments and immunizations for students are available through the NC Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS)</p> <p>Immunizations Health Assessment Annual Health Assessment and Immunization Compliance Reporting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Expected Immunization Schedules <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kindergarten Entry Vaccine Requirements - Seventh Grade Entry Vaccine Requirements - Twelfth Grade Entry Vaccine Requirements