

September 25, 2025

Dear UCA Eagle Families,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that Uwharrie Charter Academy has earned an overall school performance grade of “**D**” on the 2024–2025 state report card. Under G.S. 115C-218.65, charter schools are required to provide written notice of the grade to the parents and guardians of all enrolled students.

While we acknowledge this result, it is important to remember that a single letter grade cannot fully capture the strengths, opportunities, and rich educational experiences provided at UCA. These assessments also do not reflect the hard work and dedication of our students, nor the tireless efforts of our amazing teachers and administration throughout the year.

For 2024–2025, UCA received a performance grade of **D** and a growth status of **Not Met**. However, there are many areas in which we made significant progress:

- UCA scored a **54 overall**, just one point shy of a “C,” improving from **50** the previous year.
- Our **science scores in grades 5, 8, and Biology exceeded state standards**.
- Our **growth index improved** from **-6.15** in 2023–2024 to **-3.09**, cutting our deficit nearly in half.
- Our **graduation rate increased to 93.2%**.
- In reading, we were just **1/100th of a point** away from meeting growth expectations.

Beyond test scores, UCA continues to take pride in its focus on **STEAM, project-based, and problem-based learning**, as well as the success of our student internships and college-and-career readiness programs. These opportunities prepare our students for life beyond the classroom in ways a single grade cannot measure.

Looking forward, we are committed to developing and implementing an improvement plan with clear goals and actionable steps to strengthen student learning and performance. Our top priority this year is to advance our School Performance Grade. To achieve this, we are introducing targeted initiatives at every level:

Elementary School: We are strengthening instruction through targeted professional development, increasing the hours of our reading interventionists, and adding three new tutors to support both reading and math. Pacing guides have been restructured, and schedules adjusted to better align with instructional needs. Regular data and MTSS meetings allow teachers to closely monitor student progress, while new resources—particularly for math—are being provided. To support the whole child, regular check-ins are also in place to nurture students’ social and emotional wellness.

Middle School: A new **Eagle Time** block has been added to provide remediation, enrichment, and social-emotional support. Two tutors—one in reading and one in math—work both in classrooms and in small groups. Teachers participate in weekly PLC meetings, while administrators conduct regular classroom walkthroughs. To enhance vocabulary, we have incorporated the **Fast and Curious** program into ELA and Science bellringers. Additionally, teachers are completing at least two project/problem-based learning units this year.

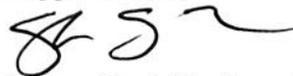
High School: Our Assistant Principal of Instruction is leading academic improvement efforts, with teachers engaged in research-based professional development and regular content-area PLCs. We are strengthening core instruction through MTSS, streamlining the process for identifying and assisting struggling students, and using data-driven instruction to better meet individual needs. A part-time interventionist has also been added to provide additional academic support where needed.

We encourage you to monitor your student’s academic progress closely and partner with their teachers to help them stay on track. By working together as a united team—families, staff, and students—we can achieve remarkable growth and success.

If you have any questions about the School Performance Grade or our improvement plan, please do not hesitate to reach out to your child’s school or to me directly at sharon_castelli@uwharriecharter.org.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership as we strive for excellence at Uwharrie Charter Academy.

With appreciation,



Dr. Sharon Castelli, Superintendent
Uwharrie Charter Academy