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MEMORANDUM

TO: Randolph County Board of Education
Dr. Stephen Gainey, Superintendent

PRESENTED BY: Tim Moody, Public Information Officer

PREPARED BY: Dr. Lynette Graves, Director of Elementary Education and Title I

DATE: December 19, 2016

RE: 2016-2017 Lighthouse School Nomination

Over the past three years, Archdale Elementary School has continued to demonstrate substantial academic increases in both proficiency and growth as measured by the North Carolina READY Accountability Model. The school has exceeded the expected proficiency for both the district and the state. In 2013-2014, the school's performance composite was 53.8%, and it increased to 70.2% in 2015-2016. In addition, Archdale Elementary School has exceeded expected growth for the past two years and met expected growth for the 2013-2014 school year.

The staff members at Archdale Elementary School are keenly aware of the role that they play in ensuring that students are college and career ready. A master schedule has been developed to ensure that all subjects are taught in an equitable manner. In addition to providing weekly grade level and vertical planning sessions, the master schedule also provides time for teachers to meet to review student and grade level data. Classroom teachers participate in full-day quarterly planning sessions, and support staff members meet with the lead teacher to plan strategies to supplement subject area content. This ensures continuity throughout the school, thus maximizing instructional opportunities in all areas for all students.

A school-level data team analyzes student performance to guide instruction. Teachers and students track individual student achievement data throughout the school year. Archdale Elementary School uses the Reading 3D assessment in kindergarten through fifth grade to consistently track reading data across all grade levels. The reading program has been redesigned to allow a reading specialist to serve students in each grade level. The school is continuing a focus that began in the 2015-2016 school year on digging deeper into the foundations for reading and using Reading 3D data to better understand every student's needs. The staff is currently working to realign the English Language Arts (ELA) pacing guide to better correlate with the Reading 3D comprehension pacing and is also drilling down vertically in grades K-2 to identify power standards to better support instruction in grades 3-5. Additional phonemic awareness assessments by grade level teachers and support staff are being used to identify gaps in all grade levels to develop appropriate interventions for students, including strategies from The Florida Center for Reading Research.

Technology is used to support individualized learning in a variety of ways by both students and staff. Multiple software programs such as IXL, Accelerated Reader, Reading Eggs and Math Seeds are used to enhance educational experiences. Google Docs and Canvas are used for students to interact with their teachers, and

the school is implementing a 1:1 initiative with Google Chromebooks in the fifth grade this year. Google Drive is used to communicate school-wide information, such as Leadership Team minutes and Professional Learning Community (PLC) minutes. Google Calendar is used to schedule and invite staff members to meetings and trainings that occur in the school.

Archdale Elementary School offers after-school club opportunities for students, including Student Council, Bucket Fillers, Model Builders, Go Far Running Club, Elementary Battle of the Books, Cue Club, Art Club, and a Multicultural Club. In addition, the GEMS (Girls Excelling in Math and Science) Club is open to fourth and fifth grade girls, and it provides multiple experiences for hands-on opportunities to observe math and science in action, as well as explore careers in the fields of math and science for females. The GEMS Club partners with the NC Museum of Natural Sciences, the NC Coastal Federation, and High Point University.

Archdale Elementary School has developed partnerships that provide both academic and financial support for the school. Businesses such as Biscuitville, McDonald's, Sweet F.R.O.G., Nattie's, Sheetz, and Skate South assist with raising money for the school. Operation Christmas Star is an event hosted by the Student Council that raises money and food for the local food pantry. Communities in Schools provides a mentoring program for student support. The Watch D.O.G.S. (Dads of Great Students) Program encourages and offers opportunities for fathers, grandfathers, uncles, etc. to volunteer at the school, with several men choosing to volunteer multiple times throughout the school year. Four well-attended parent nights are held throughout the school year to provide interactive opportunities for parents to learn strategies for assisting their child academically at home.

Changes that have been implemented at Archdale Elementary School have encouraged professional growth for the staff and academic growth for students, and those changes have yielded continuous positive results, as evidenced by the school being recognized as one of the 2015 Piedmont Triad Education Consortium (PTEC) Signature schools. Archdale Elementary School is definitely leading the way in North Carolina for excellence in student achievement and innovative programs.