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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 18, 2017

RE: 2017-2018 Lighthouse School Nomination

Randolph Early College High School (RECHS) has exceeded expected growth for the past three years, according to the North Carolina READY Accountability Model. For 2015-2016, the school's performance composite score was a 92, earning the school an A+ NG. During the 2016-2017 school year the school's composite score was a 96, also earning an A+NG on the North Carolina School Report Card.

Grade-level teams, content-specific professional learning communities, the leadership team, and the School Improvement Team at Randolph Early College High School all meet periodically to discuss currently-implemented strategies, as well as other promising strategies to ensure all students are learning at their maximum potential. During these meetings, teachers share best practices and work samples to provide possible solutions to learning setbacks for students, as well as to showcase student work. The focus is always on what is working for students at the school. Sharing best practices for individual students also allows teachers to differentiate their teaching when necessary and to ensure that students are learning.

Randolph Early College High School uses at-risk reports through PowerTeacher Pro in order to determine students who need further assistance, whether due to academics or attendance. This school year the school implemented a Focused Intervention period during lunch time, referred to as Lunch and Learn, where students who appear on a weekly at-risk list report to a designated classroom to work on assignments. Every week, letters go out to students, and the students are required to report to Lunch and Learn Monday through Thursday of that week. A spreadsheet is provided to the teachers to let them know which students have been assigned. Teachers can go into the spreadsheet and give instructions for assignments that students should be focusing on during their time in Lunch and Learn. In addition to the spreadsheet, students turn in daily reports of their progress. These reports are kept in notebooks divided by ninth/tenth grade and eleventh/twelfth grade. Teachers sign up in a Google document to cover Lunch and Learn. Since the implementation of this intervention, the number of students required to attend has decreased each week, indicating that students are using their time wisely during their academic day, in order to prevent the need to be placed in Lunch and Learn.

Students at Randolph Early College High School have access to computers and necessary technology as needed. With several laptop carts available as well as a computer lab, commons with computers, and computer labs available for use in the Randolph Community College Business Education Center, students always have access to the internet when they need it. Teachers use online tools such as Canvas, Google Classroom, Read Theory, and Eduware to provide students with multiple learning experiences and to differentiate their teaching methods. Students can also track their progress and data using these online tools. In addition to students, the faculty and staff at RECHS use Google Drive and Google Calendar to collaborate and share minutes from their Professional Learning Community (PLC), on RECHS newsletters, with grade-level team, with Leadership Team, and for School Improvement Team meetings. The calendar helps the faculty and staff schedule meetings and trainings, and also keeps the faculty and staff aware of what is happening on the school's campus.

Students at RECHS have a wide array of opportunities to be involved in clubs. Because RECHS does not provide organized sports teams, students must find involvement elsewhere, and they do just that through clubs such as Action Inspire Motivate (AIM), Book Club, Beta Club, Chess Club, Photography Club, Student Government Association, SciCareers, Anime Club, Diversity Club, Glee Club, Junior Civitans, Students for Christ, K-Pop, Skills USA, Senior Advisory Council, and Yearbook. The clubs at RECHS are student-initiated and student-led. Students also may join clubs through Randolph Community College. Students receive multiple opportunities to learn and lead through their involvement in the clubs at RECHS and Randolph Community College.

Last year, RECHS initiated the Ravens Acts of Kindness Food Pantry which assists students in need of food on their weekends away from school. School clubs and the Women's Ministry from Oakland Missionary Baptist Church help keep the pantry stocked with food and toiletries. Other opportunities for students to serve their community include volunteering at Carolina Tiger Rescue, North Carolina Zoo, Asheboro Soup Kitchen, Southmont Elementary, and the Red Door, participating in the annual NC Big Sweep, and collecting socks and blankets for local homeless shelters.

Over the last three years, Randolph Early College High School has seen exceptional growth in professional achievement for its staff and academic achievement for its students. Teachers have been encouraged to incorporate writing strategies in all content areas and to share their best practices as a faculty in order to maximize student learning and growth.