



Ooltewah Middle School

To empower all students with the attitudes, knowledge and lifelong learning skills essential to thrive as responsible citizens in an ever-changing global society.

Dear Parents or Guardians,

Each year the Tennessee Department of Education examines schools' performance across several different indicators to provide an overall look at how schools are serving the needs of all students. The Department of Education included the following indicators in its analysis of school accountability:

- o Student achievement from TCAP Spring testing
- o Student growth from year to year on TCAP Spring Testing
- o English learner proficiency exam (ELPA) – in ENL
- o Chronic absenteeism (any student who has missed more than 18 days of school for the year - unexcused & excused)

More information on each of these indicators and the data used to define them can be found in the 2025-2026 Accountability Protocol. Under the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), the department is required to use the school accountability results to identify those schools with the lowest performance across student groups (e.g., individual racial/ethnic student groups, students with disabilities, economically disadvantaged, and English learners). These schools will receive additional support from the department.

We are writing to inform you that Ooltewah Middle School has been identified for Targeted Support and Improvement as required by ESSA and the U.S. Department of Education during the 2025-26 school year. Our school is working cooperatively with the district and the Tennessee Department of Education to increase student performance by continuing personalization and social emotional support, providing small group instruction, and monitoring attendance (tardies, early dismissals and absences).

Parents/Guardians – to be removed from this status, we need your support in the following:

- o Please make sure your child(ren) is at school every day for a full day (limit tardies and early dismissals)
- o Communicate regularly with your child's teachers
- o Regularly check PowerSchool
- o Hold your child accountable for completing homework assignments
- o Work with your child at home daily with homework, reading, comprehension, and math facts
- o Attend Family Nights and Student-led Conferences

Please feel free to contact me at 423-498-6910 if you have any questions or suggestions as we work collaboratively to increase student achievement.

Respectfully,

Andrea Short
OMS Principal