

JAMES McHENRY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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August 3, 2026

Greetings Families,

We are committed to providing every student at James McHenry Elementary School with a high-quality education that supports academic and personal growth. As part of this commitment and in accordance with the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), I want to inform you that James McHenry Elementary School has been identified by the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) as a school in Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI).

This designation is based on our school's performance in one or more areas, including student achievement, growth, and the performance of student performance groups. James McHenry Elementary School has been identified as a Maryland Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) school because one or more student groups did not meet the state's academic performance targets in English Language Arts and Mathematics. Specifically, our Hispanic students, Multilingual Learners, Students with Disabilities, and our Economically Disadvantaged students demonstrated achievement levels that require targeted support and accelerated improvement to ensure equitable outcomes for all learners.

Being designated as a school in improvement provides us with a valuable opportunity to focus on strengthening instruction, enhancing student supports, and building partnerships with families. Our team has developed a school improvement plan that includes:

- Strengthening Tier I instruction through rigorous, standards-aligned planning, evidence-based instructional practices, and differentiated instruction that meets the needs of all learners.
- Using data to drive instructional decisions by regularly analyzing student performance, monitoring progress, and implementing timely interventions through our Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS).
- Expanding targeted support for identified student groups by providing high-quality language development, specialized instruction, intervention programs, and inclusive instructional practices for English Learners/Multilingual Learners, Students with Disabilities, and Economically Disadvantaged students.
- Building educator capacity through coaching and professional learning focused on culturally responsive teaching, high-impact instructional strategies, collaborative planning, and continuous improvement to improve student achievement in English Language Arts and Mathematics.

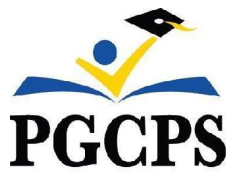
We appreciate your partnership and continued support in the effort to improve and meet our school's goals. We invite you to join us for a **School Improvement Information Night on September 22, 2026 at 5:30 pm** to learn more about this school improvement designation and share your input. You are encouraged to stay in communication with your child's teachers about your child's academic progress and share your ideas on how we can improve together.

James McHenry remains dedicated to embracing the possibilities for growth and transformation. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate in contacting me at thomas.rivers@pgcps.org or (301)918-8760.

Thank you for your continued partnership in your child's education. Together, we can ensure that every student thrives.

Warm regards,

Thomas Rivers
Principal



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