



# Castle Heights MS

2382 Firetower Rd.

Rock Hill, SC 29730

803-981-1400

## **SIC Annual Report to Parents 2014-2015**

**June 10, 2015**

**K. Kane, Principal**

### **School Improvement Council Members:**

Becky Strickland  
Carie Lowdermilk  
Cynthia Robinson

Michelle Edwards  
Frederic Campbell  
James Strickland

Richard Ball  
Kim Whetstine  
Dawn Warwick

The 2014-2015 school year was a time to reevaluate and revise as we continued to implement a program of high integration of technology within our instructional program. There was a focus on instruction through planning, student engagement, increased rigor, and an effort to create more individualized instruction for students. Professional development and teacher conferences supported these efforts to make the school's classroom instruction as effective as possible.

Learning also includes integrity and concern for the others in our community. The students remain committed to community projects with agencies such as the Catawba Food Bank and the York Co. Humane Society, and the school is pleased to have renewed communication with some of our neighborhood churches. The school is especially pleased to have both the PTO and School Improvement Council with renewed energy and leadership. The groups reviewed the school improvement plan and addressed student activities and dress code revisions.

As we have reexamined our instructional program and supported the development of the skills and knowledge our students will need to be successful, Castle Heights has maintained the national and state award winner title of School To Watch---our school's efforts of 2014-2015 were targeted at maintaining and improving the programs and efforts that won the award for our school and our students.

### **Goals and Progress:**

- **Student academic achievement as evidenced by data.**

Progress in student achievement is to be documented by standardized test data. The test used to document achievement in Language Arts and Math will be MAP online testing. The tests used for the other core content areas are SC PASS Science and Social Studies. Although at this date all test data is not complete, early data seems to indicate positive and in some areas substantial percentages of students who have made gains in academic achievement. Teachers made concentrated efforts to improve instruction through planning as well as efforts to increase student engage, create more rigorous and challenging academic tasks for students, and to individualize instruction. Increased and more effective integration of technology within instruction was also targeted.

- **Monitoring and implementing the Professional Learning Community practices.**

Professional development for teachers throughout the school year focused on learning about and implementing the collaborative practices of a professional learning community. The collaborative effort of grade level departments was to provide the most effective instruction possible within each department across each grade level.