

2012 Annual School Summary Report
Williston-Elko Middle School
Williston School District 29

“A Community Where Success Is Expected”

Eavon H. Hickson, Ed. D.
Principal

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Mission Statement

“The mission of Williston-Elko Middle School and Williston School District #29, with the support of parents and community, is to develop caring and productive citizens by providing challenging and positive experiences for all students in a safe and enriched environment.”

School Improvement Council Members

*Denise Long
Pamela Tyler
Valarie Tobin
Stephanie Johns
Deborah Edwards
Henrietta Williams
Tonja Rivers
Samantha Wright
Ann Widener
Eavon H. Hickson
Patricia Ulmer

*Chairperson

We continued to strive for academic improvement during the 2011-12 school year. Our students demonstrated advancement in various subgroups when compared to the growth rating from the previous year. We were again awarded the Palmetto Silver Award and honored to have received an “A” rating for our students’ test scores in meeting the requirements of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESA). Our overall percentage increase did not meet the demands for making AYP. Nonetheless, we will pursue our goal of preparing our students to confront and meet the educational challenges of tomorrow. Some of the strategies that we plan to supplement and extend during the 2013-14 school year are enclosed in this report.

As we begin our transformation toward Common Core standards and Smarter Balanced testing, we are dedicated to developing the whole child. We prioritize meeting the needs of our most prized resource, our students. Helping to educate them is the greatest investment we can provide them. Therefore, we strive to work and provide all students with the academic foundation needed to ensure them long term success for life. In our attempt to improve, we have aligned our Strategic Plan with that of the district. We are working to equip our students with the academic skills to graduate on time with a high school diploma. Our dream is that each student will be able to earn a degree from a 2 or 4 year college and/or earn gainful employment. Our focus must continue to be more on reading comprehension. An increase in their reading abilities will result in a decrease in discipline referrals; and thus, deter the dropout rate.

As we strive to make our dream a reality, we ask for your continued support and thank you for your commitment.

Strategic Plan

Goal # I Student Achievement

- * All teachers must become reading instructors to help meet the challenges they will be confronted in meeting the requirements of Common Core and Smarter Balanced. “Stop, Grab It, and Read!” will be extended to 30 minutes per school day.
- * ELA/Math teachers will create and implement small group instruction daily within their classes. Writing across the curriculum and daily reading logs will be implemented.
- * Provide a career-focused curriculum through Job Shadowing, Career Fair, and Career Development classes. Select students will participate in leadership opportunities.
- * Homework assignments will be given 4 times weekly.
- * Make instruction more interesting and up-to-date to match 21st Century learning by educating our students based on proper etiquette regarding the use of technology.
- * Continue to expose our students to college field trips, 1 per grade level.
- * Teachers will continue student remediation in content areas during activity time, after school, and through the use of “Study Island,” a computer-based instructional program.

Goal # II Teacher Quality

- * Vertical Articulation meeting opportunities will be implemented through Collaborative Planning will be provided 3 times per year. Cross grade curricular meetings between the core subject departments will continue to be implemented.
- * Improve classroom instruction. Teachers will share Best Practices during faculty/staff monthly meetings to include: classroom management, creating computer writing assessments, technology, explicit instruction, updated Common Core Standards training, and bullying strategies.
- * Provide time for curriculum and assessment development for faculty one Tuesday per month. A Data Wall will be established to display information obtained from achievement tests to assist each teacher in driving his/her instruction utilizing Balanced Literacy.
- * Teachers will be provided the opportunity to attend more out-of-district training in reading comprehension, instructional strategies and assessment in teaching Common Core Standards, and computer/technology.

Goal # III School Climate

- * Continue to promote, practice, and enforce school safety.
- * Continue to develop consistent teacher/parent communication through PowerSchool, Parent Portal, e-mails, phone calls, teacher websites, call alert, and school newsletters.
- * “Overcoming Obstacles,” a life skills program will continue. Teachers will continue to serve as mentors to select students.
- * Host quarterly Parent Workshops and Family Education Nights.
- * Continue with and create job shadowing opportunities with local professional.
- * Continue bully and victim interventions (Zero Tolerance).
- * Enforce the school and district dress code.
- * Coaches will continue to monitor athletes for achievement and behavior.

2012

Williston-Elko Middle School PASS Test Scores

	Absolute Rating Growth Rating			Average Good
	<i>% Not Met</i>	<i>% Met</i>	<i>% Exemplary</i>	<i>% Met/Exemplary</i>
Writing				
8	31.9	39.6	28.6	68.1
ELA				
6	48.8	22.5	28.8	51.3
7	32.8	32.8	34.4	67.2
8	37.4	36.3	26.4	62.6
Math				
6	13.8	47.5	38.8	86.3
7	18.8	45.3	35.9	81.3
8	22.0	50.5	27.5	78.0
Science				
6	45.0	47.5	7.5	55.0
7	25.0	53.1	21.9	75.0
8	13.0	45.7	41.3	87.0
Social Studies				
6	30.0	57.5	12.5	70.0
7	31.3	48.4	20.3	68.8
8	44.4	42.2	13.3	55.6

WEMS 2012-13

Teacher of the Year

Patricia Yolanda Ulmer

It has been an honor to serve as Williston-Elko Middle School Teacher of the Year. I have been teaching for ten years. I embrace all ten years as a growing experience, as I embrace the uniqueness of every student that I have taught throughout the years. I have a Bachelor of Science Degree from South Carolina State University, a Master of Science and an Education Specialist from Cambridge College. As an educator, it is my job to reach every student by differentiating instructions to meet their needs. The quote displayed on my classroom wall reads, "Everyone is gifted but some people never open their package." I remind my students on days when they may feel defeated, to reflect on that quote and to believe in themselves. I believe that teaching is a privilege, because we have the opportunity to be a part of so many lives. At the end of my journey, I want my students to remember me as a caring person who just happened to be a teacher. Anyone can become a teacher, but will you care about each child you teach. It has truly been a rewarding experience to serve as Williston-Elko Middle School Teacher of the Year.