

J. PAUL TRULUCK MIDDLE SCHOOL

"Lighting the Way to Excellence"



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Ned Blake, Principal

Jeanette Altman, Assistant Principal

Dear Parents and Guardians,

J. Paul Truluck Middle School, in partnership with its families, students, and the community, is continuing to deliver on its mission to educate and inspire all students to be successful. Throughout the school year, students at J. Paul Truluck Middle School have been honored with numerous awards for student achievement.

J. Paul Truluck Middle School is very proud to receive state recognition for this year's PASS scores. We were awarded Palmetto Gold and Silver awards for attaining high levels of absolute performance, high rates of growth and substantial progress in closing achievement gaps between groups of students. J. Paul Truluck Middle received an Excellent Growth Rating, which was the 13th highest growth rating among all middle schools in the State of South Carolina. Receiving this award of merit is a building block as we strive for steady improvement and academic excellence.

In addition to being recognized for test scores, fifteen students from grades seven and eight were selected to attend the Clemson Biology Merit Examination this spring. One of the students earned a 1st Honorable Mention award, which placed her in the top 3% of students who took the exam. Again, 100% of Algebra I and 100% of English I students passed the End of Course exam at the end of last school year. Our school yielded four South Carolina Junior Scholars this year and we look forward to increasing the number of recipients in the future. Additionally, we continue to conduct quarterly awards programs to recognize our students for outstanding academics and character.

In an effort to educate well-rounded students, we continue to focus on our character education program. Through this program, students and staff participate in *Khaki Wednesdays*, during which students "dress for success" and *Writing Wednesdays*, during which teachers send congratulatory postcards home to students who have demonstrated outstanding character and/or academic performance throughout the week. The Junior Beta Club received recognition for their increased enrollment and this year our school was recognized as a School of Distinction. Through community service projects such as *March of Dimes*, *Breast Cancer Awareness* fundraisers, "adopting" senior citizens at Christmas, and collecting Box Tops for education, students are learning the importance of giving back to their community.

One of the contributing factors in attaining these awards was the continued implementation of the TAP System for Teacher and Student Advancement. Through on-site professional development, tracking individual student growth, differentiating instruction, and providing intervention blocks, student achievement continues to increase. Moreover, we will continue to collaborate with parents, community members, district staff, and other stakeholders in order to promote a safe and rigorous learning environment where students strive to maintain a high level of academic excellence.

Sincerely,

Ned Blake, Principal
Jacinta Moultrie, SIC Chairperson

"Educating and Inspiring all Students to be Successful"