







### Northwest Middle School **Facts and Figures**

Students	802
General Teachers	31
Related Arts Teachers	9
Special Educators	7
Support Staff	8
Guidance Counselors	3
Media Specialist	I
Instructional Support	2
Student Support	3
Administrators	3
Attendance Rate	<b>9</b> 6%
Student Teacher Ratio	23:1
Computer Labs	4
Tablet Labs	9
Laptop Lab	I
Classrooms	45
Video Cameras	26
Science Labs	6
Gyms	2
Weight Room	I
Interactive Boards	47
Soccer Field	I
Baseball Field	I
Tennis Courts	3
Basketball Courts	4









School Improvement Council **Report to the People** 2014-2015

## Northwest **Middle School**



Dr. David D. McDonald, Principal Daniel Barta, SIC Chairperson

The School Improvement Council is made up of parents, community members, business leaders, and concerned citizens working to make our school better. This information is reported annually to inform the community about the progress of Northwest Middle School in advancing student achievement and accomplishments.

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# Northwest Middle School Progress...

Northwest Middle School continues to develop in several key areas of improvement. The School Improvement Council continues to work to support the goals of the Greenville County School District which include these four areas:

- I. Student Learning and Achievement
- 2. Quality Personnel
- 3. School Environment
- 4. Financial Resources
- 5. Communications and Community Engagement

#### Student Learning and Achievement:

For the first time in school history, Northwest scored a good rating with good growth on the school report card. This demonstrates a sharp increase in student performance as well as student growth.

#### **Quality Personnel:**

We have worked hard to provide bright competent teachers who are highly qualified and who have a strong desire to help students learn. We are proud of our staff and their continued efforts to remain current in their field and bring forward 21st century learning strategies into the classroom.

#### School Environment & Financial Resources:

We had a new paint job, bleachers and lights installed in the gym and we look forward to new paint for the entire building this summer. Additionally new flooring will be installed in the hallway near the gym. We also continued our efforts to update school furniture to include student work spaces. Technology:

We have purchased in excess of 300 ChromeBooks two nookbook labs and furnished a new desktop computer lab.

#### Communications and Community Engagement:

With the help of the Cliffs partnership, we have begun a food pantry to assist Northwest Families in times of need. Partnering with Furman University we have also started a Bike Club for students and our continued friendship with the Rotary Club has provided our young "knights" a foundation for better character and the skills to form healthier and more lasting friendships with classmates. . We have also been able to continue our after school program and with help of Forestville Baptist Church, we have a mentoring program to offer additional support to students. Northwest participates in the TR greater cleanup and the TR Relay for life as well as many other drives to provide food, coats, and daily needs for families in the community. We are also increasing our usage of Twitter, Facebook and other social media to communicate with parents and the greater community.

#### Fine Arts Showcase:

#### Band:

"The Northwest Middle School Band program is comprised

of over 150 band students in grades sixth, seventh, and eighth. The band participates regularly in state sponsored events and adjudication and has only ever received excellent and superior ratings at South Carolina Junior Division Performance Assessment. Students in the band program audition and often are chosen to represent Northwest at the South Carolina Region One Honor Band, Greenville All-County Honor Band, and South Carolina All-State Band. In 2013, the Northwest Band program received the Outstanding Performance Award for achievement in state-sponsored events. In addition to excellent



Caption describing picture or graphic.

concert ensembles, Northwest also prides itself on having several small chamber ensembles, brass and woodwind choirs, and new to our school this year, the Northwest Middle School Jazz Band. Art:

Students in the Northwest Art Program have a commitment to the creative process and a willingness to experiment and take risks in their artmaking. Art students at Northwest created artwork for a permanent installation at the Greenville Zoo. The artworks, which were a tribute to loy the elephant, will be displayed in the elephant conservation area. 6<sup>th</sup> grade students participated in the annual anti-drug poster contest for the Greenville County Solicitor's Office. Two out of three sixth grade art poster awards were presented to Northwest students. Advanced art students submitted works for the Greenville County Middle School Juried Art Show. Our students won eleven awards, including 1<sup>st</sup> place painting, 1<sup>st</sup> place sculpture, and two 1st place printmaking awards. Art students will exhibit their final body of work with an arts showcase at Northwest in May.

Northwest would like to thank the following partners for all you do to make Norwest an exceptional place for learning to occur

**Rotary Club of Travelers Rest** Northwest Grill Northwest PTA Northwest SIC The Cliff's **Furman University mentors** Forestville Baptist Church **USC Upstate Bike Club**