

### School Information

- TMS serves students in the 6<sup>th</sup> through the 8<sup>th</sup> grade.
- TMS serves a diverse student population. The population includes students from many different countries, students attending advanced placement classes, and students having special instructional needs.

### Organizational Structure

- Students in the middle school program attend school on a 180-day schedule.
- Students attend school from 8:30 a.m. until 3:15 p.m. each day.
- Students are assigned to a homeroom and a core team of teachers (Science, Social Studies, Math and Language Arts).
- Students with special needs are assigned to classes based on their least restrictive environment.

### Curriculum / Instruction / Achievement

Our staff uses grade level standards as well as individual student needs as they plan instruction for our students. We believe that it is our responsibility to create a “love for learning” in our children. We can do this by enriching our instruction each day. At the same time we understand that our children must be able to demonstrate their skills on an annual basis on the PASS assessment. While some improvement has been noted recently, we believe more significant improvement can be achieved. Listed below are some of the current initiatives in our school:

- Making Middle Grades Work
- Grade Level Standards Across Curriculum
- Technology Integrated in all areas
- Inclusion Opportunities
- Differentiated Instruction
- Balanced Literacy

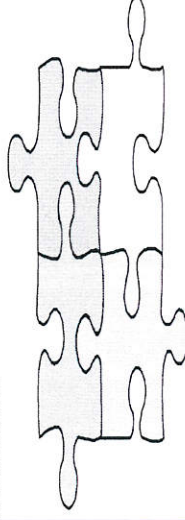
### Inspiring Hearts and Minds

#### Parent-Community Involvement

TMS has an improving tradition of parental and community involvement. Their involvement is evident in a variety of ways:

- PTA leadership
- Meal and Learn activities
- Enrichment speakers
- Parent Learning: Technology, language, and parenting
- Regular communication with staff
- Participation in daily activities
- Principal Coffee Meetings

Parents and community members are valued members of our school community. Each member's service is much appreciated. Interested in joining us? Contact Tomasa Quiles or Rick Menzer at the school.



#### School Activities

Each student is encouraged to participate in school activities. Hopefully we have at least one appealing activity for every TMS student. Listed below are some of our student activities / clubs:

- Early morning news team
- Book Fair
- Book Battles
- Book Clubs
- Running Club
- Athletic Teams
- Beta Club
- Honor Choir
- Band / Performance Band

### Home School Communication

Our staff members realize that we can be most successful when parents are aware of what is happening in the school and in their child's class. There are several ways in which we attempt to keep parents informed.

- Monthly Newsletter
- School Messenger [phone calls to parents]
- Teacher email / contact papers /website
- Teacher / School Email - example  
Ex. [jsmith@greenville.k12.sc.us](mailto:jsmith@greenville.k12.sc.us)

#### Noteworthy Programs

- ✓ PBIS / PRIDE
- ✓ Parent Nights – related to curriculum
- ✓ Honors Ceremonies
- ✓ Lunch and Learn
- ✓ Advanced Placement Classes
- ✓ ESOL [English Second Language]
- ✓ Spanish Instruction/English per parents
- ✓ Fine Arts Focus Integration
- ✓ Community in Schools
- ✓ Transition Programs
- ✓ GRIP – class to improve behavior
- ✓ Early Morning Breakfast in each room

#### Technology: Using it to its fullest...

Every student has access to his or her own laptop and chrome book. Each class has a Promethean Board. Many classes have reading nooks, wireless slates and chrome books. Teachers receive training regularly to ensure they can use the technology they have in their classrooms. We are thankful for the technology we have at our disposal. We plan to use it to its fullest potential.

## Capturing Kids Hearts



Our staff members recognize the importance of developing close, meaningful relationships with their students. They understand that before being able to teach our young adults, they must ensure that there is a level of trust and rapport. Teachers develop this in the manner they interact with students and each other. They make every effort to treat students with dignity and respect with the goal students will respond in the same manner. How successful have we been? Recent results have been encouraging [great improvement over first year].

### **Academic Assistance:**

Academic assistance can be provided in a variety of ways. We provide an after school remedial program and summer tutoring. We have found these programs to be beneficial. Parents are encouraged to inquire about these programs. During the day we offer remedial classes in reading and mathematics. Call 355-4500 for more information.

### **Title I Plan:**

We develop a title I plan that addresses reform strategies for school improvement. The process takes two months and involves our stakeholders: parents, community members, staff and district representation. Our plan guides our efforts and addresses our needs. We are thankful to our school improvement participants for their efforts.

## **Homework**



Teachers are encouraged to provide students with regular assignments for homework. Teachers have been asked to limit assignments (in time and amount) ensuring that assignments reinforce and enhance previous and new learning.

### **Student Assessment**

Presently we use a traditional report card with the following standards:

A	=	93-100
B	=	85-92
C	=	78-84
D	=	70-77
F	=	69/Below

Teachers are encouraged to provide students with a variety of opportunities to demonstrate their learning. In some instances, students may need an additional opportunity for assessment. Teachers are encouraged to be flexible, fair and responsive to student needs.

### **PRIDE**

We believe that we have an obligation to teach **virtuous** behavior to our children. Our plan is to integrate the teaching of a common core of values into our curriculum. Evidence of these efforts can be observed in our school:

- Prepared to Learn
- Respect [for all others]
- Interacting Positively
- Dressed for Success
- Engaged [in all of your work]

## Tanglewood Middle School

2015

## ANNUAL REPORT TO PARENTS

### **Contact Information**

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### **Mission**

Our mission is to collaboratively foster learning with an engaging and challenging environment that will prepare our students for high school and beyond.

### **School Beliefs**

- All students can learn.
- Teachers, administrators, parents and the community share the responsibility for advancing the school's mission.
- Students learn best when they are actively engaged in the learning process.
- Each student is a valued individual with unique physical, social, emotional and intellectual needs.
- Students learn in a variety of ways so the curriculum and instructional practices should incorporate a variety of learning activities to accommodate differences in learning styles.

