

Myrtle Beach Middle School, the home of the Seahawks, is helping all students develop the skills and characteristics outlined by the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate by providing each student opportunities to strengthen character, to contribute to the community, and to persevere to attain high levels of scholarship. Our vision states: Myrtle Beach Middle School is a safe and orderly environment where students, staff, parents, and community members work side by side to build collective and individual character, to strengthen both our school community and the greater community, and to work with laser-like focus to achieve high levels of scholarship for all students.

We define character as a person's pattern of behavior, thoughts, and feelings that are based on sound principles, moral judgment, integrity and the "line you never cross." *Project Wisdom* and *No Kidding About Bullying* are programs we adapt and use throughout the school to support decision-making, goal setting, stand-up actions, responsibility, communication, and integrity.

We define community as choosing to have harmonious fellowship with all people who belong to our school. In addition to expecting and nurturing an accepting school culture, some students desire a more defined group. Each year, our extra-curricular and interscholastic offerings grow. Currently, students contribute to our school community through the following organized clubs and teams: FCA, Junior Civitans, National Junior Beta Club, Math Counts, Junior Scholars, National Seahawk Leadership Academy, ESL Academy, History Day, Mock Trial, student government and leadership, yearbook, orchestra, band, chorus, football, baseball, softball, cheerleading, tennis, swimming, track and golf.

Our options for involvement in community service continue to grow and include Horry County Recycling, the National Lymphoma Society, the Grand Strand Miracle League, the Grand Strand Humane Society, the American Cancer Society, the Ground Zero Dragon Boat Festival, and the American Heart Association. MBMS also involves students in the community by encouraging them to think about possible careers through the Kuder – Career Assessment, Education Planning, and Development Services.

Scholarship is defined as challenging students beyond their comfort zone to become successful, high-achieving, lifelong learners in an environment where "I can't is not accepted, I will is expected, and my success is celebrated." World-class knowledge and skills as required by the South Carolina Profile of a Graduate are developed through rigorous standards-based instruction. Our instructional staff understands that effective instruction brings students to mastery of the South Carolina College and Career Ready standards, so our staff collaborates regularly, focusing on two primary goals:

- 1) to maximize our understanding of our students and their needs; and
- 2) to maximize our understanding of the South Carolina College and Career Ready Standards.

Kagan, Blended Learning, NWEA MAP and the Learning Continuum, Discovery Education, Read 180, USA Test Prep, iTunes University, Achievement Series, Compass, and Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol are some of the professional development training attended by

the instructional staff. Document-based questions, scientific inquiry, research, project-based learning, and cooperative learning are a few of the methods used to promote critical thinking and production in our learners. Students are taught how to access their grades through the use of Power School, where formative and summative grades, each connected to the South Carolina College and Career Ready Standards, are entered promptly by teachers. Students are guided to establish and track academic goals and to seek assistance when necessary. MBMS is 1:1 and this provides students access to personalized digital content. Achieve 3000, NoRedInk, and ALEKS provide each student the opportunity to advance his or her skills in reading, language, and math.

Students and staff are recognized and celebrated for demonstrating character, community, and scholarship within our school community and our greater community. Students, staff, parents, and community members are important to creating a school environment that moves students toward graduation and preparation for college and/or career. Myrtle Beach Middle School implements a vision that provides each student the opportunity and the support to achieve the goal of graduation.

Robert O'Brien, Chair of the School Improvement Council

Janice Christy, Principal