

During the 2013-2014 school year, Myrtle Beach Middle School continued to focus on fostering a safe and nurturing culture for its students. The primary focus of Myrtle Beach Middle School was the academic development of each student through differentiated, data-driven instruction. With the benefit of an iPad for each student, teachers designed small-group, targeted instruction in math, reading, science, and social studies. Individual digital instruction for students included access to USATestprep, Compass Odyssey, Aleks Math, and the Achievement Series. Led by instructional coaches and district learning specialists, our teachers engaged weekly in data analysis (MAP, PASS, and classroom assessment data) to develop individualized instruction for students. Students learned to understand MAP target scores for PASS performance and to set personal academic goals accordingly.

Our students participated in a variety of events. Academically, MBM had 29 Junior Scholars, 55 Explore Scholars, and 4 Duke Tip Scholars. Among our 8th grade students, 169 took the PSAT, 31 earned Geometry credit, and 60 earned English I credit. Among our 7th and 8th grade students, 121 earned Algebra I credit. More than 90 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students participated in the Seahawk Leadership Academy, and more than 300 students earned Alpha or Alpha/Beta status for one or more nine weeks. Our students participated in Math Counts, Mock Trial, National History Day, the HCS Technology Fair, and numerous essay contests. Our mock economy consists of Hawk Cards, which can be earned for effective decision-making, and spent in the Hawk's Nest – our student-run school store.

Our fine arts, civic, and athletic programs are healthy and growing. Our athletic teams continue to perform exceptionally well, our elected student council actively leads our school, and our FCA meets weekly. We make donations to various causes, including local food banks and health organizations. Our students participated in the Dragon Boat Races, we instituted student-led tech support through our Hawk Squad, and we held intramural basketball after school. Our fine arts program, with more than 350 participants, received accolades and awards including superior and excellent ratings at various district, state, and regional competitions. Without the support of the excellent teaching staff at MBM, student participation in these events would not be possible.

Myrtle Beach Middle School is a place where young adolescents thrive academically, socially, and emotionally. The ongoing support of our parents (through the School Improvement Council, PTO, and Watch D.O.G.S), community members, and local businesses is appreciated and recognized as critical to the success of our young people.

Maria Shuler, School Improvement Chair
Janice Christy, 2013-2014 Principal