

South Middle School

2014/2015 School Improvement Report



PREPARING STUDENTS TO SUCCEED IN A CHALLENGING WORLD

SMS

HONORS

- A National Schools to Watch
- Winthrop University NetSCOPE PDS school
- 3 Junior Scholars
- 9 Celebration of Excellence Honorees
- 7 National Board Certified Teachers
- 3 1st place winners in District Art Show
- 15 teachers endorsed or seeking Gifted and Talented Endorsement
- 2 District Science Fair Runners-up
- 56 students inducted into the NJHS
- 8th Band performed in Disney world and 8th Chorus in Atlanta

South Middle School continues to work towards providing our students with the best educational opportunities available. The following programs or initiatives were available to our students this year:

8th Grade Washington Field Trip—41 8th graders participated in a 3-day field trip to Washington, DC.

Chromebooks—Students use Chromebooks in all core classes.

NetSCOPE—South hosted 12 interns. Dr. Kelly Costner, Winthrop professor, was with us two days a week to help facilitate the partnership activities.

Student Opportunities:

Clubs

Mustang Mentors

Mustang Rodeo Awards

Girls on Track

Job Shadowing

Student of the Week

Men of Distinction

WSMS

Special Olympics

HorsePower

Student Council

Family Fun Nights

Sports

Fine Arts

First Priority

Honor Society

Classworks Lab

Team Time

Tutoring

NOTEWORTHY NEWS

and our growth rate was Below Average.

Teachers and staff continue to focus on student engagement and parent involvement. You may register on our website to receive email updates and homework alerts. Our school's website, listing homework assignments and links to important happenings at SMS, is

lancastersms.ss5.sharpschool.com

Professional Learning Communities. This professional development encourages teachers to interact with each other to find ways to achieve better results for the students they teach. Our PLC places its emphasis on learning for all (students and adults), building a collaborative culture, and maintaining a constant focus on results.

Local Artist in Residence, Bob Doster, visited the 8th grade art classes and assisted them in making a metal art sculpture with student-drawn metal images depicting each 8th grader at SMS.

It is the intention of South Middle School to always reflect and question our effectiveness and efficiency as educators and community stakeholders in securing the best available resources and instructors. It is important that we always open our doors to the students, parents, and community. Our faculty and staff are truly committed to the students and families that we serve.

Below are the percentages of our students who met standard on PASS:

ELA	59.3%
Math	63.9%
Science	63.2%
Writing	64.7%
Social Studies	66.1%

100% of our 8th grade Algebra I students passed the End of Course test. Student attendance rate was **96.2%**.

Our AYP absolute rating was **Average**,