

South Middle School

2010/2011 School Improvement Report

PREPARING STUDENTS TO SUCCEED
IN A CHALLENGING WORLD

SMS

HONORS

- 9 Junior Scholars
- 17 Celebration of Excellence Honorees
- 3 National Board Certified Teachers
- 6 teachers taking graduate courses through our partnership with Winthrop
- 15 teachers endorsed or seeking Gifted and Talented Endorsement
- District Science Fair Winner
- 76 students inducted into the National Junior Honor Society
- District Best in the Show Art Winner
- 8th band received Superior rating at the Concert Festival
- 8th band performed at Disney World; 8th chorus performed in Atlanta

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

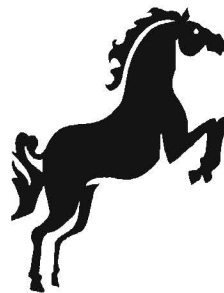
8th Grade Washington Field Trip—Over 40 8th graders participated in a 3-day field trip to Washington, DC. Students toured numerous historical monuments and museums.

NetSCOPE—South Middle was selected as a Professional Development School for the 2010-2011 academic year. This partnership with Winthrop University provided South with 6 Winthrop interns and intense Winthrop-South col-

laboration. Dr. Kelly Costner, Winthrop professor, joined us two days a week to help facilitate the partnership-related activities.

Benchmark Testing—Students participated in the district-wide benchmark tests at the end of first semester and again in March. These results helped teachers prepare students for PASS testing.

Adviser/Advisee Program—Students met once a month with an adult mentor.



NOTEWORTHY NEWS

our growth rate, remained at 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 assignment and links to important happenings at SMS, is

<http://sms.lancasterschools.org>

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. This PLC places its emphasis on learning for all (students and adults), building a collaborative culture, and maintaining a constant focus on results.

SMS had a very successful Making Middle Grades Work site visit. Team members were impressed with much of what our students and teachers are doing. The team gave us good feedback to build upon.

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	61.2%
Math	63.2%
Science	66.7%
Writing	66.7%
Social Studies	59.2%

100% of our 8th grade Algebra I students passed the End of Course test. Student attendance rate was 95.9%.

Our AYP absolute rating, as well as