



# NEW JERSEY SCHOOLS TO WATCH

## VISITOR'S GUIDE

### WILLIAM ANNIN MIDDLE SCHOOL



### School Statistics

Community: Suburban/New Jersey  
Enrollment: 1394  
Grade Levels: 6 -8  
School Schedule: 9 period day

#### Student Demographics

- 4.0 % Hispanic
- 68 % White
- 1.0 % African American
- 0 % Filipino
- 26 % Asian
- 1.0 % Other
- 0.8 % Free/Reduced Lunch
- 0.2 % English Learners

### Designated in 2016 -2019

William Annin Middle School -Bernards Township School District  
Somerset County – New Jersey  
Karen A. Hudock, Principal  
70 Quincy Road, Basking Ridge, New Jersey, 07920  
Tel (908)-204-2610, Fax (908)-204-0244  
School Web site: <http://williamannin.bernardsboe.com/>

## School Characteristics and Replicable Practices

### Academic Excellence

- Flexible grouping for various content classes and lessons
- Cluster grouping in sixth grade mathematics course to eliminate the wide achievement gaps between students to enhance the teachers ability to meet all students growth needs
- Accelerated mathematic opportunities in grade seven and eight
- Math count competitions
- Utilization of MAP Data, formative assessment to guide instructional practices and groupings
- Common planning time for grade levels, departments and PLC
- Common assessments
- Gifted and Talented STEM program for sixth graders
- STEM Academy grade 8
- Variety of special education programs that are tiered to meet students individual learning, emotional and social needs
- Enrichment opportunities including cross grade level activities, themes and field trips
- Technology resources: tablets, iPads, Chromebook carts

*(Continued)*

## **Developmental Responsiveness**

- Advisory Period – Morning Meetings – bi-monthly focusing on character education
- School counselor modules, grade level expectation meetings
- Student Council leader monthly meetings with principal
- Comprehensive Behavior Analytic Program students participate in Community Based Instruction opportunities
- Grade 8 students are able to selective electives related to their interest – electives are run by semester
- Interdisciplinary activities focused around big-ideas of the curriculum such as Veteran's Day, Martin Luther King Day, Holocaust Remembrance Day, Youth Summit Day, and Character Education Day.
- After school clubs
- Maker-space opportunities for students during lunch
- I&RS/504 team meetings bi-monthly with parents to support the needs of our most at-risk students
- Character Education Committee, Crisis Team, Healthcare team, School Safety Team, School Improvement Panel, Parent Advisory Council, Faculty Advisory Council
- Parent training on various topics like internet safety, stress and well-being of middle school aged students, teacher organized classes helping parents to navigate google

## **Social Equity**

- Team model supports the emotional and academic well-being of adolescence
- Viking Academy Program to assist students in learning skills necessary for academic and social success
- Heterogeneous grouping with heavy emphasis on differentiation
- Cluster grouping in 6<sup>th</sup> grade mathematics classes and acceleration opportunities provided
- Wide range of special education programs including ABA, ModCog, Behavioral Disorder Program, Resource Room, In-class Resource Room Science/Social studies, In-class Support and Social Problem Solving
- Chromebook carts and computer labs offer teachers the tools to teach 21st century skills
- Educators collaborate with EdTech companies to shape product development to better meet student needs
- All teachers use on-line grading, homework portal
- Homework club supervised by teachers
- International Open House to assist international families in establishing a network
- WAMS Expo Night – displays all facets of our students creativity
- Family Fun Night encourages families to become a part of the larger school community
- Consistent school-wide expectations which reinforce school vision
- Students are acknowledge for their achievements by earning monthly citizenship awards, grade level character awards focused on our Viking Values

## **Organizational Support**

- Team model – three teams per grade level
- Team of teachers, school counselor and grade level administrator attend daily team meetings
- Two team meetings a week focus on vertical articulation by department and co-teaching planning
- Professional Learning Community Model (PLC) - Common planning time for teams and departments
- Administrators are assigned specific building responsibilities to help guide and support teachers
- Utilization of online calendar for school events and activities
- Implementation on Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) testing to guide teachers to meet individual student learning needs and class instruction
- Professional development opportunities include district organized staff colleges offered in the Fall, Spring and Summer. Courses are created and taught by teachers and school administrators
- Mentor program for new teachers
- Transitional programs include school counseling visits to 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes, transition meetings with school personnel to discuss each rising 6<sup>th</sup> grader
- Summer camp transition program for rising 6<sup>th</sup> graders, school visitation opportunities, walk-throughs, parent orientation and Coffee with the Principal
- Full Child Study Team on site and Student Assistance Counselor
- Intervention and Referral Services Committee which identifies and supports at-risk students
- Clubs, parent run athletics and aftercare program on-site