



NORTH CAROLINA SCHOOLS TO WATCH

VISITOR'S GUIDE

Rockingham Middle School



Designated in 2017

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2017 School Statistics

(Sources: 2017 Powerschool Data)

Community: Large Rural School
Enrollment: 695
Grade Levels: 6-8

Student Demographics

- 7% Hispanic
- 49% White
- 35% African American
- 5% Multi-Racial

- 62.8% Free/Reduced Lunch
- 1% English Learners
- 2% Cross Categorical Students

School Characteristics and Replicable Practices

Academic Excellence

- Collaborative planning that includes protected time for weekly grade level and content planning
- Common assessments to provide for data analysis with fidelity
- Intense integration of social studies and ELA to provide students with extra support in skills mastery
- A common lesson plan template to support instructional cycle planning & collaboration
- Writing integrated across the curriculum
- Workstations & small group instruction are pervasive in all core content areas & serve as the primary point of intervention
- Literacy circles integrated into AIG classrooms to promote growth of our highest performing students & grade level EC teachers to support our most at-risk students in the inclusion setting

Developmental Responsiveness

- Celebrating student success beyond academics
- Active SST that embraces MTSS protocols and structures
- PBIS Program that rewards expected behaviors and holds students accountable for unexpected behaviors
- Fine Arts Festival, *Rocket News & Channel 1 News* foster student involvement and support cultural awareness
- Quarterly school dances enhance social relationships
- Buddy system in place to pair at-risk students with trusted adults in the school & strategically selected students participate in a Gentlemen's Club to promote social and academic excellence
- Guidance/school social worker/nurse/behavior interventionist work closely with administration to support our most at-risk students

Social Equity

- Clubs are conducted during the day to ensure accessibility for all
- Programs to highlight and reward citizenship, service, character and work ethic (Rockin' Rockets, Attendance Award, Student of the Month)
- All students have equal access to a traditional middle school schedule & selected at-risk students have specially designed schedules to promote academic/behavioral success
- Students may resubmit work to ensure content mastery

Organizational Support

- Letters/Alert Now Messages/Peachjar Reminders/Rocket News/Teacher webpages/Remind App notify families concerning school events
- Consistent staff development opportunities are provided by the district and supported by a school based academic coach who serves as the liaison between the district office and the school
- Vertical support of students through transitions and common planning
- The SIT is integral in implementing the SIP through a reciprocal process of sharing information among the team, floor leader and PLC
- Teachers use data to inform small group instruction and adjust lesson plans accordingly

- Strong building level new teacher support program