School Characteristics and Replicable Practices

Academic Excellence

- Technology is used as a tool to support high levels of student learning as we grow toward a one-to-one digital convergence in the 2016-17 school year.
- Interdisciplinary teaching practices engage students at high levels within the core curriculum and exploratory classes.
- The daily lab period allows for remediation, homework completion, or enrichment which provides a strong system of support tailored to student needs.
- The master schedule includes common planning time for teachers to collaborate, share best practices, and work together to analyze student data.
- A flexible, after-school tutoring program is offered through-out the year so students can stay for extra help as needed.
- Teachers are encouraged to participate in our “Peer Poaching” program in an effort to glean new instructional strategies from colleagues within our school building.
- Nearly half of our student population qualifies for our honor club annually by earning all As and Bs while demonstrating appropriate school behavior.

Developmental Responsiveness

- The leaders, teachers, and staff are knowledgeable of their students due to regular student-centered communication via team meetings, parent conferences, and individual conversations.
- An intentional transition process allows rising 6th grade students and their families to become familiar with all aspects of the middle school.

2015-2016 School Statistics
(Sources: Student enrollment as of May 2016, student data compiled from Powerschool and the current VDOE school report card)

Community: Rockingham County, VA
Enrollment: 675
Grade Levels: 6-8
School Schedule: Alternating Block

Student Demographics:
- 70% White
- 21% Hispanic
- 2% African American
- 2% Asian
- 5% Multi-Racial
- 40% Economically Disadvantaged
- 9% Special Education
- 9% English Language Learners

Fully Accredited by VDOE:
- Math Pass Rate 91%
- English Pass Rate 79%
- Science Pass Rate 83%
- Writing Pass Rate 72%
- History Pass Rate 97%

Designated in 2015
Montevideo Middle School
Rockingham County Public Schools, Harrisonburg, VA
Drew Miller, Principal
7648 McGaheysville Rd. Penn Laird, VA 22846
Tel (540) 289-3401 Fax (540) 289-3601
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• Our counseling department works closely with students through individual and small group sessions, in addition to offering “lunch bunch” discussions, classroom lessons, and special programs such as anti-bullying and positive peer relationships.
• The YES (Youth Experiencing Success) program, our in-school alternative education classroom, is fundamental in supporting struggling students by providing a low student-to-teacher ratio and an environment where students can receive academic as well as behavioral support.
• The “I’m Determined” program provides middle school students the skills and knowledge to develop into responsible young adults.
• Model Mustangs, a PBIS program, is in place to support the foundation of good decision-making and to promote positive behavior in the school.
• We offer a strong exploratory arts program including STEM classes, elective music program, drama, and foreign language.
• Our peer tutoring and work study classes allow general education students to work with special education students in an inclusive setting.
• Students are active in our PTSA by attending monthly meetings with the executive board to share student concerns and ideas.
• Annual student attendance rates typically exceed 96%.
• We implement an effective schoolwide discipline plan based on the six pillars of character education.

Social Equity
• Equal opportunities exist for all students to access the curriculum through the use of technology.
• Special education students with intellectual disabilities, multiple disabilities, and autism are supported and included to the greatest extent possible.
• Grade level and co-curricular field trip opportunities are plentiful for all students to access learning outside of the school building.
• Advanced classes that are challenging and relevant are available for all students.
• “Backpack of Hope” program for economically disadvantaged students provides food assistance to families over the weekends.
• “Lend a Hand Lockers” are designated throughout the building where students can share anonymous concerns with administration.
• A wide offering of afterschool clubs and sports appeal to different interests of our diverse student body.

Organizational Support
• The administrative staff is strong and supportive of the students and teachers in the building.
• Master schedule is purposeful and structured in a manner to maximize student learning opportunities in the building.
• The administrative staff listens to the concerns of students, teachers and parents and has problem-solving processes in place to address issues.
• A growing partnership with local universities (JMU, EMU, Bridgewater, Mary Baldwin) exists to support professional development, the development of pre-service educators, and student outreach where our middle school students may take field trips for academic growth, appreciation of the arts, and college planning.
• Our on-going professional development reflects best practices and aligns with our strategic plan.
• Staff members have been trained in restorative practice, threat assessment, and gang awareness as part of a proactive effort in school safety.
• We follow a shared vision of high expectations with a focus on student achievement and growth.
• Students are celebrated regularly through academic, athletic, and artistic displays.