



Pennsylvania Don Eichhorn Schools: Schools to Watch

Fort Couch Middle School



Designation: 2017

- Fort Couch Middle School
- Upper St. Clair School District
- Principal: Joseph F. DeMar
- Assistant Principal: Erin Petersen
- Allegheny County
- 515 Fort Couch Road, Pittsburgh Pa 15241
- Phone: 412-833-1600 XT 3000
- Website: <http://www.uscsd.k12.pa.us>
- Email HYPERLINK "mailto:dcomo@wjhsd.net" dcomo@wjhsd.net, HYPERLINK "mailto:azunic@wjhsd.net" azunic@wjhsd.net
- Website <http://www.wjhsd.net>

School Statistics

<http://paschoolperformance.org>

Community: Suburban
 Enrollment: 705
 Grade Levels 7, 8
 School Schedule: 6 period day with advisory and common planning time

Student Demographics

American Indian/Alaskan Native	0
Asian	12%
Black or African American	1%
Hispanic (any race)	1%
Multi-Racial	1%
White	83%
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	2%

2016 AYP: Reading 85% Math 66%

School Characteristics and Replicable Practices

Academic Excellence

- School and student success is monitored constantly and curriculum is adjusted as needed.
- The district is committed to an extensive professional development program. Such focal points are Customizing Learning, Nurturing Potential, and Delivering Excellence.
- A 1:1 Learning Initiative with the use of best practice and iPad use.
- The use of best instructional practices driven by formative data.
- A commitment to differentiated instruction.

Developmental Responsiveness

- A conducive learning environment that includes a students intellectual, ethical, social, and physical needs.

- The use of Panther Time as a way of maximizing student achievement taking place in the middle of the school day.
- Second chance learning opportunities throughout the day, including our Period 7 time.
- Student participation in teacher sponsored clubs that occur twice monthly.
- Offering of exploratory courses to all students.

Social Equity

- Students are placed into academic teams heterogeneously by ability.
- Student progress is monitored by both formative and summative assessments.
- Fort Couch offers the option of the International Baccalaureate Program.
- Each quarter students are recognized within the school as a Face of the Fort.
- Fort Couch has a very active PTSO and oversees many school activities.

Organizational Processes and Structure

- A clear vision to prepare students to be successful contributors to global society
- A Professional Learning Community Model is in place to ensure student focus.
- Data driven decisions are a driving factor of Fort Couch
- Fort Couch closely works with many of the regions universities and colleges.
- Fort Couch also utilizes teaching curriculum leaders with in the building.