



Northwest Middle School
Travelers Rest, South Carolina

School Facts and Contact Information

Office: 864.355.6900
 Fax: 864.355.6920
 Guidance Office: 864.355.6904
 Cafeteria Office: 864.355.6508
 Health Room: 864.355.6907
 On Geer Highway (Hwy 276) at Old White Horse Road between Travelers Rest and Marietta.



www.greenville.k12.sc.us/northwst

Grades: 6th-8th
 Student Teacher Ratio: 25 to 1
 Enrollment: 840
 Student Attendance: 95%



State Report Card

Absolute Rating: Average
 Improvement Rating: Below Average
Percentage of Students Meeting Standard

English & Language Arts: 67%
 Math: 65% Social Studies: 65%
 Writing: 66% Science: 60%



Students Passing End of Course test:

English I: 100%
 Algebra: 98%

WE BELIEVE:

All students can learn.
 Students are the center of the educational process.



Students learn best in a safe environment nurtured by caring, supportive teachers, principals, and staff personnel.

Students have the right of equal access to educational opportunities.

Students and teachers have the responsibility to be actively involved in lifelong learning.

Instruction and assessment should be provided consistent with the needs of all students.



A balanced curriculum ensures that students communicate effectively, compute accurately, think critically, and act responsibly.



Sixth grade students in Atlanta in February.

Mission Statement

We provide educational experiences, in cooperation with the home and community, that prepare students for lifelong learning and for ethical, productive participation in a democratic society and the global community.

Northwest Middle School is located in Travelers Rest, South Carolina, which is a growing community in northern Greenville County. At Northwest, we believe that all persons should be treated as shareholders in our educational environment. The school climate is enhanced by supportive parents and community groups who are active participants in the school philosophy of "Student Centered Education." Northwest students are encouraged to achieve to the highest levels while maintaining appropriate behavior standards at all times.

Our educational model is guided by state-mandated Standards Based instruction. Teachers have been trained in a variety of instructional strategies which incorporate Learning Focus, Differentiated Instruction, and Understanding by Design. Northwest is an authorized International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program. (IBMYP) school. IB MYP provides a framework of academic challenge that encourages students to embrace and understand the connections between traditional subjects and the real world and become critical and reflective thinkers. NWMS teachers attend additional training each year to maintain the professional excellence needed to teach our children and maintain IB certification. Northwest is one of only three middle schools in the county offering a single gender option to 6th

It would be difficult to find a school with a more pleasing environment. Implementation of the International Baccalaureate standards has opened many new educational avenues for our instructional program while continuing to enhance established programs which support math and language arts for low achieving students. Northwest is dedicated to maintaining the partnership between students, parents, staff, and the community which has the ultimate goal of educational success for every child.

WHAT IS THE SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL?

The School Improvement Council (SIC) serves as an advisory committee to a school's principal and faculty. Unlike PTA/Os and other voluntary school organizations, **councils are mandated by law to exist in every public school in South Carolina.**

In March the SIC met with a representative of the Alliance for Quality Education (AFQE). The AFQE is an advocacy group that speaks on behalf of our children, our community & our public schools to influence legislation, policies, and funding at the local, state, and federal levels that impact children and our schools. In light of the budget cuts facing our school district, that will affect everything from class size to supplies, the SIC is asking parents and community members to contact their legislators in support of school funding. Summaries of pending legislation and their affect on Northwest may be found at AFQE website: www.afqe.org.



Famous Author Visits Northwest— A joint venture of the media center and the PTSA brought author Neal Shusterman, a young adult author, from California to Northwest Middle on October 12, 2009. He shared insights and answered questions with all grade levels about his books, his novels were sold in the media center, and he was photographed with each student who had their book autographed.



IIB Ambassador Program

Our ambassador program goal is to prepare student leaders to communicate the goals of our school's International Baccalaureate Program and to embody our school's mission while representing Northwest Middle School. All students are encouraged to apply and go through the application and interview processes. Responsibilities of Northwest Middle School.

IB Ambassadors' participation includes: attend IB Student Ambassador weekly meetings; greet visitors and introduce them to faculty and staff members; conduct tours of the school and explain various school programs; participate in Ambassador Community and Service activities; demonstrate leadership and become a role model for other students; maintain a C (80) or better average in all subjects. Students serve for one year from October to October of the following year.



IB Evaluation and Recertification

Northwest Middle School received its five-year program evaluation visit on March 8 and 9, 2010. Evaluators spoke highly of teachers, students and community representatives. Teachers prepared diligently with samples of curriculum, assessments and evidences that we share the mission and commitment of the IB to quality international education. The evaluation team submits evidences of their visitation in a written report to the (IBNA) International Baccalaureate North America for a committee review. The Director of IBNA will respond with a written report to the Head of the School, Mr. Givins over the summer.

New School District Bell Schedule

Beginning in the fall of 2010 all middle schools in the district day will begin their day at 8:30 AM and end at 3:15 PM. The change will not affect the Northwest bus schedule. Parents will still be able to drop off students beginning at 7:00 AM. Afternoon pick up times will remain the same. For more information, please refer to Bell Schedule Q and A on the school's website.

In March, Northwest Middle School Band received a "Superior" rating at the South Carolina State Concert Festival. This marks the fourth year in a row that Northwest has received the state's top rating. In April, the band competed in the Heritage National Music Festival in Dallas, TX where they received a Gold Award for the second time in three years.

During the months of February and March band students from all over South Carolina participated in special clinics where they performed under guest conductors. The students who participate must audition to receive this honor. Northwest was proud to once again be well represented in these bands.



Northwest students volunteered at the Special Olympics, and visited Washington, DC, the Humane Society, and a local fire department. The students presented a moving and memorable **Veteran's Day** program that recognized the sacrifices of individuals and families in the community. All of this is possible because of the support of teachers, parents, friends, business partners and the surrounding community. Northwest has a lot to be proud of!

The Northwest SIC would like to thank all of the parents, grandparents, and community supporters of the Panther Patrons program. Your gifts to Northwest helped to make a difference in the classroom experience of our children.

If you have not yet made a donation, we covet your support.

You can make a 2010-2011 tax deductible gift to Northwest by simply sending your check to Northwest Middle and writing Panther Patrons on the memo line.

Thank you for your support



2009-2010 PTSA Officers

Beth McKinney	President
Keri Reaney	Vice-President
Kim Gates	Secretary
Gina Simmons	Treasurer
Stephanie Capps	Hospitality/Volunteers
Jennifer Burgess	Hospitality/Volunteers
Kathy Willis	Reflections

2008-2009 School Improvement Council

Parent and Community Members

Carolyn Jackson Chair
Kelly Greene Co-Chair
David Reaney
J.J. Burgess
Phil Howard
Patty O'Cain
Sherri Oates
Tara Roberson
Kathy Willis
Sherry Ogletree
Tina Reid

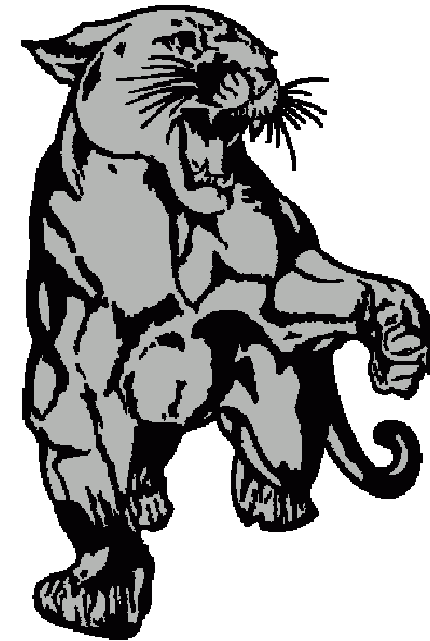
Administrative Members

Lee Givins Principal
Cynthia Lee IB Coordinator
Julie Carlson Administrative Asst.

Faculty Members

Sandy Bailey Media Center Specialist
Susan McCoy 6th Grade Science

Northwest Middle School School Improvement Council



2009-2010 Report to the Parents