



February 17, 2015

Rick Watson, Principal
Albert Griswold Middle School
144 Bailey Road
Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Dear Rick,

Congratulations! Albert Griswold Middle School's designation as a NELMS Spotlight School has been renewed and will continue for another three years, assuming that your school community continues to exemplify an excellent learning community for young adolescents and to uphold best practices for middle level education.

During the recent renewal visit the reviewers saw a variety of indicators that made it evident your school has continued to make progress and be committed to effective instruction, collaboration, teaming, continual growth and a solid understanding of the young adolescent.

The New England League of Middle Schools would like to commend Albert Griswold Middle School for the following:

- a supportive administrative team and excellent faculty focused on meeting the needs of a diverse student population
- data teams and teacher collaboration working to ensure student progress is monitored and supported
- a strong sense of community supported by common goals, a positive behavior support program, and many additional programs that contribute to the students' social and emotional growth
- student recognition programs, and
- a well maintained facility

In order to continue your commitment to improvement and best middle level practices, NELMS would like to make the following recommendations for your consideration over the next three years:



- continue to develop and monitor the effectiveness of the data teams and the use of data to drive instructional decisions
- clarify opportunities in addition to the Power Portal for Power School to actively engage and involve parents in the school community

If you have not already done so, please check the NELMS' web site to make sure that we have the updated information about your school posted (description, photo image, and preferred visiting dates for other educators). You can access this by going to the site map on our web site, scrolling down to your school's name, and clicking on it. Please send any updates to Kathy Hill (e-mail: khill@nelms.org). If you have any questions she will be glad to assist you.

I have enclosed the 2015-2018 renewal agreement that should be reviewed, signed and returned. If you should wish to have NELMS participate in a presentation of recognition of your Spotlight School renewal, please contact Kathy Hill or the NELMS office to coordinate a time.

Again, congratulations for being a school community committed to quality teaching and learning, effective middle level education and for being invested in working with young adolescents. It is a pleasure to have you as a Spotlight School. You should be proud of your wonderful school and this recognition.

Sincerely,

Mary Jean Fawcett
Acting Executive Director

cc: Kathleen Hill, Spotlight School Coordinator
Dulcey Worth, NELMS Board of Directors, Region CT-3 Representative