

Dixon Middle School

2012-2013 Results and 2013-2014 Next Actions

James Strobe - School Executive

School Vision: *We believe with high expectations and hard work, our students can achieve anything.*

School Mission: *Dixon Middle School will inspire and empower our students to become life-long learners, who develop into globally competitive, 21st century citizens.*

School Purpose: *Building Independent Thinkers*

School Executive's Message: Dixon Middle School takes pride in our efforts for the 2012-2013 school year. The increased focus on Professional Learning Communities has had a very positive and measurable impact. Even with challenges from budgets and outdated facilities, the Mariners have moved from negative growth (-3.0) in 2011-2012 to exceeding expected growth (+3.5) in 2012-2013, as measured by EVAAS. Over the course of 2013, the Safe and Civil team reviewed the guidelines for success, and with input from stakeholders have created and implemented S.U.R.F (Safe, Understanding, Responsible, Future-Leaders). As we move into 2013-14, Mariners will be SURFing into the future, and the future looks bright!

School's Strengths: Dixon Middle School increased in EVAAS growth data from (-3.0) to (+3.5) in one year. This represents the first time that Dixon Middle School has exceeded expected growth as measured by EVAAS. Several teachers are involved in technology-driven initiatives, such as Squeak/Income Grant through UNCW and Amplify tablets. We also continue to focus on global initiatives through the Guest Teacher Program (College Board/Hanban) and Global Perspectives (VIF).

School's Challenges: Outdated facilities continue to impact student and staff outcomes at Dixon Middle School. PTO membership and engagement dwindled in 2013. Dixon Middle School did not meet AMO targets in math for all students, white students, and black students. Dixon Middle School also did not meet the AMO target for white students in reading.

2013-2014 Focused Next Actions: Along with a new Guideline for Success (SURF), Dixon Middle School is expanding Professional Communities to include Southwest Middle School on ER/PD days. To improve efficiency, DMS is utilizing Google Docs for discipline, field trip requests, late arrivals/early check-outs, etc. A team of teachers from all three grade levels have created four interdisciplinary school-wide units, with activities for every grade and subject area. New color-coded hall passes, that easily identify origin and destination, are being utilized. Student IDs with pictures and barcodes are being worn by all students. Award pins are being used for the lanyards for increased student recognition.

Greatest Accomplishment in 2012-2013: Despite having facilities designed for students in the early 20th century, our students are engaged in a global, 21st century education.