

Swansboro Middle School
2013-2014 Results and 2014-2015 Next Actions
Brendan Gartner - School Executive

Vision:

- Swansboro Middle School will be a clean, safe, caring school where students and staff are engaged in learning
- Swansboro Middle School will be a school where staff, students, families, and the community work together towards growth and learning
- Swansboro Middle School will guide students in order to develop the necessary skills for continuous learning
- Swansboro Middle School will be the center of a cohesive & collaborative environment that fosters learning
- Swansboro Middle School will build trust and earn respect among staff, students and families and the community to inspire learning

Mission:

Swansboro Middle School will provide students with a foundation for the future through a challenging and relevant curriculum, meaningful relationships, and ethical guidance in a safe and caring environment.

School Purpose:

To prepare students for the future.

School Executive's Message:

Swansboro Middle School is a school that embraces the challenges that are a result of the dynamic nature of education today. We realize that the recent changes in education are a direct result of the ever-evolving world in which we now live and we eagerly work to meet the needs of our students. While providing students the opportunity to master the prescribed curriculums, our staff encourages students to be adaptable critical thinkers and problem solvers and to assume leadership roles within the school.

Ready EOG results revealed a grade level proficiency in math of 45.5%, reading was 54.8% proficient, and grade eight science at 81.6% proficient. Ready EOC results listed proficiency of Math 1 students greater than 95%. The overall school grade level proficiency composite was higher than both the state and district averages and Swansboro Middle School exceeded expected growth targets. When examining individual subgroups in math and reading, significant achievement gaps remain between white students and black, multi-racial, and Hispanic students. Students with disabilities remain significantly below the achievement levels of their non-disabled peers. There was an overall 8% drop in discipline referrals during the 2013-2014 school year. We have developed and continually improve transition plans for rising sixth graders and ninth graders.

School's Strengths:

- Ready EOG proficiency above district average in math, science, and Math 1.
- Math 1 proficiency has exceeded 90% proficiency for seven straight years.
- Swansboro Middle School exceeded growth expectations.
- Growth index led the district in math, science, and Math 1.
- Discipline referrals have decreased for the fourth consecutive year.
- Effective, data-driven transition plans for students entering and departing Swansboro Middle School created in tandem with our feeder elementary schools and Swansboro High School.

School's Challenges:

- Despite a focus of incorporating literacy strategies, reading proficiency fell slightly below the district average.
- Achievement gaps remain between white students and minority students.
- Students with disabilities continue to achievement is significantly below their nondisabled peers.
- A disproportionately high percentage of discipline issues arise on school buses.
- Continued population growth fueled by local housing construction.
- Swansboro Middle School has not met all AMO/AYP targets since the 2002-2003 academic year.
- Encouraging effective parent partnerships and participation.

2014-2015 Focused Next Actions:

- Create and utilize a series of teacher-created benchmark assessments that more accurately reflect the rigor of the Ready End of Grade assessment
- Use data from benchmark assessments to create and implement concrete actions plans to address areas of needed improvement.
- Provide frequent professional development throughout the year that provides teachers with strategies to effectively implement the Onslow County Schools 1:1 Initiative.
- Create and implement programs that address behavioral expectations on school provided transportation.
- Continue to refine our transition plans based on data from students, staff, and community members.
- Continue to implement a "grant" program for expenditure of instructional funds.

Greatest Accomplishment in 2013-2014:

- We were very proud of the cooperative efforts of our arts department, core academic teachers, and our counseling department to foster community involvement in our school. We developed the only middle school marching band in Onslow County. We conducted a career fair that brought in over 35 local business and community leaders. We held a number of arts exhibitions including a poetry slam and an art contest to support Autism Awareness. Our counseling department held several events intended to ease transitions for departing and incoming students and their caregivers.

