



Essential Elements Schools to Watch Model School – Visitor’s Guide

Martha Brown Middle School



Designated in 2012 Re-designated 2015

Martha Brown Middle School * Fairport Central School
District Monroe County * New York State
Principal: David Dunn * ddunn@fairport.org
School address: 665 Ayrault Road, Fairport NY 14450
585-421-2065 * <http://www.fairport.org/marthabrown.cfm>

2013 – 2014 School Statistics

(source: NYS School Report Card, 2014 BEDS)

Community: Suburban NYS

Enrollment: 785

Grade Levels: 6 - 8

School Schedule: 9 period day – 2 day cycle

Student Demographics

50 %	Male
50 %	Female
3 %	Hispanic/Latino
88 %	White
.1 %	American Indian/Alaskan Native
6 %	African American
1 %	Multiracial
3 %	Asian/Pacific Islander
15 %	Students with Disabilities
17 %	Free/Red. Lunch/Econ. Disadvantaged
0 %	English Learners

School Characteristics and Replicable Practices

Academic Excellence

- High expectations are shared by teachers, students, parents and the community
- Two teacher 6th grade team, four teacher teams in 7th and 8th grade – Use of flexible block schedule
- 27% of 8th grade students currently enrolled in Integrated Algebra and Regents Earth Science
- Honors classes: Grade 6 – math; Grades 7 & 8: English, social studies, math and science
- Multiple technology resources available: computers, laptop carts, SMART boards, document cameras, two dedicated computer labs
- Tiered approach to Academic Intervention Services; Literacy and Math Skills Lab Classes
Resource room, consultant teachers, co-taught classes, self-contained classes
- Approximately 2/3 of students in performing groups (band, orchestra and choir)
- Small group instrumental lessons rotate weekly through the students’ schedule
- School-wide Sustained Silent Reading Program daily
- End of the year Awards Programs for all grade levels to celebrate student accomplishments
- Common planning time for academic teams to develop interdisciplinary units
- Full-time Strategic Learning Specialist to collaborate with staff on instruction and assessment
- Curriculum maps for each course with learning outcomes developed using UBD Model

Developmental Responsiveness

- Counselors rotate with students for their entire middle school experience
- Academic Teams collaborate to meet the social, emotional and academic needs of all students
- Mental health staff provide individual and group counseling
- Counselor created curriculum for in-class presentations around bullying and career exploration
- 5th to 6th grade transition program for students and parents
- 8th to 9th grade transition program for students and parents
- Teacher web pages with homework, test and project dates; important links to curriculum-related sites
- Organizational skills are taught and reinforced through the use of the student agenda
- Wide range of before and after school co-curricular activities including clubs, sports teams, academic teams, theatre and community service opportunities
- RTI Committee meets weekly with teacher(s) to help create Tier 1 interventions
- IST Process is used to respond to student's needs for learning interventions
- Recent additions to building include state of the art technology labs, large music ensemble rooms, small instrumental practice rooms, college style food court, robust wireless network
- College and career exploration in FACS classes
- Peer tutor and mentor program

Social Equity

- 40 Developmental Assets Program to support the positive development of all students through monthly homeroom activities – C.A.R.E (Care, Awareness, Respect and Embrace)
- Single gender technology classes in 8th grade to encourage female students into engineering
- All students take Art, Music, FACS, Technology, Physical Education and Health each year
- Positive student behaviors are celebrated through Student of the Month luncheons, Breakfast of Champions, Good News post cards, and end of the year awards programs
- Administration works closely with counselors to link discipline with appropriate interventions
- School creates a welcoming atmosphere to parents and student of all backgrounds
- Student artwork displayed throughout the school
- Staff supported Sunshine Fund to celebrate marriages, births, illness and loss
- Life Long Fitness approach to PE: rock climbing, yoga, BMX bicycles, snow shoeing, square dancing, self-defense, weight training, cross-county skiing
- Fun-Nights sponsored by PTSA for all grade levels, Fright Fest, Talent Show
- Consistent discipline code created and published with input from all stakeholders
- Extremely involved PTSA – multiple staff appreciation lunches, breakfasts, staff meeting treats
- Open communication with parents: weekly emails, monthly newsletters and parent meetings
- Late buses provided three days a week so all students can stay after school
- Urban-Suburban Program invites students from city of Rochester to attend Fairport schools
- Community partnerships through visits by senior citizens
- School-wide community service efforts have raised over \$25,000 annually for local charitable organizations

Organizational Support

- Administration works closely with staff through a variety of committees: Grade level, Department, Budget, Facilities, IST, SST, AIS, 504, Attendance, Crisis, Scheduling and PTSA
- Instructional Technology Support staff to assist with technology integration
- Parent volunteers are used to support numerous classroom/extra-curricular programs
- Team teachers meet weekly with counselors and Learning Specialist to discuss student needs
- Parents are well-informed of all aspects of the school through weekly E-News bulletins
- Interactive monthly staff meetings focused on professional growth
- Professional development opportunities to support curriculum, instruction and assessment
- One to one staff mentor program provides intensive support to new teachers
- Shared decision making is widely used; professional learning communities are nurtured
- Development of Master Schedule with input from staff that is responsive to students' needs
- Weekly meetings to address student attendance concerns