



# SCHOOLS TO WATCH - NEW YORK MODEL SCHOOL - VISITOR'S GUIDE

## Sayville Middle School



## School Statistics

(Source: Infinite Campus)

Community: Suburban/Residential  
Enrollment: 754  
Grade Levels: 6-8  
School Schedule: 10-Period Modified Block

### Student Demographics

54% Male  
46% Female  
4.6% Hispanic/Latino  
89% White  
.1% American Indian/Alaskan Native  
.4% African American  
0% Filipino  
0% Asian/Pacific Islander  
15% Students with Disabilities  
8.29% Free/Red. Lunch/Econ. Disadvantaged  
.27% English Learners

2011 AYP: Math 177/177 AMO, ELA 171/118  
2012 AYP: Math 177/160 AMO, ELA 175/146 AMO,  
Science 191/172 AMO  
2013 AYP: Math 124/75 AMO, ELA 138/78 AMO,  
Science 188/174 AMO

**Designated in 2006, Re-designated 2009,  
2012, and 2015**

**District:** Sayville Public Schools **County:** Suffolk  
**State:** New York **Principal:** Thomas Murray  
**School Address:** 291 Johnson Ave, Sayville, NY 11782  
**Phone:** 631-244-6650  
**Email:** [tmurray@sayvilleschools.org](mailto:tmurray@sayvilleschools.org)  
**Website:** <http://www.sayvilleschools.org/middleschool.cfm>

## School Characteristics and Replicable Practices

### Academic Excellence

- Exploratory Program is standards based focused on life applications of literacy and numeracy
- Planetarium Science gives students exposure to astronomy in our planetarium
- Social studies teachers use simulations for students to experience history
- 50% of 8<sup>th</sup> graders enrolled in high school Integrated Algebra
- 35% of 8<sup>th</sup> graders enrolled in high school Biology (Living Environment)
- 100% of 8<sup>th</sup> graders enrolled in high school level 1 of French or Spanish
- 30% of 8<sup>th</sup> graders enrolled in high school Studio Art
- All teachers available for extra help Monday - Thursday
- Scheduled academic intervention classes available for students
- Homework clinic available to students from 3 – 5 PM in the school library Monday - Thursday

### **Developmental Responsiveness**

- Well-developed 5<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> grade transition program for students and parents
- School code of conduct is presented to all students and reviewed at home and signed by parents
- Many counseling groups are run through the pupil personnel department (PPS)
- Teacher mentors are trained for one-on-one interaction with students-at-risk
- Well-developed district wide bully prevention program (Peaceworks)
- Safety Personal Safety Program (SPSP) – Multi-dimensional comprehensive safety program
- Peer Mediation program
- Peer Leadership program
- PPS runs instructional support team (IST) meetings for students in need of support
- Students in grade 8 are given a mock interview by central office administration, building administration, and business partners
- The building has academic integrity guidelines that are signed by students and parents
- Every day begins with advisory with a 13:1 student/adult ratio
- There are many after school clubs and activities as well as interscholastic sports
- The principal has established a parent e-mail network to keep parents informed

### **Social Equity**

- We have a very low suspension rate of .005%
- Grade 6 and 7 classes are heterogeneous
- Grade 8 classes are heterogeneous except accelerated classes (no honors classes)
- All students have equal access to after school activities
- All 8<sup>th</sup> graders have access to the 4 day/ 3 night Frost Valley Outdoor Education trip
- All 7<sup>th</sup> graders have access to the 2 day/1 night Boston Education trip
- All students have access to interscholastic athletics. There is at least one non-cut sport per season
- The school runs Cultural Awareness programs
- The guidance counselor loops with the students from grades 7 - 8
- The site-based-team is very active and an excellent avenue for teacher/parent communication
- Most teachers or teams have web sites
- All teachers have e-mail addresses for communication with home and school

### **Organizational Support**

- Common planning time for grade level academic teachers and teams
- Common planning time for Inclusion teams
- Implementation of an online curriculum mapping program
- Teachers are compensated for curriculum writing over the summer
- The district, the building, and the Sayville Teachers Association (STA) run new teacher orientations in August
- There is a new teacher mentor program
- Teams have flexible block time for interdisciplinary projects
- Staff development is offered during the school day, after the school day, and on Saturdays
- The district is focused on staff development regarding differentiation of instruction and the integration of technology into curriculum