

Executive Summary: Azalea Middle School

School Improvement Plan for 2017-18

Azalea Middle School has 967 students' grades 6th through 8th, three administrators, 57 teachers, and 12 support staff members. The mission of the Azalea Middle School community is: The Azalea Middle School community creates a safe learning environment that promotes critical thinking skills, rigorous curriculum and builds positive relationships that prepare students for future endeavors.

Azalea Middle has met the requirements of the AdvancED Accreditation Commission and is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement.

School Celebrations

A review of our most recent school achievement data has given us reasons to celebrate and build upon as a school. Those improvements include:

- 1) Our Algebra I EOC scores rose from 55 to 65 percent.
- 2) Our School initiated the Wall to Wall Academies models.
- 3) Our School significantly expanded the academic Extended Learning Program opportunities.

Primary Goals

To accomplish our mission, Azalea Middle School has the following primary goals.

- 1) Goal 1: **Student Achievement** - Provide an instructional model that ensures rigorous, culturally relevant instruction for all students using assignments aligned to challenging state standards, engagement strategies and student-centered practices. Areas of Focus: Increased proficiency in math, literacy, science and Civics. Increased learning gains for all students in literacy and math.
- 2) Goal 2: **Student Discipline** - Implement a school-wide behavior plan that integrates all the critical components of PBIS (school-wide expectations / rules, guidelines for success, plan for teaching pro-social / appropriate student behavior, and positive reinforcement).
- 3) Goal 3: **Advanced Coursework** - Ensure an equitable representation of minority learners in Advanced Studies and recognition ceremonies (such as Advanced & High School Credit Classes, PRIDE, AVID Pinning and the Honors Pinning Ceremony). Areas of Focus: Eliminate the gap between Azalea Middle School's accelerated participation and performance rates for minority and non-minority students as measured by the percent within ethnicity.

Key Strategies:

The core instructional and monitoring strategies included in our action plans are:

- Instructional Coaches for math, science, literacy, Student Achievement and MTSS
- Common planning periods, Azalea Learns Summer PD, Proactive Wellness Champion
- Azalea has a strong AVID program that regularly reviews student data across all subgroups to identify opportunities for advancement.
- Extended Learning with transportation provides the opportunity for extended learning and enrichment for students who would otherwise be unable to participate. This group includes the neighborhood

from which most of our African American students travel.

- Teachers will utilize standards based monitoring systems (LSI Student Tracker and MAP Assessments) designed to provide teachers, students, and parents with meaningful feedback on the student's achievement of selected standards in each course.

Professional Development

The professional development efforts include the use of the year long Marzano Framework with an emphasis on goal setting and scale development, the use of our literacy team to train and guide teachers in differentiating and scaffolding instruction and having teachers meet in Professional Learning Communities (PLC's) to conduct data chats regularly to review student responses and work samples to inform instruction. Additionally, Teachers will implement the LSI Student tracker to monitor student mastery of content standards.

Parent and Community Engagement

Parent engagement efforts are a challenge for our school as many parents work during the school. As a strategy to increase volunteer hours, the school is hosting monthly evening meetings featuring student-led conferencing (data chatting), parent academies with featured speakers, and routine evening hours for various volunteer activities benefiting the students.

For more information about Azalea Middle School Improvement Plan, please go to our website at <http://www.pcsb.org/Page/159>.