

SCHOOLS TO WATCH

MODEL SCHOOL—VISITOR'S GUIDE



Alton Middle School



2009 Alton Middle School Statistics

(Source: 2009 School Report Card and District Office)

Community: 52,560/Large Urban District

Enrollment: 1476

Grade Levels: 6-8

School Schedule: 8-3

Student Demographics

- .9% Hispanic
- 61% White
- 35% African American
- 2.2% Multi-Racial
- .5% Asian
- .4% Pacific Islander

- 53% Free/Reduced Lunch
- .1% English Learners

2007 Base: 64% meets + exceeds reading

71% meets + exceeds math

Growth to 2009: 69% meets + exceeds reading

73% meets + exceeds math

2009 AYP: Met 8 of 10 criteria

(Visit www.isbe.net to view this school's data for prior years.)

Designated in 2009

Alton Middle School • Alton CUSD #11 • Madison County

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www.altonschools.org

School Characteristics and Replicable Practices

Academic Excellence

- Professional and Smaller Learning Community
- Curriculum Alignment versus the Illinois Learning Standards
- Formative assessment data drives instruction
- Collaborative teaming: House, content area, vertical articulation
- Quarterly pacing assessments
- Gifted/honors programming
- Grade level essential skills
- Co-Teaching
- Universal reading and math screener
- Rtl fidelity team
- Interdisciplinary Units
- Colleague observations
- Brain-based learning focus

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Alton Middle School

Developmental Responsiveness

- Intramurals (traditional and non-traditional)
- Advisory every day
- Tiered instruction
- Differentiation
- Progress monitoring
- Guidance counselor/7 social workers/foster grandparent program
- Flexible period
- 8th Grade student transition plan
- Jr. Achievement site
- Science Fair, Young Authors, Math Competition, Jr. Olympiad
- SEL friendly report card comments

Social Equity

- Social/Emotional learning curriculum – Peace4Kids
- Teaching and Leading for Social Justice Advocacy training (students and adults)
- PBS – Universal, Secondary, and Tertiary teams
- Restorative Justice Practices
- Academic Development Institute – parental involvement template
- Talent Search program with Lewis & Clark Community College to increase awareness of educational opportunities and receive guidance and support in preparing for post-secondary education

Organizational Support

- Modified-block scheduling
- Core Teacher Leaders
- Leadership, School Improvement, Rtl, Curriculum Council (shared leadership committees)
- School Improvement and Co-Teaching Coordinator
- House structure
- School Resource Officer
- Student teacher/observation site for SIU-Edwardsville, Greenville College, Blackburn College, Lewis & Clark Community College
- Grade Placement Cards

Focus for the Future—Continuing Improvement

- Targeted academic areas of support
- Enhanced use of technology
- Broaden club and extracurricular activities/opportunities
- Common academic vocabulary
- Standards-based classroom initiatives (self-assessment, target and goal setting, etc.)