



KENTUCKY SCHOOLS TO WATCH SCHOOL PROFILE

F. T. Burns Middle School



Redesignated 2008
Designated 2005

F. T. Burns Middle School

- Daviess County Public Schools, Kentucky
- Principal: Tony Bryant
- School Address: 4610 Goetz Drive
Owensboro, KY 42301
- Phone: 270-852-7400
- E-mail: tony.bryant@daviess.kyschools.us
- School Web site: www.bms.dcps.org

2005-07 School Statistics

Community: BMS primarily serves students from western and central Daviess County. Burns maintains a strong academic focus and ranks in the top 3 percent of all middle schools in Kentucky.

Enrollment: 819

Grade Levels: 6-8

School Schedule: Eight period day (46 minutes each)

Student Demographics

2.3%	Hispanic
89.5%	White
5.7%	African American
1.2%	Asian/Pacific Islander
1.3%	Other
50%	Free/Reduced Lunch
0.6%	English Learners

2005 AYP: 10/10

2006 AYP: 13/13

2007 AYP: 12/13

School Characteristics and Replicable Practices

Academic Excellence

- Plan for writing across the grade levels that includes systematic documentation and reporting
- Portfolio Pow-Wows
- Varied teaching strategies
- Emphasis on rigor and relevance
- Reteach lessons depending on student performance
- Fox-Binders, created by teachers to target students with AYP gaps
- Variety of special learning activities (e.g., Cultural Fair, Science Expo, Math Marathon, Practical Arts Review, Lunches and Learn)

- SUCCESS program for students needing to improve in academics and behavior
- One school/one book experience
- First period of day is “Skill Development”, an enrichment and remediation time

Developmental Responsiveness

- School fitness center used by physical education classes and staff
- Programs and activities aimed at encouraging a healthy life style: Fit for Life facility, East Smart and Play Hard program and the Iron Fox Triathlon
- JumpStart Program for incoming sixth graders
- Family atmosphere
- Students are allowed to improve and resubmit assignments
- PRIDE cards provided as a reward for good grades, attendance, and effort (no zeroes)
- SEALS—Students Exhibiting Awesome Leadership
- Rich display of student work in the arts/humanities wing of the school
- Character education addressed during Skill Development time in morning
- Dance instruction in all grades

Social Equity

- Safe, nurturing environment for all students
- Pyramid of Discipline policy
- CHAMPS is used for behavior modification
- Zero tolerance for bullying
- Special needs buddy system
- Many philanthropy activities and Volunteer Club
- Student voice is heard through the principals meeting with students of the month, Student Council, and a student petition system
- Principal sends out a weekly electronic “Week at a Glance” to all parents and families, and a hard copy to those without e-mail
- Multi-level Pride Program provides an opportunity for all students to be recognized and rewarded
- Parents/families are invited to serve on all committees

Organizational Support

- Organizational structure of school has been maintained through principal changes
- Shared leadership, teachers have strong voice
- Youth services director collaborates with staff
- Everyone has a voice in professional development and completes a professional growth plan
- Each grade level is housed in a separate hallway
- Site-based decision-making council focuses on teaching and learning
- Monthly reports to Council on school improvement plan
- All teachers serve on at least one school committee
- School culture based on the book *Fun Is Good* by Mike Veeck
- Teachers make classroom visits within the building