



## KENTUCKY SCHOOLS TO WATCH SCHOOL PROFILE

### North Oldham Middle School



#### 2005-07 School Statistics

Community: Suburban area near Louisville

Enrollment: 755

Grade Levels: 6-8

School Schedule: Flexible block

##### Student Demographics

2% Hispanic

92% White

3% African American

2% Asian/Pacific Islander

1% Other

4% Free/Reduced Lunch

2% English Learners

2005 AYP: 9/9

2006 AYP: 10/10

2007 AYP: 10/10

**Designated 2007**

#### North Oldham Middle School

- Oldham County Public Schools, Kentucky
- Principal: Robb Smith
- School Address: 1801 S. Highway 1793  
Goshen, KY 40028
- Phone: 502-228-9998
- E-mail: [robb.smith@oldham.kyschools.us](mailto:robb.smith@oldham.kyschools.us)
- Web site: [www.mustangs.org](http://www.mustangs.org)

## School Characteristics and Replicable Practices

### Academic Excellence

- All students receive the same rigorous instruction and content
- Rubrics are used on a regular basis and at times students are involved in their development
- Students are provided with exemplars of proficient work
- Student assignments provide for a great deal of choice
- Interdisciplinary connections are obvious and intentional
- Teachers use a wide variety of instructional strategies to foster curiosity, creativity, and the development of social skills
- Students are engaged in a variety of questioning techniques (e.g., QUILT, HOTS)

**KY STW 2008**

- Writing units are created through collaboration among content area teachers, language arts teachers, and the literacy coach ensuring interdisciplinary connections
- Student work is published through student anthologies and content-related publications
- Extended library media center hours to provide greater student access to research and technology

### **Developmental Responsiveness**

- Many appropriate extra-curricular and co-curricular activities that are a good balance between sports and other activities
- Respect flows in all directions
- Eighth graders complete service projects
- TARGET program allows students to meet in small groups with an adult to foster the development of social skills
- Teachers make things work for the students
- Positive Mustang postcards are mailed to students in an effort to support student success
- Assistant principal holds Breakfast Club with individuals and small groups
- Taste of the North—program in May at which parents have opportunity to visit with related arts teachers and view student presentations

### **Social Equity**

- PTSA has a membership of over 1000
- Multiple supports for students struggling in academic areas including high school peer tutors
- Strong collaboration model
- Tolerance is intentionally taught and practiced
- GAP provides additional instruction, interventions, and modifications for students who otherwise might not be noticed
- Failure is not an option, students are expected to refine assignments until proficiency is attained and teachers are prepared to do whatever it takes for the students to do this
- Gifted and talented differentiation training for regular classroom teachers
- Monthly parent round-table discussions are hosted by the principal
- High school mentors work with at-risk learners one-on-one regarding academic, organizational, and social goals

### **Organizational Support**

- Classrooms are equipped with *Intelligent Classroom* systems
- Professional development is content focused and based on teacher needs
- Experienced teachers serve as mentors to new teachers
- Counselor for each grade level
- Regular contact is made with most parents through weekly e-mails, website news, round table discussions, and phone calls
- Principal's ability for creative delegating supports shared leadership
- Grade level handbooks for parents
- Teachers have the opportunity to observe other teachers and reflect on the experience through written evaluation
- Collecting, analyzing, and reflecting on assessment data is an on-going process
- Cooperative Discipline training for all personnel in the building
- Mobile computer labs are available for classroom use