

OHIO SCHOOLS TO WATCH

MODEL SCHOOL—VISITOR'S GUIDE

Bridgetown Middle School



Designated in 2005

Bridgetown Middle School (BMS) • Oak Hills Local School District • Hamilton County • Ohio • Tim Cybulski, Principal • 3900 Race Road, Cincinnati, OH 45211 • Tel 513-574-3511, Fax 513-574-6689 • www.oakhills.k12.oh.us/bridgetown/index.html

2006-07 School Statistics

(Sources: 2006-07 BMS State Report Card, ODE Statistical Report, 2000 US Census.)

Community: Suburb of Cincinnati, Ohio (Green Township with population of 55,660)

Enrollment: 538

Grade Levels: 6-8

School Schedule: Flexible block schedule with advisory period

Student Demographics

1.1% African American

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0.4% Hispanic

1.5% Multiracial

0.6% Native American

95.3% White

4.9% Economically Disadvantaged

0% English Learners

2005-06 AYP: Met All indicators

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School Characteristics and Replicable Practices

Academic Excellence

- Flexible Block Schedule with advisory period supports differentiated instructional practices and support of students' social-emotional development
- Academic curriculum standards and common assessments (short cycle and quarterly) are aligned with state content standards
- State testing results reflect consistent increase in student performance index (measure which reflects the level of performance for a group of students – state considers 100.0 P.I. as excellent, BMS at 102.4 P.I.)
- Introduction of a daily intervention period for at-risk students (2007-2008)
- High level of technology integration (SMART boards, wireless-laptops, document cameras, probes, weather station, graphing calculators)
- District Numeracy and Literacy Coaches assist teachers with instructional practices

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Developmental Responsiveness

- Advisory period areas of focus: character education, silent sustained reading, test skills, team building
- Quarterly Leading Indicator meetings focus on the needs of at-risk students
- Field Trips explore educational opportunities (local, state, and national) and enrich students' understanding of the global society
- Encore classes include Art, Fitness Education, Orchestra, Band, General Music and Foreign Language
- Students may earn high school credit in Algebra, Language Arts, Social Studies, Science, German, and Spanish
- 19 student clubs and a variety of competitive athletic team sports support student interests and strengthen student involvement

Social Equity

- Students scheduled in rigorous and relevant courses
- Introducing the "Response to Intervention" model for support of student growth and development
- Students with disabilities needs are met within full-inclusion model
- Recognition of student clubs and athletes during pep assemblies
- Cool Cats recognizes students for good character, leadership, and commitment
- Home Cats provides mentorship opportunities for students and services students with social needs
- Student Council Breakfast (2007-08) provides forum for students to share their insights on how to improve the school and also includes leadership training

Organizational Support

- Organized school improvement efforts under the Effective Schools model – shared decision-making model which involves students, parents, teachers, support staff, counselors, and administrators
- Support from local businesses
- Strong and highly visible support from PTA (assemblies, student incentives, money allocated to support purchase of teacher and team instructional supplies and/or activities, chaperones at dances, field trips, volunteer for a host of other activities and jobs at the school)
- Teachers participate in a wide variety of professional development experiences (local, state, and national)
- Oak Hills Local School District forming a strong partnership with University of Cincinnati
- Team Leaders and Building Leadership Team offer forum for teachers to share in decision-making and school improvement efforts