

Executive Summary: Azalea Middle School

School Improvement Plan for 2016-17

Azalea Middle School has 1,016 students grades 6th through 8th, three administrators, 53 teachers, and 15 staff members. The mission of the Azalea Middle School community is to create a quality educational setting that promotes critical thinking skills for college and careers by providing a relevant and rigorous curriculum and building positive relationships.

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 38 to 55 percent.
- 2) Our Geometry EOC scores rose from 72 to 83 percent.
- 3) Our school ELA Learning gains improved by 14 percent.

Primary Goals

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

- 1) Increase student achievement resulting in increased percentages of proficiency across the school in math, literacy, science and Civics, and learning gains for all students in literacy and math.
- 2) Develop and sustain a healthy, respectful, caring, safe learning environment for students, faculty, staff, and community resulting in individual employee learning, student achievement and overall school improvement.
- 3) Eliminate the gap between Azalea Middle School's accelerated participation and performance rates for black and non-black students as measured by the percent within ethnicity.
- 4) Close the achievement gap in ELA between black and non-black students' by 10 percent.
- 5) Increase our number of parent involvement events that are "tied to student learning" by 50%.

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) 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>.