

▶ Martin Luther King, Jr. Middle School



A Message from the Principal

To the Martin Luther King, Jr. Middle School community:

This is the first School Progress Report for Martin Luther King, Jr. (MLK) Middle. We are sending this to you so that you may be fully informed about our students' academic progress, our staff and our school community.

As you will see, 44.6 percent of MLK students scored on grade level in the End-of-Grade math test. Unfortunately, only 28.4 percent of seventh-graders scored on grade level in writing. We are pleased, though, that 86 percent of our Algebra 1 students and 93 percent of geometry students passed the state End-of-Course tests.

The state introduced a new reading test in 2007-2008. As a result of more rigorous expectations, reading scores declined across the state, including in CMS. Since the new test covers different material from that covered in the previous test, direct year-over-year comparisons are not necessarily accurate.

We are also proud that we achieved our yearly growth goals, and that we scored 100 percent on the safe-school audit. However, we did not make Adequate Yearly Progress, the standard set for schools by the No Child Left Behind Act. We are making progress, but not at a fast enough rate.

Analysis of the data in this report indicates that our students made fantastic progress in some classes but not in others. To address this, we have created professional learning communities so our teachers can share ideas and strategies, and we perform common formative assessments for all core academic subjects. We will use those assessments on a quarterly basis to better understand what our students have learned and identify any gaps in their learning.

(Principal's message continued on back.)

KEY FACTS

Principal

Dr. Mark Robertson

email: mark.robertson@cms.k12.nc.us

Grades

6 - 8

School Population

- 971 Students
- 68 Teachers
- 3 Assistant Principals
- 3 Counselors
- 1 Social Worker
- 37 Support Staff

Student Demographics

- 63.5% African American
- 3.0% White
- 28.4% Hispanic
- 5.0% Other
- 83.5% of students qualify for free or reduced-price lunch

Learning Community

Achievement Zone

Area Superintendent: Curtis Carroll

701 E. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard

Charlotte, NC 28202

980-343-6966

email: curtis.carroll@cms.k12.nc.us

Data effective as of spring 2008.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Middle School

500 Bilmark Avenue

Charlotte, NC 28213

980-343-0698

<http://pages.cms.k12.nc.us/mlk>



Martin Luther King, Jr. Middle School PROGRESS REPORT

CMS 2010 Strategic Plan Goals	Key Performance Measurements	CMS 2010 Goal	School Result 2007 - 2008
<p style="text-align: center;">High Academic Achievement</p> <p><i>Disparity between socioeconomic groups is shown as a positive percentage when non-economically-disadvantaged students outscore economically-disadvantaged students; a negative percentage indicates the reverse.</i></p>	Students performing at or above grade level overall ¹	—	38.4%
	Students performing at or above grade level in Reading	95%	28.8%
	Students performing at or above grade level in Math	88%	44.6%
	Students performing at or above grade level in Writing	80%	28.4%
	Disparity between racial/ethnic groups in Reading	10%	20.2%
	Disparity between racial/ethnic groups in Math	10%	31.9%
	Disparity between racial/ethnic groups in Writing	10%	25.3%
	Disparity between socioeconomic groups in Reading	10%	-1.4%
	Disparity between socioeconomic groups in Math	10%	-0.2%
	Disparity between socioeconomic groups in Writing	10%	3.0%
<p style="text-align: center;">Effective Educators</p>	Teachers deemed “highly qualified” having appropriate educational backgrounds and state certification(s) for the grade levels and subjects they are teaching	96%	97%
	National Board-certified teachers	16%	4%
	Teachers with graduate degrees	35%	21%
	Teachers’ average years of experience	10.4	7.6
<p style="text-align: center;">Adequate Resources & Facilities</p>	Student/Computer Ratio	5:1	3:1
<p style="text-align: center;">Safe & Orderly Schools</p>	Passed the CMS “safe school audit”	YES	YES
	Parents perceive the school as safe ²	70%	59.1%
	Students perceive the school as safe ³	80%	48.6%
	Teachers perceive the school as safe ^{1,4}	—	82.9%
	Number of incidents resulting in in-school suspensions ^{1,5}	—	24.4
	Number of incidents resulting in out-of-school suspensions ^{1,5}	—	72.7
<p style="text-align: center;">Freedom & Flexibility with Accountability</p>	Principal has been granted additional freedom and flexibility ¹	—	NO
<p style="text-align: center;">World-Class Service</p>	Parents perceive the school as responsive ²	80%	75.1%
<p style="text-align: center;">Strong Parent & Community Connections</p>	Parents that give the school either an A or B grade ^{1,2}	—	64.3%
	Number of volunteer hours ⁶	Increase by 25% district-wide	3.7
	Number of business and community partnerships	Increase by 25% district-wide	0

¹Not a Strategic Plan goal
²Based on completed parent surveys

³Based on completed student surveys
⁴Based on completed teacher surveys

⁵Incidents per 100 students
⁶Per 100 students

CMS Accountability Measures

In this section, we are highlighting several key performance indicators for our school and its students.

► Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)

Our school **DID NOT** make AYP
(15 of 25 goals met)

The federal No Child Left Behind Act requires that every school make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). State test results are used to set AYP proficiency targets for every grade. Targets are set for the school as a whole, as well as for nine separate subgroups. The subgroups are: white, black, Hispanic, Native American, Asian, multiracial, economically disadvantaged students, students with limited English proficiency and students with disabilities. A school's attendance and graduation rates are also measured for AYP.

The subgroup measurements are intended to prevent an overall score from masking poor results by one or more subgroups. Because the number of subgroups can vary depending on a school's diversity, the number of targets varies also. Some schools may have only a few targets to meet; others may have as many as 41.

AYP is an all-or-nothing standard that says every target must be met. No Child Left Behind also requires that every student be proficient by the 2013-2014 school year.

For a more complete overview of AYP, visit www.dpi.state.nc.us/nclb/abcayp/overview/ayp

For details of AYP results for our school and its student groups, visit <http://ayp.ncpublicschools.org>

► ABC Designation

Our school's designation: **Priority School**
(DID meet growth expectations)

Proficiency: 38.4%

The North Carolina ABCs program was introduced more than a decade ago to better target school improvement efforts. Two basic measures determine a school's designation: the Average Growth of students (at right); and the Performance Composite, which measures how well students performed against a set standard of proficiency.

Schools are given one of seven designations (in descending order): Honor School of Excellence; School of Excellence; School of Distinction; School of Progress; No Recognition; Priority School; Low Performing.

For more information about ABCs, visit <http://abcs.ncpublicschools.org/abcs>

► Average Growth

State Standard: 80%
Our School: 81.0%

Each year, the state sets individual growth expectations for each student. A student is expected to perform as well, or better, on the End-of-Grade (EOG) assessment for the current year as he or she did, on average, during the previous two years. The Average Growth is calculated by comparing *actual* performance versus *expected* performance and then averaging the difference across all students and all subjects. The score above reflects the combined growth rate of all of our students. A school classified as making expected growth would have a score of 80% or higher.

► Students Making or Exceeding a Year's Worth of Growth

State Standard: 60%
Our School: 54.6%

This measurement assesses whether students have learned as much as they are expected to learn in one year. Expectations are set for each student based on individual performance for the previous two years. Across the state, about half of students typically meet or exceed their growth expectation. High growth is defined as a score of 60% or higher and having met expected growth.

► Amount of Growth for Students in the Lowest Achieving Group

Our School: 77.9%

Narrowing the achievement gap is widely recognized as one of the biggest challenges in public education. The lowest achieving group for CMS includes certain minority groups and those receiving free or reduced-price lunch. If lower-achieving students grow at a faster rate than better-achieving students, the achievement gap is narrowed. When the above percentage is higher than the Average Growth for the school (see Average Growth above), the school is closing the achievement gap.

► Positive Responses to Student Surveys

Our School: 67.1%

Student feedback is a subjective, but essential, component of the measure of our school's performance. We want all of our students to have a caring, supportive environment at school. This is a measure of the positive reaction from our students covering the areas of school safety, engagement and encouragement.

For more information on our school's performance, visit <http://pmd.cms.k12.nc.us>

CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG SCHOOLS

REACH FURTHER. **Global competitiveness starts here.**

► Martin Luther King, Jr. Middle School

(Principal's message continued.)

This year, we will offer Supplemental Education Services, partnering with outside education agencies who will offer free after-school tutoring, valued at \$1,400, to our students who receive free or reduced-price lunch.

For our highly successful students, we offer Algebra 1 with potential high school credit, and we have added French 1A and 1B to our foreign-language department. In addition, we offer Spanish for Native Speakers to our Hispanic students to teach them reading and writing in Spanish. Our Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) program helps our middle-range students prepare for college. In addition, we offer after-school programs, such as National Academic League, Science Olympiad, Math Counts and Battle of the Books.

Ninety-seven percent of our faculty is highly qualified; 21 percent have master's degrees and two teachers have doctorates. The faculty is eligible to

receive bonuses this year under the Leadership for Educators' Advanced Performance initiative, provided certain student learning goals are met.

MLK has a supportive community with active participation from our PTA and school leadership team. We continue to offer a number of extracurricular programs: Citizen Schools after-school, Communities in Schools health and mentoring, Gang of One's school attendance and leadership development, CMC Behavioral Health counseling services and Park & Recreation community use.

Our vision of MLK as a center of lifelong learning will come to fruition, thanks to steady academic progress, various learning opportunities, dedicated faculty and a supportive community.

Sincerely,
Dr. Mark Robertson
Principal

What is the School Progress Report?

In 2006, we introduced the *Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools Strategic Plan 2010* outlining our vision and strategy to educate our students to compete locally, nationally and internationally.

The plan outlines seven areas of concentration: high academic achievement; effective educators; adequate resources and facilities; safe and orderly schools; freedom and flexibility with accountability; world-class service, and strong parent and community connections.

In this report, you will notice how our school performed in the 2007-2008 school year compared to the stated 2010 goals. On page 3, you will also find an explanation of federal and state accountability measures with a specific emphasis on growth.

As educators and parents, we have a common goal of preparing our children to compete in an ever-growing global community. This goal requires constant dialogue between school and parents, so please feel free to contact the principal or any staff member at our school with your questions, concerns or suggestions.

