

Mint Hill Middle School



A Message from the Principal

To our Mint Hill Middle School families:

This is the third annual School Progress Report for Mint Hill Middle. We are sending this to you so that you may be fully informed about our students' progress, our staff and our school environment.

Mint Hill Middle exhibits many unique characteristics and serves a diverse group of students. We have a highly qualified staff, of which 22 percent are National Board-certified educators, and 36 percent of our teachers hold advanced degrees. All staff members are committed to professional growth to ensure instruction is aligned with the North Carolina Standard Course of Study. Teachers are focused on the 21st-century skills of critical and creative thinking, authentic assessments and active engagement in the classroom. At Mint Hill Middle, our professional learning communities improve the quality of planning among subject-area teachers as well as between grade levels.

The academic indicators from the 2009-2010 school year demonstrated High Growth at all three grade levels tested in math and language arts. Our overall academic proficiency has earned Mint Hill Middle the School of Distinction designation awarded by the state. In addition, we made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP), the standard set for schools by the No Child Left Behind Act. Mint Hill distinguished itself by meeting all 37 AYP targets, a number that reflects the diversity of our student population.

We have many reasons to be proud of our academic achievements at Mint Hill. We set high expectations for performance, instilling a belief system within our students to be the best they can be every day. We are pleased to be recognized as a National Middle School to Watch. This honor demonstrates that we exemplify academic excellence, social equity and developmental responsiveness.

At Mint Hill Middle, we offer a variety of experiences and opportunities to meet the unique needs of the transitional middle

(Principal's message continued on next page)

2009-2010 KEY FACTS

Data effective as of spring 2010

Grades

6 - 8

School Population

- Students: **1,311**
- Classroom Teachers: **65**
- Support Staff:
 - 2 Assistant Principals
 - 1 English as a Second Language Teacher
 - 0.5 Speech Pathologists
 - 6.5 Exceptional Children Teachers
 - 1 Academic Facilitators
 - 3 Counselors
 - 28 Other

Student Demographics

- African-American..... **24.6%**
- White..... **52.1%**
- Hispanic..... **15.2%**
- Asian..... **3.4%**
- Other..... **4.7%**
- Economically **41.7%** disadvantaged students

Additional Facts*

- Per-pupil expenditure **\$4,286**
- Teacher-to-pupil ratio **1:23**
- Student-mobility rate **10%**

**Click here for more information.*

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Mint Hill Middle School

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▶ Mint Hill Middle School

(Principal's message continued)

school years. Our staff empowers and motivates students to reach their potential by providing socially equitable opportunities.

Mint Hill Middle has a stellar fine arts department, career and technical education and PE/health programs, all of which serve to enrich educational experiences.

The academic distinctions Mint Hill Middle School has received demonstrate the effectiveness of our approach to education. We encourage a positive culture in which strong relationships are developed and nurtured. We will continue to teach our way to the top in the 2010-2011 school year.

Sincerely,
Amy Dellinger
Principal

– [Click to view our School Improvement Plan](#)

Even parents can learn a thing or two.

The most successful students have parents, grandparents or caretakers who are actively involved in their education. These students earn better grades, achieve higher test scores and have better attendance records.

How can you be an active participant in your child's education? Our community has banded together to help answer your questions on parenting awareness, helping your child learn, health and wellness and personal growth and development.

Learn more at www.cms.k12.nc.us.

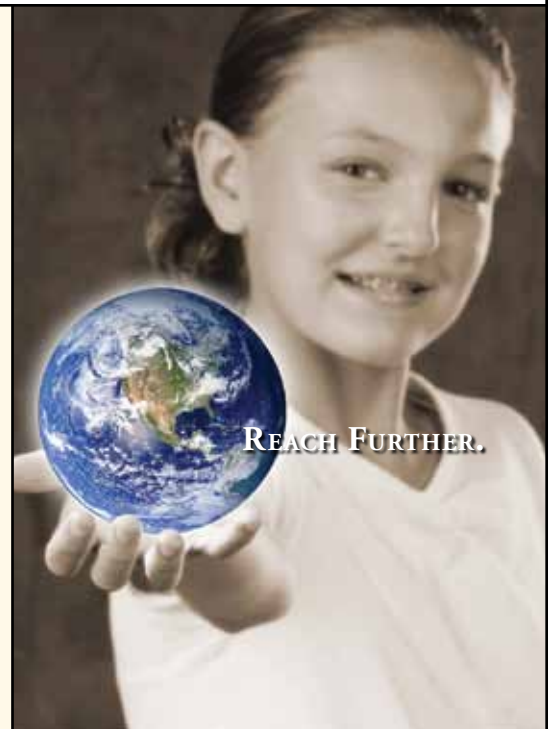


What is the School Progress Report?

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. This report summarizes how our school performed in the 2009-10 school year in making progress on these seven goals. On the final page, you will also find an explanation of federal and state accountability measures.

Educators and parents have a common goal of preparing our children to compete in an ever-growing global community. Working together requires frequent dialogue between school and parents, so please feel free to contact the principal or any staff member at our school.



Mint Hill Middle School

PROGRESS REPORT

| CMS 2010 Strategic Plan Goals | Key Performance Measures | CMS 2010 Goal | CMS Middle Schools 2009 - 2010 | Our School 2008 - 2009 | Our School 2009 - 2010 |
|--|---|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| High Academic Achievement ▶ Because of federal privacy regulations, the actual values for these measures are not shown if the percentage is greater than 95 percent or less than 5 percent. 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>Data effective as of 8/27/10</i> | ▶ Students performing at or above grade level overall ¹ | — | 75.5% | 87.2% | 87.3% |
| | ▶ Students performing at or above grade level in reading | 95% | 69.9% | 78.8% | 80.2% |
| | ▶ Students performing at or above grade level in math | 88% | 81% | 92.2% | 92.8% |
| | ▶ Students performing at or above grade level in Algebra 1 ¹ | — | >95% | — | >95% |
| | ▶ Students performing at or above grade level in science | 80% | 70.3% | 91.2% | 88.3% |
| | Disparity between racial/ethnic groups in reading | 10% | 33.8% | 16.2% | 22.7% |
| | Disparity between racial/ethnic groups in math | 10% | 24.2% | 7.8% | 13.8% |
| | Disparity between racial/ethnic groups in science | 10% | 37.8% | 13.7% | 33.3% |
| | Disparity between socioeconomic groups in reading | 10% | 31% | 16% | 17.8% |
| | Disparity between socioeconomic groups in math | 10% | 20.7% | 6.6% | 8% |
| Disparity between socioeconomic groups in science | 10% | 31.4% | 8.2% | 13.8% | |
| Effective Educators Click to view teacher survey results | Teachers deemed highly qualified, having appropriate educational backgrounds and state certification(s) for the grade levels and subjects they are teaching | 98% | 99% | 97% | 100% |
| | National Board-certified teachers | 17% | 10% | 14% | 22% |
| | Teachers with graduate degrees | 37% | 35% | 30% | 36% |
| | Teachers' average years of experience | 11.1 | 10 | 10.4 | 11.5 |
| Adequate Resources & Facilities | Student/Computer Ratio | 5:1 | 3:1 | 4:1 | 4:1 |
| | Teachers who indicate satisfaction with school facilities | — | 70.7% | — | 87.8% |
| Safe & Orderly Schools | Passed the CMS safe school audit | 100% | 97% | YES | YES |
| | Parents who indicate this is a safe school ² | 70% | 93.4% | 96.9% | 96.7% |
| | Students who indicate this is a safe school ² | 80% | 85.3% | 91.7% | 95.5% |
| | Teachers who indicate this is a safe school ^{1,2} | — | 84.1% | 98.1% | 99.4% |
| | Number of incidents resulting in in-school suspensions ^{1,3} | — | 33.6 | 17 | 17.9 |
| | Number of incidents resulting in out-of-school suspensions ^{1,3} | — | 42 | 16.4 | 26.9 |
| Freedom & Flexibility with Accountability | Principal has been granted additional freedom and flexibility ¹ | — | 64% | NO | YES |
| World-Class Service | Parents who indicate satisfaction with the responsiveness of staff at this school ² | 80% | 79.5% | 90.5% | 87.5% |
| Strong Parent & Community Connections Click to view parent survey results | Parents who indicate satisfaction overall with this school ^{1,2} | — | 78.2% | 90.2% | 86.2% |
| | Number of volunteer hours ⁴ | Increase by 25% district-wide | 204 | 267 | 131 |
| | Number of business and community partnerships | Increase by 25% district-wide | 87 | 4 | 1 |

¹Not a CMS 2010 goal

²Based on responses to surveys; multiple survey items may have been used to create a composite

³Incidents per 100 students

⁴Per 100 students

CMS Accountability Measures

The learning of students in public education is measured in multiple ways. There are assessments given at regular intervals by CMS—tests that we use to measure how students are learning as the school year progresses. Other tests are required by the state and given once or twice a year, such as End-of-Course and End-of-Grade tests. Some of the state test results are also used to calculate district progress on the federal standard of Adequate Yearly Progress for each student. This page provides brief explanations of some of the measures and tests used in CMS.

▶ Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)

Our school **DID** make AYP
(37 of 37 goals met)

The federal No Child Left Behind Act requires that every school make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). AYP is an all-or-nothing standard: Every target must be met.

State test results are used to set AYP targets. There are separate targets for the school as a whole and for nine subgroups of students: white, black, Hispanic, Native American, Asian, multiracial, economically disadvantaged students, students with limited English proficiency and students with disabilities. Subgroups of students are measured separately so that an overall score for a class or a school does not mask poor results within a subgroup.

Some schools are more diverse than others, so the number of subgroups varies by school. Therefore, the number of AYP targets varies by school, too. Some schools may have only a few targets to meet; others may have the maximum, which is 41. School attendance and graduation rates are also measured for AYP.

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: **School of Distinction (DID meet high growth expectations)**

| Proficiency: | 2008-09 | 2009-10 |
|--------------|---------|---------|
| | 87.2% | 87.3% |

The North Carolina ABCs program was introduced more than a decade ago to help schools improve. It uses two basic measures to assess a school's performance: the Average Growth of students (at right); and the Performance Composite, which measures how well students performed against a state-set standard of academic achievement.

Schools are given one of seven designations. In descending order, they are: Honor School of Excellence, School of Excellence, School of Distinction, School of Progress, No Recognition, Priority School, and Low Performing.

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

▶ Average Growth

| State Standard | Our School: | 2008-09 | 2009-10 |
|----------------|-------------|---------|---------|
| 80 | | 84.4 | 84.9 |

Did our students meet the state's expectation for academic growth? Each student is expected to perform as well (or better) on the End-of-Grade assessment as he or she did, on average, during the previous two years. Average Growth for a school is calculated by comparing actual performance to 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. To make expected growth, a school must have a score of 80 or higher.

▶ Amount of Growth for Students in the Lowest-Achieving Group

Our School 2008-09: 84 **Our School 2009-10: 84**

Are we helping our low achievers catch up? Historically, some economically disadvantaged and minority students have trailed their classmates in academic achievement. This is called the achievement gap, and closing it is one of the biggest challenges in public education. If the lower-achieving students at a school show academic growth at a faster rate than higher-achieving students, the achievement gap is narrowed. When the score for this measure is higher than the Average Growth for the school, the school is closing the achievement gap.

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

| State Standard | Our School: | 2008-09 | 2009-10 |
|----------------|-------------|---------|---------|
| 60% | | 67.4% | 70.9% |

Did our students learn as much as they were expected to learn this year? As described above, the state sets expectations for each student based on individual performance for the previous two years. Across the state, about half of students typically meet or exceed this growth expectation. To earn the high-growth designation, a school must meet the average-growth standard described above and also have more than 60% of its students make expected growth.

▶ Positive Responses to Student Survey Items

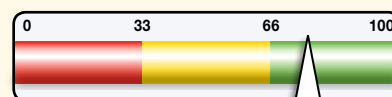
| Our School's Results: | 2008-09 | 2009-10 |
|-----------------------|---------|---------|
| Safety | 91.7% | 95.5% |
| Encouragement | 97.8% | 97.3% |
| Engagement | 92.3% | 95.2% |

Is our school environment conducive to learning? This measure is subjective—it is taken from a student survey.

[Click to view student survey results.](#)

▶ Return-on-Investment Index

CMS Middle School Index: 59.4 **Our School Index: 75.2**



Return on Investment is calculated by comparing students' academic growth to the per-pupil expenditure. This measure is intended to help parents and community members understand how money is spent in our schools. [Click here for more information.](#)

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