

ASHE COUNTY MIDDLE SCHOOL



2017-2018 SCHOOL STATISTICS

Designated in 2018

Community Size - Rural

School Enrollment - 437

Grade Levels - 7, 8

School Calendar - Traditional

Free and Reduced Lunch - 56%

English Learners - <1%

Students With Disabilities - %

Ashe County Middle School

Ashe County Schools

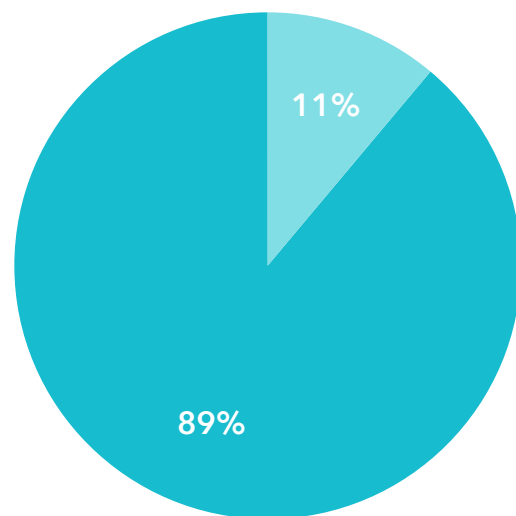
255 Northwest Lane, PO Box 259, Warrensville, NC 28693

Tel (336) 384-3591

Principal - Dustin Farmer

<http://ashemiddle.ashe.k12.nc.us/>

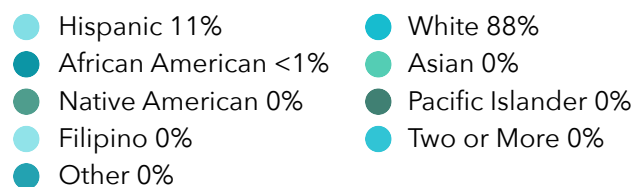
2017-2018 School Demographics



School Characteristics and Replicable Practices

Academic Excellence

- Adoption of Thinking Maps, beginning in the 2016/2017 school year, demonstrates commitment to daily reinforcement of critical thinking across all disciplines.
- Daily schedule, reflecting the middle school philosophy, provides flexibility for student placements, cross-disciplinary applications, and supports the development of the whole child.



- The Professional Learning Community serves as a powerful approach to staff development, a strategy for school improvement, and a means of engaging students, teachers, and administrators simultaneously learning.
- Teachers complete quarterly walkthroughs, observing best practices of colleagues of various disciplines.
- School-wide read of Wonder to reinforce character building such as kindness and tolerance
- Revised administrative walk-through instrument provides immediate feedback to teachers of three important areas: “Glows, Grows, and Next Step.”
- Quarterly benchmarks, Mock end-of-grade assessments, iReady data, STAR data are used to help monitor student progress and guide instruction.
- There are a plethora of support systems to support academic achievement-GEAR-Up, 4-H LEADS, tutoring, Communities in Schools, Faith Based organizations, etc.
- Professional development is a strong part of the culture. The staff has presented at many regional, state, and national conferences.
- ACMS celebrates teachers who are recognized for receiving awards such as ACMS and Ashe County TOY, Support Personnel of the Year, Ashe County EC Teacher of Excellence, National Board Certification, etc.

Developmental Responsiveness

- Students participate in activities as members of one of the six teams within the school; 3 seventh and 3 eighth grade teams.
- School wide fundraiser to provide a copy of the book, Wonder, that every student and staff member read, along with a t-shirt that was worn in a culminating inclusive musical program celebrating unity through diversity.
- The school athletic program consists of volleyball (2 teams), football, soccer (male/female), cheerleading, track (male/female), basketball (4 teams), baseball, softball, and golf.
- The opportunity for students to participate in committees to represent ACMS include but are not limited to the School Based Health Center Advisory Committee, County-wide Calendar Committee, and Ashe County Schools Safety Committee.
- Events such as Meet in the Middle, STEM and Career Day, Middle School Orientation, and Middle School Band Visits support the 6th grade transition to ACMS. High School Student Visitation, High School Curriculum Fair, and High School Orientation support 8th grade student transition to the Ashe County High School.
- Attendance, discipline, formative and summative data are used to identify students who are at-risk or needy and pair them with an adult in the building. In addition this data is used to refer students to Communities in Schools, pairing them with a mentor to spend quality time with the student outside of the school day.
- The school-based health center treats 91% of the student body, and serves the faculty as well.

Social Equity

- We have one-to-one access in each core classroom, allowing access to a variety of platforms including PowerSchool, Canvas, School Net, iReady, Accelerated Reader, and STARR.

- Rules and expectations are clear, concise and consistent throughout the building through the use of PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention Support).
- Honors, acknowledgements, celebrations, recognitions of character and special talents are awarded as deserved, representing contributions of all students.
- EC students attend regular social studies, science, and encore classes for better collaboration among core and EC teachers, and to enable students to enhance their learning opportunities and life skills.
 - The Paxton Patterson Learning System helps students make career decisions and affords every student the opportunity to explore and experience a variety of career choices. Students rotate through a few of the 10 problem based/real world technology modules providing them with experience in areas such as making a prosthetic leg, drawing blood, preparing a dog for surgery, finishing sheet rock, installing a dead bolt, converting measurements, and preparing food.
- Socials, dances, team-building, and age-appropriate cross curricular activities that develop social skills, student interest, and character building beyond the classroom.
- Students are encouraged to become involved in opportunities to give back and help those in need through canned food drives, water drives, cards for troops and nursing homes, breast cancer awareness, red ribbon week, unity day, bullying prevention, hurricane relief, Veteran's Day program, and Arts Council performances. They enrich student's appreciation of their own abilities and the abilities of others.

Organizational Support

- Ashe County Middle School presents an environment that is inviting, safe and supportive.
- Inspire all students to become well-rounded, innovated thinkers, and problem solvers to compete in the global arena.
- Our learning environment encourages a sense of overall discipline and well-being through the display of mutual respect and support for others.
- School administration utilizes the strengths and expertise of school personnel and empowers all staff to possess a deep understanding of young adolescents.
- The Master Schedule is fluid from year-to-year depending on student need and data. Currently we have a five block with approximately 72 minutes per core block.
- Students participate in two encore classes in addition to core.
- All teams are identified by specific name and theme. Each team had common planning time.
- The school does an excellent job of partnering with the families, community, arts council, health organizations, and others.
- Maintains professional relationships with university student teachers and interns. We strive to model instruction designed to enhance their learning experiences and prepare them for entry into the classroom.
- To further increase staff and student support we utilize resource staff which includes a literacy specialist, IT technician, and CTE Coordinator/Technology Facilitator.