

COLORADO TRAILBLAZER SCHOOL TO WATCH



Centennial Middle School



Designated in 2016;

Centennial Middle School • Montrose County School District • Montrose County • Colorado • Principal Joe Simo
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School Web Site: <http://ctms.mcsd.org/>

2015 School Statistics

(Source: CDE SchoolView School Dashboard)

Community: Rural Mountain
Enrollment: 585
Grade Levels: 6-8
School Schedule: Traditional

Student Demographics

44%	Hispanic
51%	White
1%	Asian
1%	African American
1%	American Indian (Native American)

56%	Free/Reduced Lunch
48%	English Learners
19%	Mobility Rate

2015 CDE Performance Plan

2015 PARCC Growth	% of Targets Met
ELA All Students	63.5%
Math All Students	51%
Free and Reduced Lunch ELA	65%
Free and Reduced Lunch Math	45%
English Learners ELA	72%
English Learners Math	49%

School Characteristics and Replicable Practices

Academic Excellence

- Teachers set daily learning goals for students based on the standards.
- Prior to students beginning an assignment, teachers supply students with exemplars of high quality work that meet the performance standard or level.
- Building literacy skills is emphasized across disciplines. Students read and write in a variety of classes throughout the day.
- Teachers make connections across the disciplines to reinforce important concepts and assist students in applying what they have learned to solve real-world problems.
- All teachers, regardless of discipline, incorporate academic and informational literacy into their course work.
- Teachers have been trained in classroom instruction that works to ensure that researched based strategies are utilized consistently.
- The use of technology and blended learning allows for many authentic learning opportunities while also connecting to future applicability of what they are learning.
- Strong common assessment, rubrics, scoring guides are used in most classes to make learning transparent.

- Staff participates in active data processing to monitor students' progress
- A strong intervention room is available to meet the learning, social and emotional needs of students.
- Peer Tutors are in multiple classrooms to support all students who need extra assistance.
- Staff has demonstrated ownership of units of instruction by unpacking standards and creating common assessments.
- Parents have expressed that they know what their students should learn, know, and demonstrate at Centennial to progress in the learning process.
- Academic electives exist to allow students to see the application to their lives as they continue to grow and explore different career possibilities.

Developmental Responsiveness

- Strong focus on Character Education through specialized CREW class and in each core classrooms.
- Staff owns a strong MTSS system wide support to close achievement gaps and increase student growth.
- The implementation of Restorative Justice to support students in owning behavior and choices. Students own choices and are willing to process and how to fix the problem.
- Significant decrease in office referrals due effective use of restorative practice and Character Education.
- Centennial offers a wide-range of electives for students. Structure provides true exploratory in sixth grade and student elective choices at 7th and 8th grade.
- Eight grade students demonstrate and defend high school readiness through end-of-the-year reflective presentations focusing on standards proficiency.
- Strong counseling department that supports students, staff, and parents.
- Support groups to assist students with organizational skills, social and behavioral skills, and grief counseling.
- Crew lessons focus on citizenship skills to support students in young adolescent development.
- Strong focus on service learning for the Montrose community throughout Crew.

Social Equity

- Classroom assignments are online so that students may access them 24/7, along with tutorials to help with re-teaching students at home.
- Our GT professional works with all students identified as gifted to provide a more demanding and rigorous curriculum.
- Strong, differentiated lesson plans are delivered in classrooms.
- Centennial offers many diverse classes to include band, jazz band, drawing, painting, pottery, choir, engineering, economics, drama, home economics and physical education.
- foreign language, P.E, show choir, avid study skill classes.
- PLC collaboration among grade level and vertical teams occurs on a regular basis.
- Students recognize each other for academic, character, or academic achievements monthly.
- The media center has a variety of materials that support all cultures.
- Our students speak highly of the opportunity to be mentors and tutors for students in classes.
- The implementation of CREW has supported the Centennial community in creating a learning environment focused of cultural competency. All students felt welcomed and a part of the CtMS community.
- Centennial has developed a strong blended learning model to support students' learning. This is demonstrated with the high level of student growth in all subgroups.
- Staff approach to supporting students' needs through solutions-oriented and adaptive practices.
- Families have voice in the school community and have positive ownership of their school. Parents reported a strong improvement in CtMS' culture and climate over the past three years.
- Parent feel the school staff is approachable with meeting students' needs.

- Culture of almost all classrooms is focused around solving behavior problems without loss of power by going outside with office referrals.
- The school is developing service-oriented learning for students to give back to the community.

Organizational Support

- The Building Leadership Team, made up of teachers, counselors, and administrators, meets twice a month to discuss and address the building's goals for the year and helps to keep everything focused on the mission statement. The members of this group also act as liaisons to the grade level and elective PLC teams so that we are always moving in the same direction.
- Centennial has a well-developed transition program to transition 6th graders to the middle school and to transition the 8th graders to the high school. 5th grade students from feeder schools spend a half day at Centennial in the spring. They are introduced to the Administration team, the counselors, and the teaching teams. Tours are provided by current students. High School counselors come to Centennial in the spring to register 8th graders.
- The first day of school for 6th graders is dedicated just to their orientation. They are the only students on campus to help them ease into being at a middle school.
- Shared leadership which is committed to doing whatever it takes to support students, staff, and parents of Centennial.
- There is a strong sense of a shared vision in the school around the core values of Quality Teaching, Rigorous Curriculum, and Character-Based Education.
- There is a strong teaming and PLC structure in place.
- Strong components of professional learning have been developed or enlisted to support the school's vision.
- Data drives the instruction that students receive in a systemic fashion.
- The school staff is responsive to the community they serve.
- It is expected that all staff develop unit plans, aligned with state standards for the school's Google docs.
- Three years ago, the Centennial Middle School staff led the movement to become a Colorado School of Innovation to take control of the school's calendar, instructional time, planning and professional development opportunities to better meet the needs of learners at CtMS.