

Preparing Students to Succeed in a Challenging World

This simple statement is the Vision and Mission of South Middle School.

However, what does it mean?

It means our students must have the capability and knowledge they need to be economically successful. They need to have a broad range of skills to be employable and hold a job and be a factor in a 21st century economy. Our students must be equipped to function as informed, active citizens and potential leaders in a 21st century world. It is our responsibility to ensure our students will be successful. Success means that all of our students will have the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to be continuous, life-long learners. Success means they are educated in ways that prepare them to adapt and function in an ever-changing world.



At South Middle, we believe for our students to be successful; our students must be able to think critically. The National Education Association has a statement that, "The connection between critical thinking and education is obvious – one cannot learn well without thinking well". Critical thinking aids in educational and career success, but also to success in life. It is vital that students be taught critical thinking and effective problem-solving skills in the classroom. Critical thinking skills also lead to enhanced concentration skills and greater analytical ability.

South Middle School continues to move forward with academic success and school-wide improvements. We were honored to be designated as a National School to Watch. Many of our students and teachers were recognized for their contributions and successes both in and out of the classroom. Our school and staff continue to focus on providing students with a rigorous academic program, opportunities for academic assistance during the school day, experiences in the related arts, student-centered activities such as clubs, WSMS, and student and adult advisor-advisee, rotating time of day instruction, and numerous extracurricular opportunities. South Middle School also has a strong commitment with community service projects. Donations were made to Relay for Life, United Way, SMS Clothes Closet, and various other causes.



The resources provided to support South Middle's goal to prepare students to be successful in tomorrow's world also includes technologies. Making our students confident with several platforms of technology includes computer labs, laptop labs, iPad sets, Kindle Fires, a Smart Board in each classroom, and new in 2013, a one-to-one Chromebook program that has our students eager and engaged in learning.

