

2019-20 Phase Three: Executive Summary for Schools_11192019_17:13

2019-20 Phase Three: Executive Summary for Schools

Woodland Middle School
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Description of the School

Describe the school's size, community/communities, location, and changes it has experienced in the last three years. Include demographic information about the students, staff, and community at large. What unique features and challenges are associated with the community/communities the school serves?

Woodland Middle School is located in Taylor Mill, KY. Taylor Mill is a suburb of Cincinnati and is surrounded by a supportive community. Taylor Mill is a thriving middle class community. The majority of our families commute to Cincinnati and the surrounding areas for job opportunities due to the close proximity of I-275. Woodland Middle School is the home of the Wildcats. We currently serve 680 students in grades 6-8. 87.9% of our students are Caucasian, 3.1% of our students are Hispanic, 2.9% students are African American, and 1% of our students are Asian. 15% of our students receive special education services and 49% of our students qualify for free or reduced pricelunch. 1.0% of our students are English Language Learners. Woodland Middle has three structured teaching classrooms which serve the needs of students who require the highest level of support. Woodland Middle School has 20 content area teachers. Woodland Middle School has 5 encore teachers and 9 special education teachers. We also have two full time guidance counselors, a .5 media specialist, and Family Resource Center. Woodland Middle School is a Title I eligible school. Woodland Middle School is unique in that the middle school shares a campus with Scott High School. This offers additional educational opportunities for both our students and students who attend Scott High School. During the 2018-2019 school year, select advanced 8th graders had the opportunity to take Geometry and German courses at Scott High School. The administration, teachers, and staff are committed to the students of Woodland Middle School. At Woodland we are focused on continuous growth and achievement. We look forward to challenging our students to reach their highest potential.

School's Purpose

Provide the school's purpose statement and ancillary content such as mission, vision, values, and/or beliefs. Describe how the school embodies its purpose through its program offerings and expectations for students.

At Woodland Middle School we are committed to fostering each student's individual potential and arming each student with the tools to grow and excel. We are committed to challenging students every day and creating a culture of high expectations. The purpose of Woodland Middle School is to focus on the strengths, talents, and abilities of each student, while recognizing our students are in transition from childhood to adolescence. The current mission statement was developed with input from teachers, parents and stakeholders and drives our work by providing focus. Our mission statement is: Woodland is dedicated to a learning environment that fosters academic, emotional, and social growth. We believe: Each student is important. Every student can be a successful learner. Middle school is an important transitional period, and here students are encouraged to develop a sense of self-esteem and personal dignity. Students have a right to a quality education with rigorous learning opportunities. Students, educators, families, businesses, and the community share in the responsibility for creating an environment in which students can learn and succeed. Understanding and acceptance of cultural, social, physical, and economic differences creates a healthy learning environment. Learning is a lifelong process. Woodland provides opportunities for students to explore their roles in society, and encourages lifelong participation in their community. The mission statement currently guides our practice and informs our daily work. This is evident through the inclusion of programs to meet the needs of students at all academic levels. We offer tailored Response to Intervention (RTI) classes in reading and math to our students who are struggling, and What I Need (WIN) subject-specific enrichment classes for students who perform at

or above grade level to provide them opportunities to grow. We offer the Prep and Prep + programs in both math and reading, which are designed to challenge and enrich our students who are excelling in math and language arts. All of our students receive core instruction in math and reading in the regular classrooms, with Tier II interventions being offered as an additional daily class. Woodland Middle School is committed to fostering the whole child. In conjunction with our partnership with 1N5, we offer a weekly Social Emotional Learning (SEL) class using the Second Step curriculum, as well as the Sources of Strength peer-to-peer upstream program. Our commitment is also seen through our extensive fine arts program offerings and extracurricular opportunities. Woodland Middle School has an award winning choral and band program. We also offer visual art and Arts and Humanities. Our students have the opportunity to audition and participate in a variety of honor choirs and band programs, as well as drama productions in conjunction with Scott High School. Our students have the opportunity to become involved in many extracurricular activities including Academic Team, football, volleyball, basketball, track, cheerleading, Girls United, National Junior Honor Society, Forensics, Construction 101, Quick Recall, Art Club, and Student Council.

Notable Achievements and Areas of Improvement

Describe the school's notable achievements and areas of improvement in the last three years. Additionally, describe areas for improvement that the school is striving to achieve in the next three years.

Woodland Middle School is proud of the academic improvement of our students and their accomplishments through our Fine Arts program and clubs. In the 2018-2019 school year, 3 students were selected to participate in KMEA All-State Chorus performance during the KMEA Conference in Louisville. The past three years, Woodland Mixed and Women's Choirs have received Distinguished ratings at KMEA Large Group Assessment. All WMS vocal students who have performed at Solo and Ensemble have received distinguished or proficient ratings over the past four years. In November 2018, 26 students participated in the District 6 NKY Jr. High Honor Choir with students from all over northern Kentucky. The Kenton County middle school chorus teachers also provided the opportunity for All-Star Chorus in April of 2019, where up to 25 boys and 25 girls from each middle school were invited to rehearse with guest conductors and perform exemplary works. Our curricular vocal ensembles perform three evening concerts each year for the community in addition to performing for in-school events. A plethora of skilled students also performed in our production of Woodland's Got Talent in 2019, and many of our vocalists perform with a variety of extracurricular ensembles and theatre programs in the area. Our band program is also a significant point of pride for Woodland Middle School. Our band students excel and represent us with distinction at a variety of events. Both our 7th and 8th grade band have received proficient ratings at the KMEA large group assessment. In November 2018, twenty of our 7th and 8th grade band members were nominated and participated in Kenton County All-Star Band. In February 2019 we had 3 band students who auditioned, were selected for, and participated in the Northern Kentucky Select Band. Along with all of these "extra" accomplishments, our band members are active members of our student body and perform Fall, Winter, and Spring community concerts, as well as performing at an occasional sporting event. Woodland is very proud of our award winning Forensics Team. Forensics is a competitive speech and drama team. Students memorize and perform their speeches, poetry, prose, and acting pieces and travel on the weekends to compete at tournaments throughout the state. During the 2018-19 school year our Forensics Team achieved great success. Our students regularly receive awards at Forensics tournaments through KESDA and KHSSL. Our team achieved 3rd place in the NKY Region and came home with the Regional Champion in Poetry. Woodland fields a competitive academic team and quick recall team. Over the years, the team has represented the school with distinction as an extracurricular club. This year our 6th grade students were the district runner up at the 6th Grade Showcase for Quick Response. At 6th grade showcase students competed against several

schools in their division. Woodland students won 1st place in mathematics, 3rd place in social studies and 5th place in language arts. Our students also represent us well athletically. Many of our approximately 180 student athletes have qualified for state competitions and our teams have won district championships. The WMS Archery Team competed at state and national competition with respectable finishes. The 2018 WMS Cross Country team had an outstanding year as well. The XC team won the Kenton County Championships as well as being crowned district champions. Members of the middle school team also contributed to the high school state championship as well. WMS surveyed all students during the 2018-19 school year to find that eighty-one percent of our students were involved in some type of extra-curricular school-sponsored activity. We continue to work to identify and remove barriers that will allow more students to participate in extra-curricular activities. Over the next three years we have identified several academic areas to target for improvement. These areas include a continued focus on improving student achievement in reading, math, on-demand writing, and science, and increasing the proficiency of our students with disabilities. We are committed to creating better writers through continued use of our school-wide writing instructional plan and a continued focus on writing in all content areas.

Additional Information

CSI/TSI Schools Only: Describe the procedures used to create the school's improvement plan and briefly state the specific efforts to address the causes of low student performance and resource inequities.

N/A

Additional Information

Provide any additional information you would like to share with the public and community that were not prompted in the previous sections.

Woodland Middle School has experienced a high level of transition in both the school leadership and teaching staff over the past decade. With the hiring of a new principal and assistant principal in 2018, and with increased support to teachers who have a deep commitment to improving the culture, climate and academic achievement level of the school, we are confident that our plans and efforts to make Woodland Middle School one of the best middle schools in the state will be realized. Developing and sustaining procedures and policies, investing in teacher development, and building skills and leadership capacity among all our teachers will pay great dividends as we move forward.

Attachment Summary

Attachment Name	Description	Associated Item(s)
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