



DR. PHILIP O. COAKLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL  
1315 WASHINGTON STREET  
NORWOOD, MASSACHUSETTS 02062  
PHONE: 781-762-7880 FAX: 781-255-5630

JACKIE MANN  
*Principal*

ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS  
Deborah Romeo  
John Greeley

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Dear Parent or Guardian:

We are pleased to enclose an overview of our school's "report card". Report cards answer important questions about a school's overall performance and contain specific information about student enrollment and teacher qualifications, student achievement, accountability, how a school is performing relative to other schools in the district and the state, and the progress made toward narrowing proficiency gaps for different groups of students.

In this report you will find the following important information about our school:

**Student enrollment and teacher quality:** This section of the report card provides information about the students and teachers in our school as compared to the district and the state. If your child attends a school that receives federal Title I funds, you also have the right to request the following information about the qualifications of your child's classroom teachers:

- Whether your child's teacher is licensed in the grade levels and subject areas they teach
- Whether your child's teacher is teaching under an emergency license or waiver
- The college degree and major of your child's teacher
- Whether your child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications

**Assessment results:** This section of the report shows how our students are performing on the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) and the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) tests as compared to the district and the state.

**School and district accountability information:** This section of the report contains three important pieces of information:

- **Accountability and Assistance Levels:** Schools and districts are placed into one of five accountability and assistance levels (1-5), with the highest performing in Level 1 and lowest performing in Level 5. **Our school has been placed into Level 2 because we have not met the gap narrowing achievement goals.**
- **School Percentiles:** A school percentile between 1 and 99 is reported for most schools. This number shows the overall performance of our school relative to other schools that serve the same or similar grades. **Our school percentile is 65%. This means that our school is performing higher than 65 percent of the middle schools in the state which is a 1 point improvement over the previous year, an 8 point improvement over the year before that and a 15 point improvement over the past three years, indicating an overall upward trend over the past few years.**

• Progress and Performance Index (PPI): The PPI is a number that indicates our school's progress toward narrowing proficiency gaps, or, in other words, helping all students reach proficiency and be prepared for success after high school. Massachusetts has set a goal of reducing proficiency gaps by half between the years 2011 and 2017. For a group of students to be considered to be making sufficient progress toward narrowing proficiency gaps, its cumulative PPI must be 75 or higher.

To improve student achievement in our school, we are taking and have taken the following steps:

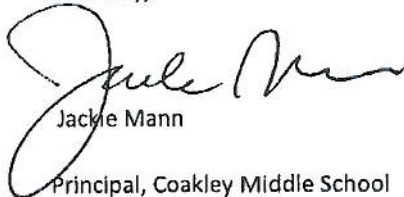
- Adopting an overarching instructional focus of responsive teaching;
- Creating a consistent instructional format centered around standards-based learning objectives and collaborative instructional practices.
- Meeting with content area groups to review student assessment data in order to identify patterns of performance and delineating targeted instructional practices based upon specific student needs;
- Offering continued professional development on evidence-based thinking and synthesis in order to enhance student capacity for critical thinking, reading and writing;
- Continuing to make student data the center of our Student Support Team, ELL and Reading Support services to better target and differentiate our instructional practices for our most struggling students;
- Creating a Daily "Mustang Block" for students to access extra support from teachers;
- Adding a school-wide 20-minute Literacy Block and Independent Reading Program;
- Implementing the Big Ideas Math Curriculum in grades 6-8 which is aligned with Common Core Standards and embeds differentiated instructional practices.
- Plan and implement professional development to support special education and math teachers on diagnosing the breakdown in mathematical thinking and devising interventions to repair that thinking;
- Implementing a student mentoring and after school computer club for support in homework.

We encourage you to become involved in helping us improve our school. Some of the ways you can become involved are:

- Encouraging your child's learning at home
- Attending parent-teacher meetings and other special meetings
- Serving as a volunteer in our school or district
- Encouraging other parents to become involved

For more information about our school's report card or to request information about the qualifications of your child's classroom teachers, please feel free to contact me at 781-440-5921.

Sincerely,



Jackie Mann  
Principal, Coakley Middle School

[jmann@norwood.k12.ma.us](mailto:jmann@norwood.k12.ma.us)