



# NORTH CAROLINA SCHOOLS TO WATCH

## MODEL SCHOOL—VISITOR'S GUIDE

### Jay M. Robinson Middle School



#### Designated in 2005; Redesignated 2008

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### 2007-08 School Statistics

(Source: 2007 NC School Report Card.)

Community: Suburban fringe of large city  
Enrollment: 1035  
Grade Levels: 6-8  
School Schedule: Traditional

#### Student Demographics

77% White  
12% African American  
7% Asian  
4% Hispanic

9% Free/Reduced Lunch  
2% English Learners

2005 AYP: High Growth, Honor School of Excellence  
Met 29 of 29 performance targets

2006 AYP: High Growth, Honor School of Excellence  
Met 29 of 29 performance targets

2007 AYP: High Growth, Honor School of Excellence  
Met 29 of 29 performance targets

(Visit <http://www.ncschoolreportcards.org> to view this school's data for prior years.)

## School Characteristics and Replicable Practices

Dr. Jay M. Robinson Middle School is located in the southern, fast-growing area of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg School system. Since its inception, Robinson has quickly developed a process for strong academics and other programs that enhance the needs of its demanding population. Students are exposed to a rigorous program of high level courses while being given opportunities to access special interests and talents.

### Academic Excellence

- High expectations for all class levels from EC/autistic classes to the high school credit courses of Algebra I, Geometry, French and Spanish
- 90 minute block allows for a wide variety of teaching styles
- Tutoring classes, enrichment block and Extended Day programs provide opportunities for all
- Variety of programs and classes provide special interest opportunities
- Community partnerships provide additional opportunities for student learning and exposure to the "real world"

### **Developmental Responsiveness**

- Enrichment block provides variety of classes to meet special interest of students or other academic needs
- Exemplary fine arts programs and facilities
- Students are welcome to e-mail principal with concerns and problems
- Teachers are in tune with student needs and problems; students have strong sense of loyalty and "connection" with their teachers
- Strong, reciprocal volunteer relationship with parents and community
- Strong intramurals program within each grade level

### **Social Equity**

- Re-learning, self assessment, peer assessment, reflection writing, and various academic programs are available to meet needs of individuals
- Through community service projects, students have opportunities to understand diversity and cultural needs of others
- Faculty is committed to success and excellence for each and every child
- Administration has an open door policy to students and parents
- Professional growth and development is part of the school culture

### **Organizational Support**

- Strong faculty loyalty to the administration and the vision of the school
- School staff presents at major conferences across the state and nation
- Many community and service organization partnerships exist and are active
- Clear weekly communication with parents using email, phone system and online grading program
- Faculty turnover is low, with a high number of teachers with National Board certification and advanced degrees