

Oliver Middle School:

**Schools to Watch-A True
School Improvement Model**


November 2019

Building Planning Team

- Melody Davis – Building Principal
- Jerrod Roberts – Assistant Principal
- Lisa Montanaro – Instructional Coach
- Rebecca Tibbetts – Assistant Principal
- Subject Area Leaders:
 - Elaine Farrand Kristin McAdoo
 - Amy Phillips Lisa Rice
 - Ritajo Brindle Julie Dioguardi
 - Bryon Rockow Casey Coon
 - Karen Guy Judy Jones/Heather S.
 - Mike Kiesow/Rich Wiest/Kathy Salecki
 - Christine Allen/Kathy Boughton

- Ad Hoc Committee
 - Lisa Montanaro
 - Jerrod Roberts
 - Melody Davis
 - Polly Madsen
 - Matt Komendat
 - Bryon Rockow
 - Alyssa Staino
 - Chris Dobson
 - John Akers
 - Lisa Lancia
 - Joe Rugari
 - Diane Rutherford

December 2 and 3 - Visitation

A light blue map of the state of Connecticut is positioned behind the text on the left side of the banner.

Essential Elements:
Schools-To-Watch
Recognition Program

Celebrating Middle-Grades Education
Honoring Middle-Level Excellence

What are Schools to Watch?



Schools to Watch[®]

- ▶▶ Academic Excellence
- ▶▶ Developmental Responsiveness
- ▶▶ Social Equity
- ▶▶ Organizational Structures for High Performance

ACADEMICALLY EXCELLENT: High-performing schools with middle grades are academically excellent. They challenge all students to use their minds well.

DEVELOPMENTAL RESPONSIVENESS. High-performing schools with middle grades are sensitive to the unique developmental challenges of early adolescence.

SOCIAL EQUITY. High-performing schools with middle grades are socially equitable, democratic, and fair. They provide every student with high-quality teachers, resources, learning opportunities, and supports. positive options open for all students.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURES AND PROCESSES. High-performing schools with middle grades are learning organizations that establish norms, structures, and organizational arrangements to support and sustain their trajectory toward excellence.



A Collaboration Involving...



The National Forum to Accelerate
Middle-Grades Reform



The New York State Middle School
Association



The New York State Education
Department

Why an EE:STW Program?

- An opportunity for self-study and targeted school improvement to benefit ALL students.
- A program to identify and publicize effective middle schools that are committed to continuous improvement .
- An opportunity for networking and collaboration around good practices for middle school students.
- A national campaign to educate professionals and the public about criteria and indicators for high-performing middle schools.

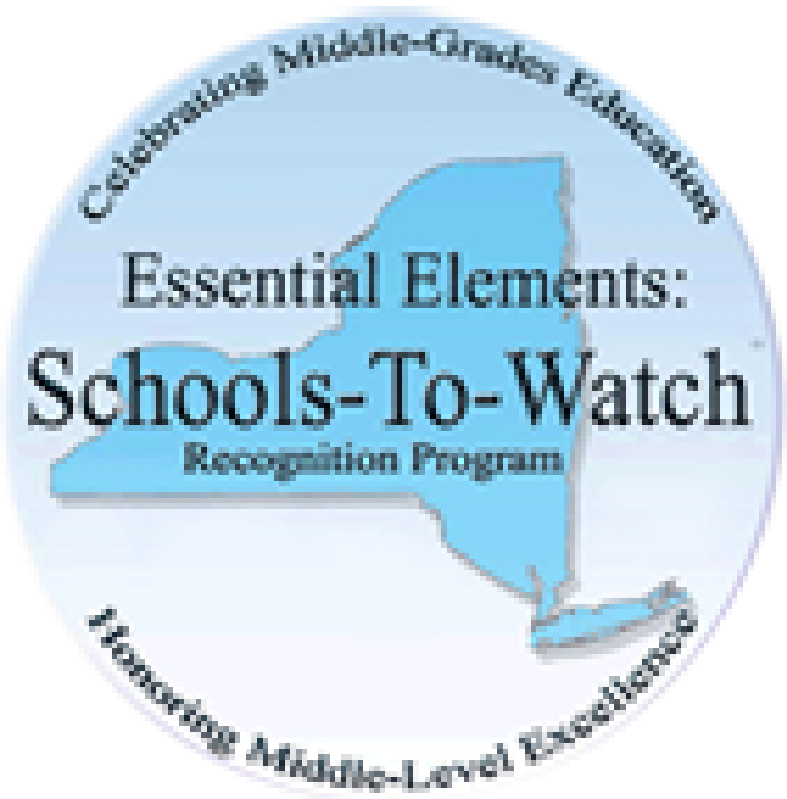


Benefits to Oliver Middle School...

- A thorough review of our middle school and its programs consistent with the State Education Department's Essential Elements of Standards-Focused Middle-Level Schools and Programs and Commissioner's Regulations related to the middle grades.
- Engagement of the educational community in a constructive school improvement activity.
- Identification of school/program strengths as well as areas in need of improvement.
- Development of a research-based continuous improvement plan for the school aligned to the BCSD strategic plan.

Benefits to Earning a Site Visitation...

- Site visit by team of middle-level educators with follow-up resulting in a full report addressing all criteria
- Possible national and state recognition for the district, school, and staff.
- Possible membership in a select group of nationally recognized middle-level schools.
- Professional development opportunities and networking
- Coaching towards continued success.



Application Timeline

2015 – 2016

- Research and Investigate the STW Process

2016 – 2017

- Communication with Area Designated STW Districts
- Subject Area Leaders

2017 – 2018

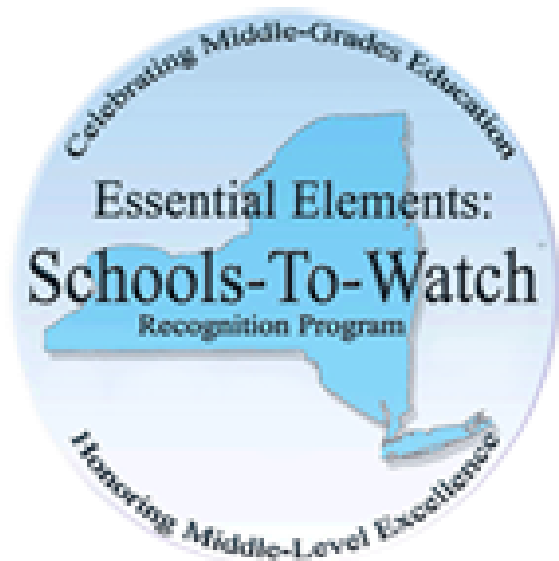
- Communication with Full Staff

2018-2019

- Created an Ad Hoc Committee
- Communication Plan and Application Submitted

2019-2020

- Site Visit Granted



Feedback Questions Next Steps