

Conner Middle School is located in Hebron, Kentucky, near the Greater Cincinnati International Airport. Our student body consists of nearly 1200 sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students from both rural and suburban settings. Our free and reduced population is approximately 30%.

Conner Middle has a long history of high academic achievement and consistently finishes in the top 10 percent of all Kentucky middle schools on state testing. We placed at the 91st percentile in the state and tied for 3rd highest in Northern Kentucky for 2012. This success is due to supportive parents, hard-working students, and a fantastic teaching staff (including 10 National Board Certified Teachers) who hold high expectations for our students. In 2014, Conner Middle School was selected as a top ten school in Kentucky for students and staff based on our TELL survey results. We agree....Conner Middle School is an awesome place for students to learn and for teachers to work!

At Conner Middle School, we consider ourselves a progressive school with teachers, and leadership, who strive to meet the needs of our next generation learners. We realize the future for our students will require them to have an educational foundation that is focused on problem solving, cooperation, mathematics, technology, science and engineering. With this in mind, we are constantly evolving our practices in the classroom, as well as providing opportunities to students outside of the regular school day.

During the 2015-16 school year, we began developing our own Problem Based Learning (PBL) environment by adding a PBL class to four of our teams in the building as part of their core rotation. The PBL class was designed as a hands-on approach to learning where the PBL teacher integrates standards from the other core subjects to provide rich learning experiences for our students. Students in the PBL classes have engaged in a number of projects so far this year (i.e. working with the state bee keeper to design their own hives to raise on the roof of the school, designing and presenting ideas for parks targeted to middle school age students, designing rockets, and many others).

Beginning in January 2016, we will start our full implementation of one-to-one technology with all of our 6th, 7th, and 8th graders. All students in our building will have a Google Chromebook to utilize as part of their learning...anytime...anywhere. In preparation for this, teachers have engaged in the Google Classroom, as well as other online platforms to ensure that students and parents have access to their child's classroom resources at any time. Teachers are also receiving, as well as conducting multiple trainings so that all staff are prepared for the technology shift.

Another reason for our success is our focus on success for all students. Our schedule is designed to allow ample time for core instructional focus, teacher collaboration and student intervention. The first 40 minutes of each day is dedicated to student enrichment, remediation and advanced learning. Students demonstrating learning gaps in reading and/or mathematics receive specialized instruction to expedite the learning in their area/s of weakness. For our top students, we offer multiple advance/gifted placements such as: STEM (Science, Technology,

Engineering and Mathematics), Lego League, social studies, journalism, reading, STLP (Student Technology Leadership Program), art, jazz band, chamber choir, orchestra, and drama.

Students at Conner Middle School have multiple opportunities to be involved. We offer many extracurricular activities to our students including: basketball, volleyball, cheerleading, ski club, science club, math club, yearbook, school play, speech and drama, National Junior Honor Society and student council. Our student leaders in student council and NJHS lead the school through a variety of school and community activities including our annual cancer walk in which they have raised nearly \$120,000 over the past five school years for the American Cancer Society. Our two newest extracurricular activities include archery and the Colts Care club. Archery was started during the 2013-14 school year and serves over 100 students. In the team's second year, they qualified for state competition. This is quite an accomplishment! Because of our team's success, archery has now expanded to our high school. Colts Care is a new club for the 2014-15 school year and already serves nearly 200 students. Colts Care's mission is simple...making the world a better place through random acts of kindness. Some examples of their projects include: raking leaves in the fall for the elderly, collecting Pooky Pouches for homeless students, volunteering for local events, and raised over \$5000 for LayUp for Lauren cancer research. The group has been so successful, they were recently featured on our local news. Our students are making a difference in the world.

In addition to our strong academic and extracurricular programs, Conner Middle School has one of the best music programs in the state. We are the only middle school in Northern Kentucky to offer three different music programs to our students: choir, orchestra and symphonic band. Additionally, we offer advanced orchestra, jazz band and chamber choir for our many gifted musicians. All three of our programs have scored distinguished and distinguished plus (highest ratings) at every musical festival in which they have played for the past five school years. Both our choir and band programs have led demonstration clinics at state music conferences for teachers across the state. Our band has been recognized at the national and international levels.

We are proud of our school and our rich tradition of success. We would like to thank our students, parents, and the community for your continued support. Go Colts!