

**STOUGHTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**DR. ROBERT G. O'DONNELL MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
**School Improvement Plan**  
*2013 – 2014 School year*

**School Council Members**

Alan Bontya  
Roger Hardy  
Tatiana Diaz  
Jill Duffy  
Allison Mezzetti  
Charlene Laferriere  
Angela Motley  
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**The O'Donnell Middle School Mission Statement**

The O'Donnell Middle School, in partnership with families and the community, will maintain a safe environment that fosters the intellectual growth and social development of each student.

We will empower students to be active participants in their school community by demonstrating the values of R.E.S.P.E.C.T.

**R**esponsibility  
**E**ffort  
**S**pirit  
**P**ride  
**E**xcellence  
**C**ompassion  
**T**eamwork

**MCAS**

In 2012, OMS students made some gains in MCAS scores, particularly in the number of students scoring proficient or higher. OMS students outperformed the state average in proficient or higher scores on all MCAS exams at all grade levels. Though we are a Level 2 school, we must continue to work towards closing the proficiency gap for all student groups in order to move to Level 1.

Grade and Subject	Proficient or Higher		Advanced		Proficient		Needs Improvement		Warning/ Failing		Students Included	CPI	SGP	Included in SGP
	SCHOOL	STATE	SCHOOL	STATE	SCHOOL	STATE	SCHOOL	STATE	SCHOOL	STATE				
GRADE 06 - ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	71	66	12	18	59	48	21	22	8	11	293	87.2	58.0	287
GRADE 06 - MATHEMATICS	64	60	27	27	37	33	30	24	7	16	294	83.9	62.0	288
GRADE 07 - ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	74	71	8	15	66	56	21	21	4	7	290	90.0	47.0	287
GRADE 07 - MATHEMATICS	52	51	23	20	29	31	37	30	12	18	287	77.3	53.0	285
GRADE 08 - ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	84	81	13	18	71	63	12	14	3	6	292	94.1	47.0	287
GRADE 08 - MATHEMATICS	60	52	26	22	34	30	25	28	15	19	291	78.6	52.0	287
GRADE 08 - SCIENCE AND TECH/ENG	54	43	7	5	47	38	36	38	11	20	291	79.0	N/A	N/A

**Accountability and Assistance Level**

**Level 2**

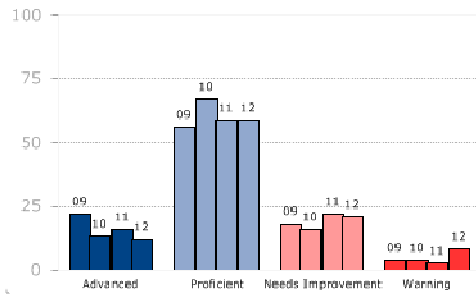
Not meeting gap narrowing goals

**This school's overall performance relative to other schools in same grade span (School percentiles: 1-99)**

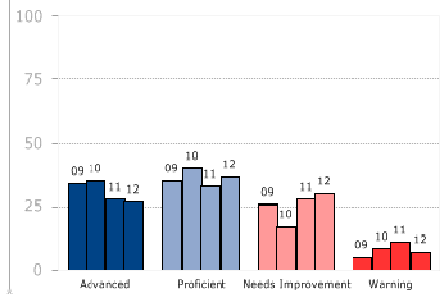
All students:



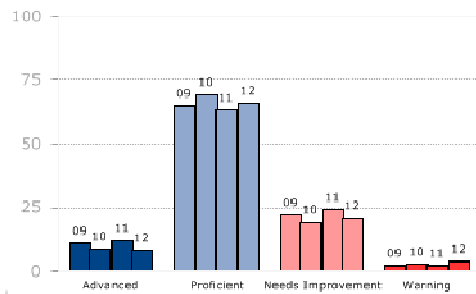
**GRADE 06 - ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS**  
Percentage of Students by Performance Level



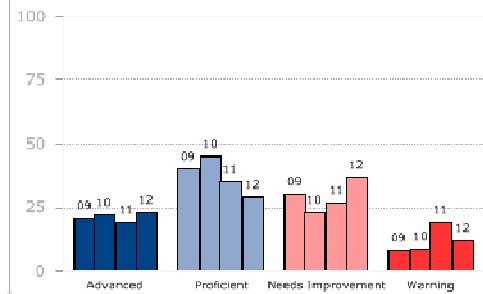
**GRADE 06 - MATHEMATICS**  
Percentage of Students by Performance Level



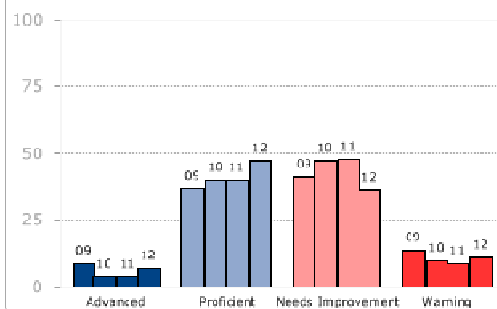
**GRADE 07 - ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS**  
Percentage of Students by Performance Level



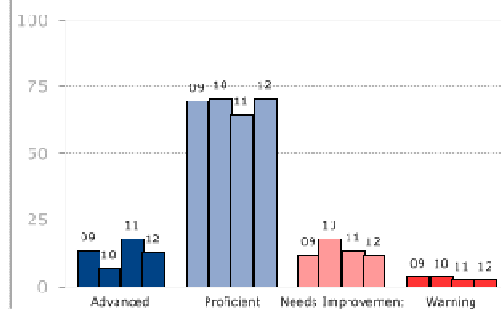
**GRADE 07 - MATHEMATICS**  
Percentage of Students by Performance Level



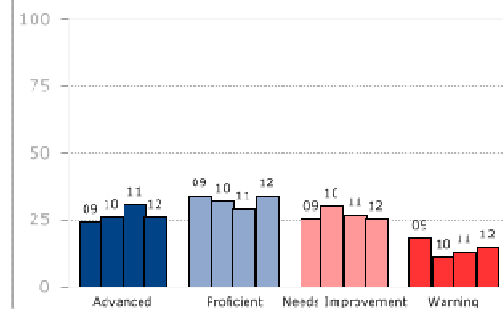
**GRADE 08 - SCIENCE AND TECH/ENG**  
Percentage of Students by Performance Level



**GRADE 08 - ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS**  
Percentage of Students by Performance Level



**GRADE 08 - MATHEMATICS**  
Percentage of Students by Performance Level



## **NAEP**

In February of 2013, the O'Donnell Middle School represented schools across our state and the nation by participating in the 2013 administration of the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). As part of this program, grade eight students took part in assessments in reading and mathematics.

## **Class Size & Staffing**

We have 74 full time educators on our faculty. The O'Donnell Middle School has interdisciplinary teams at each grade level. On top of their core academic classes – math, ELA, social studies, science, and reading or world languages – OMS students take a series of exploratory and pathways offerings as a way to enhance and enrich their overall academic experience. All grade levels have support services for students in ELL, Special Education, and regular education students who have been identified as needing remediation in reading and/or math.

Counting all staff and support we have a 14 to 1 teacher to student ratio. With the introduction of the S.T.E.M. and Humanities pathways classes, we have experienced an increase in class size, especially in the exploratory classes. This increase is due to the added pathways classes with no addition in teaching positions.

The administrative team recognizes the academic benefit of the pathways program at OMS and will explore scheduling options to decrease some of these large class sizes. The principal has proposed the addition of new teaching positions to assist in decreasing class sizes as well. In addition, the Pathways schedule is being restructured to reduce some of our large class sizes.

## **School Profile**

### **SCHOOL INFORMATION**

O'Donnell Middle School is a member of the New England League of Middle Schools. As of October, 2012, there are 919 students enrolled in grades six through eight. There are seventy-four full-time teachers, two guidance counselors, two adjustment counselors, and two assistant principals, two school psychologist/team chairs, one nurse, a part-time nurse's aide, and a part-time library aide on staff, along with several paraprofessionals.

### **STUDENT INFORMATION**

<b>Enrollment by Gender</b>			
	School	District	State
Male	472	1,956	489,289
Female	447	1,797	465,484
Total	919	3,753	954,773

<b>Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity</b>			
<b>Race</b>	<b>% of School</b>	<b>% of District</b>	<b>% of State</b>
African American	18.0	18.5	8.6
Asian	3.5	4.5	5.9
Hispanic	5.1	6.0	16.4
Native American	0.1	0.1	0.2
White	72.8	68.8	66.0
Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander	0.0	0.2	0.1
Multi-Race, Non-Hispanic	0.5	1.9	2.7

<b>Selected Populations</b>	<b>% of School</b>	<b>% of District</b>	<b>% of State</b>
First Language not English	13.8	12.6	17.3
Limited English Proficient	4.8	5.6	7.7
Low-income	36.3	30.9	37.0
Special Education	16.2	16.3	17.0
Free Lunch	32.5	27.2	32.1
Reduced Lunch	3.8	3.8	4.9
High Needs	45.4	43.1	47.9

#### **SCHEDULE INFORMATION**

The O'Donnell Middle School has a partial rotation, 7 period day on a 2 day cycle. Classes meet for approximately 50 minutes.

#### **CURRICULUM INFORMATION**

**Core Academic** Courses are offered in English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Reading (Grade 6), and World Languages (Grades 7 & 8).

**Academic Lab** classes are offered to support special education students in the curriculum.

**Exploratory Classes** are offered in Physical Education/Health, Technology, Art, and Study Skills.

**English Language Learner** (ELL) classes are offered as needed according to the guidelines set out by the Mass Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. Students speaking several different languages are currently enrolled at OMS.

**Challenge Classes** are advanced offerings in ELA and Mathematics for Grades 7 & 8.

**Pathways Classes** are offered as enrichment in Fine Arts (including Band and Chorus), S.T.E.M., and the Humanities.

**STUDENT ACTIVITIES**

The following School Activities are offered: Student Council, Band, Jazz Band, Drum Club, Woodwind Ensemble, Glee Club, Chorus, Drama, Math Team, School Newspaper (OMS Scoop), Morning Announcements (Knightly News), Peer Leadership, Recycling Club, Science Club, Yearbook, Photoshop, Homework Help, MCAS Help, Art Club, and Intramural Sports

**Attendance/Retention Data (2011-12)**

	School	District	State
Attendance Rate	96.1	95.7	94.9
Average # of days absent	6.9	7.4	8.7
Retention Rate	0.2	1.9	1.9

**Some Notable Accomplishments from Last Year’s School Improvement Plan**

- ✓ Total households using the Parent Portal reached 80%
- ✓ Parent Liaison started working at OMS to engage families
- ✓ Virtual backpack added to school web site
- ✓ More than half of our students participated in a wide variety of extra-curricular activities
- ✓ Experiential learning opportunities were offered throughout the school
- ✓ Good things happening at OMS were shared with the public via OMS website, school newspaper, and various media outlets
- ✓ School safety review plan started
- ✓ Data Teams were formed in several subject areas to improve teaching, learning, and student outcomes
- ✓ Professional development occurred with vertical (high school math and science departments) and cross-curricular (middle school ELA and social studies) collaboration

## 2013 – 2014 ACTION PLANS

### Element 1: Professional Development

#### Professional Development Self Assessment Results

*There has been much work completed in the area of curriculum revision and development. Most departments have reviewed and revised their curricula to align to state standards, using a uniform, electronic format based on Understanding By Design (UBD). Recently, ELA and Social Studies collaborated on professional development in the area of writing, and the high school and middle school math and science teachers collaborated on professional development as well. Some of the professional development needs include: differentiated instruction; higher-order thinking skills; student-centered classrooms; vertical integration of curriculum; and updated safety training at OMS. This is based on the expressed needs of our departments and on the CDSA District Review. We will also need to begin training on some of our new lockdown procedures.*

**Professional Development SMART Goal: To improve teaching and learning by providing opportunities for development in STEM, Humanities, Special Education, and school-wide initiatives throughout the 2013-2014 school year.**

Action Steps	Supports/Resources from School/District	Responsible Parties	Timeline
Assist and support the implementation of PD plans for STEM, Humanities, Special Education, and Other Staff	Time, Training	Curriculum Coordinators, Special Education Director, OMS Administration, Head Teachers	September 2013-June 2014
Assist and support the full professional development day for staff	Time, Training	Curriculum Coordinators, Special Education Director, OMS Administration, Head Teachers	November 2013
Carry out PD plan for school-wide initiatives at OMS	Time, Training	OMS Administration	September 2013-June 2014

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**Element 2: Enhancement of Parental Involvement**

**Parent Involvement Self Assessment Results**

*In terms of membership, the PTSO saw an increase in the 2012-2013 school year compared to the last several years. Attendance at PTSO monthly meetings and for PTSO activities here at OMS is low. In 2012-2013 the number of households accessing the Parent Portal reached approximately 80%.*

**Enhancement of Parental Involvement SMART Goal:** The OMS administration will work with the Parent Liaison/Engagement Center, PTSO, and School Council to increase parental involvement in three significant ways by June of 2014.

<b>Action Steps</b>	<b>Supports/Resources from School/District</b>	<b>Responsible Parties</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
<b>New PTSO Officers, Principal, and Parent Liaison as partners to increase attendance at meetings, in school volunteers, and re-energize parent groups</b>	<b>Time and Promotional Consideration</b>	<b>PTSO Officers, Parent Liaison, Principal</b>	<b>Monthly</b>
<b>Add Back to School Night to the parent evenings calendar</b>	<b>Time and Promotional Consideration</b>	<b>Principal</b>	<b>Fall 2013</b>
<b>Bi-Monthly One-Call Now phone calls</b>	<b>One-Call Now system</b>	<b>OMS Administration</b>	<b>Bi-Monthly</b>
<b>Monthly Newsletter for School Community</b>	<b>Supplies/Mailing</b>	<b>Parent Liaison, Principal</b>	<b>Monthly</b>
<b>Maintain School Website as a useful source of information and public relations</b>	<b>Technology Support</b>	<b>Tech Trainer, OMS Administration, Director of Technology</b>	<b>Daily</b>
<b>Increase household use of Parent Portal from 80% to 85% by offering incentives for parent use.</b>	<b>Technology Support</b>	<b>Tech Trainer, OMS Administration,</b>	<b>Quarterly</b>

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### Element 3: School Safety

#### School Safety and Discipline Self Assessment Results

*Recently, OMS has started a safety audit process (along with the district). Facilities surveys have been completed. Dr. Robert Macy (ITC, BCF, NCCTS) is working with OMS to complete a review of practices and facilities to improve overall school safety. We are also working with the SPD and SFD in this process. Stoughton is one of only two school districts in the state working with Homeland Security to develop a tool to test the emergency readiness of school buildings. The data from the 2012 OASIS Youth Survey at OMS suggest that most of our students feel safe here at school. At the same time, the audit has already given us lots of work we need to do to improve in this area.*

**School Safety and Discipline SMART Goal:** By June of 2014, all safety protocols, procedures, drills, and facilities issues will be reviewed with the help of various outside specialists and addressed.

Action Steps	Supports/Resources from School/District	Responsible Parties	Timeline
Work with aforementioned Outside Agencies to review facility and procedures in their entirety	Outside Agency, Materials, Time	SPS; OMS Administration; OMS Crisis Team	Summer/Fall 2013
Install New Exterior Doors where needed and More Video Cameras	Materials	SPS	Summer/Fall 2013
Revise General Safety Protocols (visitors, dismissals, etc.)	Materials	Administration; OMS Crisis Team	September 2013- June 2014
Revise Lockdown/Evacuation Protocols	Materials	Administration; OMS Crisis Team	September 2013- June 2014
Teacher/Student Training and Practice	Funding for Trainers	SPS; Outside Trainers	September 2013- June 2014
Presentation for Parents at PTSO Meeting	N/A	OMS Administration; OMS Crisis Team	Fall 2013

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#### Element 4: School Environment

##### School Environment Self Assessment Results

*The data from the OASIS Youth Survey and the large number of students in after-school activities indicate a certain level of school pride exists at OMS. Most students, however, are not familiar with the mission statement and do not feel a personal connection with the mission. Though many small improvements have been made to the building and grounds, more needs to be done to instill that sense of school pride.*

**School Environment SMART Goal:** A comprehensive and multi-step Pride Campaign will be launched and implemented for the 2013-2014 school year to promote a proud and positive school community.

Action Steps	Supports/Resources from School/District	Responsible Parties	Timeline
Revise, rewrite the OMS Mission Statement	Time	Principal Mission Statement Committee	Spring/Summer 2013
Institute an OMS Pride Day for Students	Time & Materials	OMS Administration	Fall 2013
Re-institute Principal's Scholars Program	Materials	OMS Administration	Quarterly
Continue with cosmetic facelifts around the building, and include students in the process	Facilities/Maintenance Budget	OMS Administration Custodians	September 2013 – 2014
Get a new sign for the front of the building	\$2,000 - \$5,000		
Communicate OMS Pride to the school community and the greater community via website, school newspaper, and various local media outlets	Technology support Promotional Support	OMS Administration	September 2013 – June 2014
Hold quarterly meetings by grade-level team with administration, guidance, and guest speakers on important topics related to school pride, respect, effort, academic goal setting, and personal responsibility	Time	OMS Administration Guidance Faculty SPD SRO	Quarterly throughout the year

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**Element 5: Extra – Curricular Activities**

**Extra – Curricular Activities Self Assessment Results**

*There are approximately 540 students participating in a wide variety of extra-curricular activities. Though these offerings have been varied and fairly well-attended, there has been no real evaluation or oversight of these activities from a programmatic perspective. There is no late bus right now for students who require transportation to participate in these activities.*

**Extra – Curricular Activities SMART Goal:** By the end of the 2013-2014 school year, student participation the extra-curricular program will increase from 540 – 600. The extra-curricular program will be evaluated for effectiveness.

<b>Action Steps</b>	<b>Supports/Resources from School/District</b>	<b>Responsible Parties</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
<b>Make a wide variety of extra-curricular activities available to students and promote these activities to increase membership</b>	<b>Activities Stipends OMS PTSO Stoughton Youth Commission</b>	<b>OMS Administration</b>	<b>September 2013</b>
<b>Assign an After-School Activities Monitor</b>	<b>Stipend in the OMS Budget for FY15</b>	<b>OMS Administration</b>	<b>Fall 2013</b>
<b>Include Late bus to OMS Budget Proposal for FY15</b>	<b>Budget Approval</b>	<b>Principal</b>	<b>October 2013</b>
<b>Gather Participation Data on Program</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>After-School Activities Monitor</b>	<b>January 2014</b>
<b>Administer Surveys to students/parents/staff</b>	<b>Technology Support</b>	<b>After-School Activities Monitor</b>	<b>March 2014</b>
<b>Complete Program Evaluation Report</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>After-School Activities Monitor</b>	<b>May 2014</b>

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## Element 6: Diverse Learning Needs

### Diverse Learning Needs Self Assessment Results

*The Pathways Program is in place to offer enrichment to some students. Special Education students receive academic support in academic lab, and some students are able to access remedial coursework during the school day. For advanced students, there are “Challenge” ELA and Math classes in grades seven and eight. Our students in need of intervention (especially in reading and math) and advanced students would benefit from expanded offerings.*

**Diverse Learning Needs SMART Goal:** By the end of the 2013-2014 school year, various learning programs will be developed and/or implemented to provide enrichment and remedially opportunities to meet the needs of the diverse learning styles in our school.

Action Steps	Supports/Resources from School/District	Responsible Parties	Timeline
Develop Pathways Program to improve enrichment opportunities and academic intervention as needed	New Teaching Positions in FY14 Budget Proposal; Time	OMS Administration; Pathways Teachers	Summer 2013 September 2013- June 2014
Redistribute Reading Teacher to Seventh Grade for Intervention	N/A	OMS Administration	Summer 2013
Utilize after-school clubs for advanced students (Science Club, Math Club, OMS Reporters, Government & Politics Club)	N/A	Advisors: After-School Activity Supervisor	September 2013- June 2014
Extended school day policy development	Time & Materials	OMS Administration	September 2013- June 2014
Exploratory committee to research advanced programs/offerings at the middle school level	Time	Committee Members, OMS Administration	September 2013- June 2014

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**Element 7: Other Topic(s) – MCAS Scores**

**Self Assessment Results**

*OMS students scored above the state average for advanced and proficient on MCAS in all grades and on all tests. We are a level two school. At the same time, many of our student groups are not making enough progress in narrowing the proficiency gap. Some student groups continue to fall short of proficient.*

**SMART Goal:** According to data collected on the 2012 MCAS (all grades, all subjects) an average of 34% received needs improvement or warning/failing. The number of students receiving needs improvement or warning/failing on the 2014 MCAS (all grades, all subjects) will decrease to 29%.

<b>Action Steps</b>	<b>Supports/Resources from School/District</b>	<b>Responsible Parties</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
<b>Use Data Teams and Data Action Plans for targeted improvement on MCAS</b>	<b>Data Access, Time</b>	<b>Curriculum Coordinators; Head Teachers, OMS Administration</b>	<b>September 2013- June 2014</b>
<b>MCAS Action Plans for Math, ELA, Science Departments</b>	<b>Data Access, Time</b>	<b>Head Teachers; OMS Administration</b>	<b>September 2013- June 2014</b>
<b>Individual MCAS Contracts with Parents of Students on “Warning”</b>	<b>Parent Liaison Position funding</b>	<b>Parent Liaison, Guidance Counselors</b>	<b>Fall 2013</b>
<b>Academic Intervention for students on “Warning” (Pathways classes, after-school assistance; individual or small group preparation)</b>	<b>After-school stipends, time</b>	<b>Pathways Teachers, Advisors</b>	<b>September 2013- June 2014</b>

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