

## SCHOOL PROFILE

### Wallace Middle School

Wallace Middle School is a small, rural school located in Southwest Virginia. Our school enrollment in grades six, seven, and eight is a combined 465 students with a high percentage (48%) of the population on free or reduced lunch. Our students face many challenges and hardships, yet they continue to excel in and out of the classroom. Motivated students, faculty, administrators, and staff have turned Wallace Middle School into a *Fully Accredited*, high-performing school.

The main reason we feel that Wallace Middle School is a great place for students to learn and grow is the school community. The faculty and administration show a genuine concern for our students and their learning. They work together to see that students' needs are met. In addition to the team approach, there is a strong emphasis on building good relationships with our students and their families. Our staff understands the important role that parents and community leaders play in the education and developmental process. Consequently, we have many community members who are active and involved in school programs and activities.

Our mission to provide students with a world-class education is evident on a daily basis. We understand that children need to be taught 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills in order to compete for tomorrow's jobs. As a result, we have dedicated ourselves to giving students an opportunity to explore their interests through our elective program. During their middle school careers, students enroll in classes related to music, art, technology, foreign language, and agriculture; for many this is the first opportunity for them to study these subjects. There is also a strong emphasis on providing students with rigorous and challenging activities in the areas of math, science, language arts, and social studies. The fundamental belief among teachers is that all students have the ability to learn, and they need to be challenged in order to reach their full potential. Teachers also understand why they must differentiate their instruction so student needs can be met. And most importantly, Wallace Middle School teachers take ownership of their students' learning.

The vision of our school division and school are shared. The underlying principle behind everything we do is based on the premise that all students can and will learn. Decisions at the school and division level are made in the best interests of our children. High expectations are in place for all students. In addition, student data is the driving force when creating schedules, placing students in courses, implementing intervention programs, balancing budgets, designing curriculum, and developing pacing guides. Therefore, students are put first, and learning is a priority.

#### Academic Facts

- The students are served by a staff of 35 full-time teachers. There are two administrators and one guidance counselor.
- Sixteen percent of our student enrollment participates in the school gifted program.
- Fourteen percent of our student enrollment qualifies for special education services.
- We offer three high school credit course in the eighth grade (Algebra I, World Geography, & Spanish I).

- The following classes are offered as part of our exploratory program – Art, Band, Music/Chorus, Technology, Computer Solutions, Agri-science, and Spanish.
- Wallace Middle School has been continuously accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools since 1968.
- We provide numerous opportunities for students that enhance the development and growth of the “whole child”. These include the following – music concerts, field trips, character education classes, Internet Safety workshops, reading incentive programs, guest speakers, Family Life classes, academic competitions, book fair, etc.

#### Extra-Curriculum Activities

- We provide the athletic teams at the middle school – volleyball, basketball, cross-county, football, and cheerleading.
- After-school clubs meet at least once a month.
- Our band and chorus programs excel in local and district competitions.

#### MISSION STATEMENT

To provide a safe and positive learning environment that is conducive to developing lifelong learners and responsible citizens who will become positive contributors to our society.

Our goal is for each student to reach success through the development of his or her fullest potential.