

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION  
Damascus Middle School  
2013-2014

- Accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools
- Accredited with Warning by the Virginia Department of Education
- A Virginia “School to Watch”

DATA

- Benchmark testing – administered to students every 9 weeks for the first 2 grading periods prior to SOL testing
- SOL item analysis that indicates student performance by question
- SOL Tracking Notebooks used by SOL content teachers
- Stanford 10 math placement test given to rising seventh graders to determine math 7/Pre-Algebra placement
- STAR reading test – beginning/mid-year/end of the year to track student reading levels.
- Teen Biz Reading Leveling set test – Administered to sixth grade assisted study students and all seventh grade students
- Pre & Post Test analysis in each core content area
- CAT Reading & Math 8

INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES

- Algebra Readiness tutor
- Educational Talent Search tutor
- Family Life Curriculum
- Family Preservation Services
- Homebound Instruction
- Incomplete Wednesdays
- Intensive SOL remediation was provided to students in need during exploratory and assisted studies classes
- Junior Washington County Community Scholars
- Project Graduation tutors
- Seventh grade DARE
- Seventh grade River’s way
- Sixth and seventh grade science teachers SOL review with eighth grade students prior to SOLs
- Sixth and eighth grade Life Skills
- SOL Remediation
- SOL Re-takes
- Daily Morning Tutoring
- Tuesday/Thursday afternoon Math tutoring

## CURRICULUM IMPLEMENTATION AND STRATEGIES

- A concentrated effort made to eliminate interruptions during instructional time
- Academic Review process
- Audio Textbooks
- Big Ideas Math
- Bobbie J. Cutlip “What I Need to Know” review materials for Social Studies
- Fast Track civics books
- Classroom Performance System
- Daily Journal Writing and discussions in eighth grade
- DAR Essay contest
- Discovery Education
- Field trips
- Flanigan software utilized in Mathematics and Social Studies
- Homework Hotline
- iCivics
- Interactive Notebooks – utilized in all core subjects and grades
- IXL Math
- Newspapers in Education
- Read Across America Celebration – seventh graders to Rhea Valley to read their written/designed children’s books
- Read More, Be More
- Remind 101 Texting
- Research projects in collaboration with the Library Media Specialist
- Scholastic Math Magazine – sixth grade
- Scholastic Science Magazine
- SCOPE magazine – seventh grade
- Sixth grade Social Studies stock market game
- SmartBoard Activities – Technology Coordinator in the classroom helping with activities
- SOL Coach Books
- SOL released tests
- Teacher Tube
- Teacher Web Pages
- Teen Biz program
- Use of pacing guides for all curriculum
- Varsity Reading Letter
- VDOE suggested lesson plans
- Word of the Day

## CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

- Blogging and Chatting on Moodle
- Career Day
- Career speakers – Israel O’Quinn, Doug Beatty, Debbie Anderson, Tim Browning, Tom Musick, Josh Davidson, Leonard Smith, Steven Glovier, Garrison Kopp, John Rick Pagaduan, Doug Callebs, and Julie Hahn

- College/Career Night
- EduGlogster
- Eighth grade field trips to Washington County Career and Technical Education Center, County Career Fair, Holston High School, Universal Fibers, Utility Trailer, Johnston Memorial Hospital, and Logan's Roadhouse
- Full Time Career Coach
- Morning news broadcast with the DMS News Crew
- NetTrekker
- On-site Technology coordinator, one day per week
- Sixth grade boys visited the Abingdon Muster Grounds
- Sixth grade Career Investigations exploratory class
- Sixth grade girls STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Program
- Technology and Computer Technology exploratory classes
- Technology workshops for faculty
- Career Interest Inventory/vaview.org

#### FINE ARTS AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

- Art students participate in the PTA Cultural Arts contest, Featured Artist in office, Washington County Schools Calendar Art contest, exhibit at the School Board office, artsonia.com, Fall/Spring Art Show at the Damascus Branch of the Washington County Public Library
- Athletic teams including football, cheerleading, volleyball, cross country, golf, girls and boys basketball, wrestling, track, softball, and baseball are offered to eighth grade students (seventh grade students are permitted to participate on some teams when numbers allow)
- Band students participated in County, District, and Solo and Ensemble
- Christmas band/chorus concert
- Drama Club performance
- Exploratory art, chorus, and Spanish are offered for seventh graders
- Exploratory art, chorus, and Spanish 1 are offered for eighth graders
- Exploratory art, music and Spanish for sixth graders
- Forty minute physical education class 4 days per week
- National and Presidential Physical Fitness Awards
- One day per week library time
- Seventh and eighth grade chorus auditioned for Jr. All-County, Jr. All-District Chorus
- Sixth grade music program each six weeks
- Sixth, seventh, and eighth grade band
- Spring band/chorus concert
- Spring High School Musical included middle school students
- Weekly intramurals

#### ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

- Child study meetings held throughout the year based on individual needs
- GATE (Gifted and Talented Education) program for qualifying students including after school programs, end of year overnight field trip, and play performance

- 4-H Club and 4-H activities
- Math and Language Arts resource specialists serve qualifying students through inclusion in the regular classroom
- Monthly club meetings
- Olweus Bullying Prevention program w/bi-monthly class meetings
- On-site Gifted Coordinator
- Parent/Teacher conferences held throughout the year
- Student Assistance Counselor
- Students identified are served in special education programs as outlined by state and federal statute. Individual Education Plans are developed and implemented for each student served.
- Support for speech impaired
- Therapeutic Day Treatment Counselors

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

(Conferences/Workshops/Classes Taught/Classes Taken/Presentations)

- Academic Review Process Training
- Advanced Curriculum and Instruction in Elementary and Middle School Mathematics
- American Society of Materials Engineers Camp
- Autism and Behavior Supports
- Cast a Fly, Catch a Student
- Celebrate the Power of One
- Civics Summit
- Concussion Training
- Conversations About School Improvement
- CPR/First Aid/AED Training
- Curriculum Loft
- Dan Mulligan Workshop for Virginia 6-12 Language Arts
- Dr. Betti Kreye STEM Math Manipulatives Workshop
- Drum Corps International Winter Meeting and Seminar
- Drum Corps International World Championships
- Emory & Henry Brass Seminar
- Emory & Henry Educational Forum
- Engaging and Motivating the Inhibited Language Learner
- Engaging Students in Middle School Math
- Externship in Education
- Interactive Achievement Training
- Institute for Brain Potential
- Managing the Learning Environment
- Mayco Clay Workshop
- National Ag in the Classroom Conference
- Number Talk
- Occupational Safety and Health Administration training
- Observation at Glade Spring Middle School
- Overmountain Victory Trail Association “Call to Arms,” presenter

- Percussive Arts Society International Conference
- President's Listening Tour
- Preventing Pediatric Obesity
- Scheduling to Support Co-Teaching
- Schools to Watch visit
- SOL Training
- Summer Institute for School Nursing
- Southwest Virginia Council of Teachers of Mathematics Integer Operations
- Southwest Virginia Leadership Conference
- Speaking for the Gifted
- State Marching Band Assessment, judge
- Teacher Ranger Teacher
- Teaching Writing
- Technology Madness
- Technology Splash
- Technology Tips
- Teen Biz training
- Tried and True Art Lessons from Around the County
- TTAC Special Education Training
- Virginia Department of Education Content and Review Committee for Math 8
- Virginia Department of Education Mathematics SOL Institute
- Virginia High School League Clinic and All Star Games
- Virginia Middle School Conference
- Washington County Calendar Committee
- What's In Your Toolbox

DATA ASSESSMENT  
Damascus Middle School  
2013-2014

- CatchupMath.com data is used to target individual special education students that need remediation in math
- Child Study meetings discuss concerns, develop interventions, determine referrals for special education services, and choose evaluation components
- ConnectEd online Science textbook provides assessments for each SOL as well as feedback to students and teacher
- Countywide pre-assessment, mid-year, and post-assessment tests are administered and used to measure student growth
- Data is utilized to reflect updates to the *School Improvement Plan*
- Eligibility meetings discuss results of all components of child study testing to determine special education eligibility for students
- Fitness Gram measures fitness growth from beginning to end of school year
- *Glencoe Diagnostic & Placement Test* is utilized to determine strengths and weaknesses by strand for Algebra 1 students
- iCivics assists in determining student strengths and weaknesses in Civics
- In-depth analysis of Benchmark Test data
- In-depth analysis of students performance by question on all SOL tests
- Individual Education Plans are shared with stakeholders including specific instructional staff to implement instructional design based on student learning styles and/or disability category
- Interactive Achievement is utilized to determine strengths and weaknesses in math
- National and Presidential fitness testing used to measure fitness growth from beginning to end of school year
- Pearson Writing Online application is utilized in eighth grade
- *SAGES Test* is utilized to determine students eligibility in the Gifted and Talented program
- SOL notebooks are a cumulative record of each student's testing data throughout their time at Damascus Middle School which includes Benchmark test data, SOL scores, and grades.
- *Stanford 10 Math Placement Test* used to determine rising seventh grade students that will qualify for Pre-Algebra classes
- Talent Ed utilizes professional criteria to evaluate all faculty members
- Teacher collaboration on student performance, teaching strategies and learning styles
- Teen Biz data used to predict success and target individual students that need remediation in reading
- "The Dream Team" utilized to assess 8<sup>th</sup> grade growth in Computer Technology
- Use of *Algebra Readiness Diagnostic Testing* to identify weak areas in mathematics
- Use of formative and summative assessments to guide instruction
- Use of STAR/Lexile data to identify students with reading difficulties
- Use of STAR/Lexile data to purchase library books that are reading level appropriate
- VA Career View utilized to determine student interest and aid in individual development of Academic and Career Plan

- VDOE *School by Question Report* used to compare student results with county-wide *Student Performance by Question*
- VDOE *Using Statewide Results to Guide Instruction* used to identify areas of weakness on previous SOL tests
- *Wechsler Individual Achievement Test, Third Edition*, is utilized to determine a student's achievement and as a component for eligibility for educational resource services
- *Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children, Fourth Edition*, is utilized to determine a student's psychological needs and as a component for eligibility for special education services

OPERATIONS AND FACILITIES  
Damascus Middle School  
2013-2014

- Additional “gently used” freezer in cafeteria
- Additional teacher nameplates installed
- Air conditioning installed in gymnasium
- Closet installed in principal’s office
- 3D Printer purchased for technology classroom
- Fifty new folding chairs
- Five inside and three outside security cameras and monitor installed
- Floor buffer replaced with “gently used” buffer
- Gravel placed in GAGA pit
- Handicap parking logo repainted
- Metal under windows on backside of building painted
- One camera recorder installed
- New faucet installed in men’s restroom
- New lock installed on gym custodial closet door
- New tabletops for Science 8
- New teacher laptops
- One hundred new one piece student desks
- Outside lighting repaired
- Projector mounted in forum
- SMARTBOARD and projector installed in eighth grade classroom
- SMARTBOARD’s repaired
- Stage lights repaired
- Thirty-one dry erase boards purchased
- Twelve new flat screen television’s installed in classrooms
- Walkie-talkies purchased for all core teachers



PUBLIC RELATIONS & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT  
Damascus Middle School  
2013-2014

- 4-H
- Abingdon Manor
- Abingdon Muster Grounds
- American Heart Association
- Arby's
- Artsonia.com
- Athletic Competitions
- Band and Choral Christmas Concert
- Band and Choral Spring concert
- Barter Theatre
- Black's Fort Chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution
- Children's Advocacy Center
- Chili Cook off for Special Olympics Polar Plunge
- College/Career Night
- Cracker Barrel
- Creeper Trail Clean-up
- Creeper Trail Ride to End Cancer
- Damascus Ambulance Service
- Damascus Branch of the Washington County Public Library
- Damascus Old Mill
- Damascus Town Police Department
- Damascus Volunteer Fire Department
- Damascus Volunteer Rescue Squad
- DARE
- Debbie Anderson, Rhea Valley Elementary School
- Department of Game and Inland Fisheries
- Distribution of Damascus Middle School Student Handbook
- Distribution of Washington County Public Schools Athletic Handbooks
- Distribution of Washington County Public Schools Calendar/Handbook
- Doug Beatty, Bonfire Smokehouse
- Doug Calebs, Calebs Realty
- DMS Christmas Card
- Eighth Grade Class Night
- Emory and Henry College
- Family Preservation Services, Inc.
- Feeding America Backpack distribution, Rosedale Baptist Church
- First Baptist Church Damascus
- Food City
- Garrison Kopp, Appalachian Power Company

- Highlands Community Services Life Skills
- H<sub>2</sub>O For Life Project
- Homework Hotline
- Israel O'Quinn, Virginia House of Delegates
- JJ's Restaurant
- John Rick Pagaduan, Laurel Family Pharmacy
- Johnston Memorial Hospital
- Josh Davidson, Chilhowie Fire Department
- Julie Hahn, Highlands Animal Hospital
- Justin Foundation
- Leonard Smith, countertop installer
- Logan's Roadhouse
- Monthly calendar/newsletter to parents (hard copy & e-mail)
- National Fishing in Schools Program
- National Middle School Association
- National Storytelling Festival
- Parent e-mail announcements/updates
- Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Pork Bellies
- PTA
- PTA Fall Festival
- River's Way
- School Day at the Fair
- School Messenger
- School Pictures
- Scholastic Book Fair
- Scrolling announcements in main office
- Service Learning opportunities
- Seventh grade visit to Rhea Valley Elementary School for Read Across America Day
- Sherry Grubb Photography
- Shoney's
- Sixth Grade Orientation
- Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center
- Steven Glovier, Virginia State Trooper
- Stone Mountain Health
- Teacher Advisory Committee
- The Great SouthEast ShakeOut
- Tim Browning, Department of Mines, Minerals, and Energy
- Tom Musick, farmer
- United Way
- Utility Trailer
- Veterans Day Celebration
- Virginia Highlands Community College
- Virginia Highlands Fellowship

- Virginia Middle School Association
- Virginia Schools To Watch
- Voting poll location
- Washington County Animal Shelter
- Washington County Board of Supervisors
- Washington County Chamber of Commerce
- Washington County Health Department
- Washington County Public Schools Calendar cover contest winners
- Washington County Sheriff's Office
- Weekly submission to Uniting the Division
- Woodmen of the World

**SECURITY AND SAFETY**  
**Damascus Middle School**  
**2013-2014**

- AESOP used to secure/document the hiring/performance of substitute teachers
- All medications are secured
- All staff members are trained to look for suspicious activity
- Billy the Bulldog initiative
- Bi-monthly class meetings as part of the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program
- Called, unscheduled faculty/staff meetings as necessary
- Camera surveillance of front door and hallways
- Chemicals are locked in storage units
- Clear and designated areas for students during fire drills
- Color coded hallways
- Concussion training for all coaches and nurses
- County sheriff's department monitors school during/after school hours
- CPR/First Aid/AED training provided
- Crisis Management Plan updated
- Crisis Team meetings as necessary
- Custodial staff wear personal protective equipment when mowing, weed-eating, and cleaning
- Custodial training
- Damascus Police personnel frequently on campus
- Damascus Police Department performs random walk-throughs
- Designated area for bus loading and unloading
- Designated staff and school nurse trained in CPR
- Designated staff members are trained to dispense student medications
- Designated times/areas for car riders and walkers
- Earthquake Drill
- Emergency Bus Drills
- Emergency guidelines/case plans are in place for students with medical conditions
- Emergency medical kits are dispensed for student field trips
- Emergency medical treatment forms are on file for each student
- Emergency shelter access is available at the Rescue Squad building
- Exits and fire extinguishers are visible throughout the school and checked monthly
- Exits are numbered on inside and outside
- Exterior doors locked during the school day
- Faculty and staff are required to wear identification badges
- Faculty and office staff are required to carry student rosters in identification badges
- Faculty trained on Crisis Management Plan
- Fire drills conducted once a week for the first month of school and monthly afterwards
- Floor plan located in each classroom
- Front door security system which includes intercom and camera
- Fuel pumps are locked and breaker turned off nightly

- Grounds are well lighted
- Hipaa/Ferba laws are enforced
- Intercom system
- Interior doors/locks for all classroom pods
- Internet safety taught in computer exploratory classes
- Lock down drills conducted
- No biking, roller-skating/boarding sign posted on grounds
- Occupational Safety and Health Administration training
- Part-time School Resource Officer
- Photos required on all medication bottles
- Police officers use a log book to document visits
- Principal/staff maintain a highly visible presence throughout the school
- Safety glasses and gloves are worn when in contact with blood or other body fluids
- Safety tape and signs are posted when mopping/waxing
- School board policies are followed for emergency situations and weather related incidents
- School computers have firewalls
- School is secured each evening after school activities
- School maintains a full-time nurse
- School Messenger used for telephone notifications to parents
- School nurse checks records for up-to-date immunizations
- School nurse monitors students for communicable diseases
- School Resource Officer present at all home basketball games
- School Safety Inspection
- Security system in use after school hours
- Sensitive documents are shredded
- Seventh grade DARE
- Sharps containers are used to dispose biohazard materials
- Sixth and eighth grade Lifeskills
- Student School Climate Survey
- Successfully completed Safety Audit
- Teacher School Climate Survey
- Tornado drills conducted
- Use of school e-mail/texts to alert parents as needed
- Use of school e-mail to alert staff to emergencies
- Use of school messenger to phone home when student is absent
- Visitors are required to sign in and wear an ID badge
- Washington County Sheriff's Department personnel perform daily walk-throughs
- Walkie-talkies are available and used by office staff, custodian, and all core teachers
- Youth Risk Assessment Survey

STUDENT ACTIVITIES  
Damascus Middle School  
2013-2014

- 4-H
- American Education Week activities
- American Red Cross “Holiday Mail for Heroes” service project
- Art Showcase by DMS students at the Washington County School Board office during Youth Art Month
- Athletics
- Biographical Glogs
- Book Fair
- Book Lover’s Club
- Brain and Board Games Club
- Bulling Prevention Assembly
- Cafeteria Super Bowl party
- Career Day
- Christmas Dance
- College/Career Night
- Connections Club
- Creative Writing Club
- Creeper Trail Ride to End Cancer Club
- Crochet/Needlework Club
- Damascus Divas Club
- DAR Essay Contest
- Dental Health Month presentations
- “Dining with the Presidents”
- DMS News Crew
- Drama Club
- Drama Club play presentation
- During and after-school tutoring
- Educational Talent Search
- Eighth grade Athletics
- Eighth grade Career Fair
- Eighth grade Class Night
- Eighth grade etiquette luncheon
- Eighth grade GATE to Virginia Tech
- Eighth grade high school scheduling meeting
- Eighth grade Holston High School tour
- Eighth grade ice cream social
- Eighth grade “Introduction to Pep Band”
- Eighth grade Johnston Memorial Hospital tour
- Eighth grade to Logan’s Roadhouse

- Eighth grade Superlatives
- Eighth grade tour of Universal Fibers
- Eighth grade tour of Utility Trailer
- Eighth grade tour of Virginia Highlands Community College
- Eighth grade Washington County Career and Technical Education Center tour
- Emory & Henry Brass Ensemble
- Fall Festival
- Featured Artist showcased in main office and on scrolling announcements
- Feeding America Backpack distributions
- GATE Activities
- GATE Trip to St. Louis
- Go Red for Women Day
- Grace Healthcare greeting card service project
- Grits'n Gravy w/Gramps'n Gran
- H<sub>2</sub>O for Life Club
- Hat Day
- Hispanic Heritage Month
- History Club
- Holston High School Spring Musical
- Homecoming Dance/Pep Rally
- Homecoming Week activities
- Hoops for Heart
- Igniting Creative Energy Challenge
- "I Love Southwest Virginia" Photography Contest
- Intensive SOL Review
- Intramurals
- Jump Start Read for the Record
- Junior FFA Club
- Junior Washington County Community Scholars
- Junior Washington County Community Scholars Luncheon
- Latch Hook Club
- Meet the DMS Athletes at PTA
- "Muffins w/Mom"
- National Police Week service project
- Outdoor Club
- Parents invited to breakfast for National School Breakfast Week
- PAWS Campaign
- Project Displays
- PTA Band/Chorus Christmas Concert
- PTA College/Career Night
- PTA Fall Festival
- PTA Open House
- PTA Reflections contest
- PTA Spring Band/Chorus Concert

- PTA Winter Wonderland Dance
- “Put a Cap on Cancer” Day
- Read Aloud to a Child Week
- Read More, Be More
- Red Ribbon Week activities
- SCA Cookies for Courage
- SCA Holiday Adopt a Family
- SCA Secret Santa for Teachers
- SCA Virginia Creeper Trail Clean-up
- SCOPE Fabulous First Line Contest
- Sherwood Anderson Short Story Contest
- Spanish Club
- Spring Art Show at Damascus Branch of the Washington County Public Library
- Spring Dance
- Student Bullying Prevention Committee
- Student Council Association
- School Day at the Washington County Fair
- Seventh and eighth grades Jr. All-County and District Band
- Seventh and eighth grades Jr. All-County and District Chorus
- Seventh grade DARE
- Seventh grade produced books and read to Rhea Valley Elementary kindergarten for Read Across America Day
- Seventh grade to Federal Court in Abingdon
- Seventh grade River’s Way program
- Sixth and seventh grades awards assemblies
- Sixth grade band to Rhea Valley Elementary School
- Sixth grade boys to Abingdon Muster Grounds
- Sixth grade girls STEM workshop
- Sixth grade Musical programs
- Sixth grade Orientation
- Sixth grade Superlatives
- Sixth grade to Highlands Dairy Farm
- Sixth grade to The Nutcracker
- Spanish Craft Club
- Spanish Heritage Recognition Day
- Spring Dance
- Student Registration Day
- Students of Character
- “Take Your Parents to Lunch” Day
- Technology/Science Club
- Valentine Dance
- Varsity Reading Letter
- Veterans Day program
- Washington County Fair Talent Showcase



- Washington County Schools Calendar Cover Contest
- Water Wednesdays
- Watercolor Club
- Yearbook Club
- Yearbook signing