

Rugby Middle School 3345 Haywood Road Hendersonville, NC 28791

P. Scott Moore, Principal

Suzanne Meadows, Assistant Principal Michael Gates, Assistant Principal

Dear Parent:

Once a year the state of North Carolina provides you with updates on your school's achievements through the North Carolina School Report Card – which includes important information about school and student performance, class sizes, attendance, school safety, instructional resources, and teacher quality. There also is information about how our school measured against federal Annual Measurable Objectives (AMO) targets in our school.

This is the fourth year the N.C. General Assembly is requiring that schools receive individual letter grades, which are comprised of student achievement (80 percent) and growth (20 percent) on state standardized assessments.

Rugby Middle met all its AMO target goals and met the N.C. Department of Public Instruction's growth expectations for the 2016-2017 school year, exceeding growth expectations in 8th-grade Science. Our overall school proficiency scores put us in the top 30 of all middle schools in North Carolina. Additionally, each one of our teachers is caring, skilled, and qualified. Thirty-two teachers have advanced degrees, and 16 are National Board Certified – an optional intensive certification process with high standards for educators.

The numbers only tell part of the story. At Rugby, we're proud of our robust arts programs, including drama, visual arts, chorus, strings and band. Our interscholastic athletic programs also excel in the Blue Ridge Athletic Conference, and we are also very proud of our involvement with Project Lead the Way – a pre-engineering program in our school district's Career and Technical Education courses. This school year, we have added a Medical Detectives course to accompany our established Green Architecture course and Robotics and Automation program (in its second year).

Our club offerings continue to increase, offering more opportunities for students to engage in school activities. We firmly believe that students who are involved in some school activity increase their chances for success. To that end, we will continue to add clubs and inclusive programs to encourage student involvement.

Rugby Middle is one of only six schools in the country and two in North Carolina to have received a fourth "National School to Watch" designation from the Association of Middle Level Educators. We have a renewed focus on our implementation of North Carolina's Positive Behavior Intervention & Support (PBIS) Initiative with an expanded mentor-mentee program, and earned the state's Green Ribbon Designation for this program.

Over the past two years, parents and school staff have worked to revitalize an active and functioning parent organization at Rugby. The result has been Rugby Engaged Partners (REP), an evolving organization that has increased equitable parent involvement.

As we move forward, Rugby Middle School's focus for improvement is on training staff to become even more adept at meeting students where they are, and accelerating student learning. We hope to continue building strong home-to-school partnerships, allowing parents and the school to help craft students' individualized educations.

Thank you for your investment in your child's school, and for supporting our efforts to provide your child with a high-quality education.

Sincerely, P. Scott Moore, Principal

> **Rugby Middle School** "Experience the Excellence"