



MEMORANDUM

TO: Randolph County Board of Education
Dr. Stephen Gainey, Superintendent

PRESENTED BY: Tim Moody, Public Information Officer

DATE: December 15, 2014

RE: Recognition of the 2014-2015 Lighthouse School Nomination

The Leadership Team of the Randolph County School System is nominating Ramseur Elementary School for consideration as a Lighthouse School. Our nomination is supported by multiple data points included in this narrative. It is also our goal to provide a description of the culture and environment that is felt and seen the moment you walk through the doors of the school. The principal, Tammie Abernethy, collaborated with colleagues across the district to assess physical learning spaces on the campus, followed by an extreme makeover for each learning space. A collaborative team of volunteers within the school and across the district worked to provide the labor and resources for the total classroom makeovers.

A school-wide focus on the emotional and social environment of the school was the next priority of the School Improvement Team. A strategic focus and plan was implemented to recognize students and staff for achievement in learning and contributions in citizenship in an effort to support the philosophy of respecting all members of the Ramseur Elementary School family. Upon entering the school, you experience a warm and inviting encounter from students and staff, where the physically beautiful environment and pride is apparent.

An additional strategic focus has been in the area of instructional practices. Ramseur Elementary School has a structure for daily, weekly, and quarterly review of individual student data in order to address the learning needs of students through instructional differentiation.

Ramseur Elementary School continues to grow academically. Data for the 2013-14 school year indicates an overall student proficiency of 42.6%, which reflects an increase of 8.7% from the previous school year. In addition, Ramseur Elementary School exceeded expected growth for the 2013-14 school year.

The staff at Ramseur Elementary School values a team atmosphere as evidenced by:

- positive behavior support
- grade level planning each week with the lead teacher utilizing the "end in mind standard"
- weekly Professional Learning Community (PLC) planning meeting with all teachers
- enhanced 21st Century skills by planning critical thinking questions in each lesson

- faculty book studies.

Instruction is driven by data at Ramseur Elementary School as a result of:

- a master schedule that allows for remediation and enrichment time daily
- intervention provided to selected students daily with two guided reading sessions
- an ongoing school-wide instructional practice with Dr. Jan Richardson
- data notebooks being used by grade levels
- a school-wide emphasis on character traits
- monthly common formative assessments in first through fifth grade, followed by remediation or enrichment based upon each student's data
- monthly reading data charts posted on data wall that are analyzed by grade levels
- student-centered math lessons based upon the Common Core State Standards.