

School Improvement Council (SIC) Report

2019-2020



Deer Park Middle School is committed to creating a learning community that will ensure our students' success in school and in life. We understand that the knowledge, skills and competencies acquired now will be the foundation for future learning. This year we have created a school culture that supports and challenges students, by exposing them to rigorous, unique and transformational learning experiences, and also providing the foundational skills necessary for optimal student learning outcomes.

Our goal is to maximize student learning by providing engaging and meaningful learning opportunities. We offer several courses which allow students to earn high school credit including Spanish, Algebra I, English I, Digital Literacy, and Fundamentals of Computing. We strive for all scholars to experience success academically and monitor students' academic growth closely. This year the Flex intervention period has allowed us to provide targeted, differentiated, personalized instruction to students in the areas of literacy and numeracy. Further data driven instruction within the classroom is essential to building world class skills. We support students in developing critical thinking and problem solving skills; collaboration and teamwork; and creativity and innovation through standards-based instruction and assessments, technology integration, and differentiated instruction.

Deer Park continues to recognize the role that character education and social emotional learning play in educating the whole child. Through the implementation of the Second Step program, students were exposed to powerful skills and competencies—like handling strong emotions, setting and meeting goals, making good decisions, and forging positive relationships. These lessons help build life and career characteristics such as integrity, self-direction, global perspective, work ethic, and interpersonal skills. Additionally, we continue to build relationships with every student knowing we must reach them before we can teach them through the Capturing Kids' Hearts program through the Flippen Group.

College and career readiness extends beyond the building. We have outstanding steel drums and visual arts programs that showcase their talents locally. Deer Park boasts an active robotics team, student council, Quest competition team, spelling bee club, and numerous sports teams. These activities provide opportunities for critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and creativity.

Through partnerships with our community, we have been able to expose our students to interesting opportunities and careers that enable students to put their futures into focus.

In partnership with our students, faculty, staff, parents, and community, we look forward to a bright and successful future that will best prepare students for high school, college, and beyond.

Shanitra Deas, Principal

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