

SCHOOLS TO WATCH

MODEL SCHOOL—VISITOR'S GUIDE



Jack London Middle School



Designated in 2009

Jack London Middle School • Wheeling School District 21
• Cook County • James Parker, Principal •
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2008 School Statistics

Community: Suburban – Population 38,555
Enrollment: 691
Grade Levels: 6-8
School Schedule:

Student Demographics

- 38.9% Hispanic
- 50.0% White
- 6.2% Asian
- 2.7% Other
- 1.7% African American
- 0.5% Native American

- 36.2% Free/Reduced Lunch
- 43.4% English Learners

2006 AYP: No
2007 AYP: Yes

(Visit [state department of education Web site](#) to view this school's data for prior years.)

School Characteristics and Replicable Practices

Academic Excellence

- Students are challenged in core and exploratory classes to meet and exceed standards.
- District developed Power Standards are aligned to state standards and align curriculum to standards.
- Progress monitoring is completed in reading and math three times a year.
- MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) test is given in the fall and spring of each year.
- SID (Student Information Database) is used to collect and analyze student achievement data.
- Teachers use varied strategies and differentiation tools to enhance inclusion.
- Daily team planning time is used to plan curriculum and analyze data.
- ELL After School Program helps English Language Learners reinforce math and reading skills.
- Strategic Reading program helps struggling readers enhance vocabulary and comprehension skills.
- School Learning Coach collaborates with, coaches, and mentors teachers.

Schools to Watch – Taking Center Stage **Jack London Middle School**

Developmental Responsiveness

- Several athletic, intramural, and fine arts opportunities.
- Parent involvement through curriculum night, parent-teacher conferences, newsletters, PTO, PAC, and HPAC meetings.
- Students are assigned to interdisciplinary core teams.
- Problem-Solving Model and Rtl is used to support the needs of students.
- Students are assessed in Learner Qualities which represent qualities of successful learners.
- Advisory Responsive Design “Circle” Model – Team building activities.
- Mix-It-Up Days at lunch encourage making new friends.
- Snowflake Program helps students to build confidence and provides a framework for students to make positive choices.

Social Equity

- Co-Teaching model of instruction is delivered to special education students.
- Gifted and Talented Program meets the unique individual needs of identified students.
- Problem Solving Model makes accommodations for students’ needs.
- Wide variety of teaching strategies are utilized and driven by assessment data.
- Promotes appreciation of different cultures.
- Training is provided on the diverse populations within our school community.

Organizational Support

- Strong professional development supports teacher improvement.
- Daily team meetings promote collaboration and growth.
- Mentoring program supports new teachers.
- Entire faculty shares responsibility for student achievement.
- Parent Advisory and Hispanic Parent Advisory Committee involve parents in school community.
- Parent Teacher Organization supports the school community.

Focus for the Future—Continuing Improvement

- School Improvement Plan creates goals in reading and math for our student subgroups.
- Teaming Rubric is utilized to facilitate growth.
- 21st Century Exploratory Program designed to be developmentally responsive and incorporate new curriculum.
- Working as a Professional Learning Community is a district initiative.