

Part 1

The Creation and Components of Albemarle Middle School

Albemarle Middle School's history can be traced back to the location on 3rd Street where the newly renovated Central Elementary School is located. In 1958, the senior high students were moved from the 3rd Street building to the current Albemarle High School location. That year, what was formerly the old high school became Albemarle Junior High School.

Albemarle Middle's heritage can be traced back even further to when the original building was opened in the fall of 1925. At that time, students in grades 8-11 attended school there. Around this time the bulldog mascot was adopted by the football team because the team members admired Yale University's football team, the Yale Bulldogs. The bulldog is now the mascot for Albemarle's high school, middle school, and elementary schools.

Albemarle Junior High was part of the Albemarle City School system until 1996, when it merged with the Stanly County Schools system. In the 1979-1980 school year, 9th graders were sent to the high school, leaving 7th and 8th grades at AJHS until the fall of 1985.

Beginning in the fall of 1985, Albemarle Junior High became Albemarle Middle School. In addition to the name change, the school added 6th grade, making the school a "true middle school." Until 2003, 6th-8th grade students attended Albemarle Middle at the location on 3rd Street.

In the fall of 2003, Albemarle Middle School moved to its' present location on Badin Rd. The new facility was paid for by the taxpayers of Stanly County through a school bond that was passed by taxpayers' votes in May of 2000. The new, state-of-the-art campus was a welcome improvement to the old building that was beginning to need extensive repairs.

Currently, Albemarle Middle School has 400 students enrolled. Our demographic breakdown is as follows: 44.9% White, 35.7% African-American, 8.4% Hispanic, 6.3% Asian, 4.7% Multi-Racial. Additionally, 71% of our students receive free or reduced lunch. The staff has remained consistent throughout the years. In fact, 52.6% of the faculty has been at AMS five or more years.

Instructionally, AMS students are assigned to an interdisciplinary team of teachers in their grade level. All students take a basic core curriculum (math, communication skills, science and social studies) in addition to enrichment courses consisting of physical education plus another vocational or elective course, ranging from art to online Spanish through the NC Virtual Public School. For students with additional needs, AMS has two self-contained exceptional children's classes and a strong exceptional children's program. Beyond the traditional classrooms, AMS has an inviting media center providing a variety of resources for students and staff as well as guidance services that are available to all students. Students with additional counseling needs are served by our in-house day treatment center provided by Monarch. For students who can no longer function in a traditional classroom, AMS has AMAP, the only alternative middle school in the county, located on campus as well as a credit recovery program. The goal of AMAP and the credit recovery program is to keep students in school, deal with unacceptable behaviors, and ultimately transition students back into regular classrooms.

Mission Statement

The mission of Albemarle Middle School is to prepare today's learners for tomorrow's world.

Vision Statement

Albemarle Middle School will be a school that puts all students' educational needs first every day, in every decision, by every stakeholder.

School Motto

"You Can't Hide That Bulldog Pride!"