



PRESS RELEASE

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Meadowview Magnet Middle Recognized as NC STEM School of Distinction

Meadowview Magnet Middle School students and principal, Dr. Shelley Goins, had the opportunity to be recognized at the State Board of Education meeting on September 7, 2018, in Raleigh. During this visit to the Department of Public Instruction's headquarters, Meadowview Magnet Middle School was recognized as a North Carolina STEM School of Distinction by the North Carolina Science, Mathematics, and Technology Education Center (NC SMT), the North Carolina STEM Center, and the Public Schools of North Carolina.

The STEM Schools of Distinction program was created to establish criteria to recognize exemplary STEM schools for their leadership and learning in science, technology, engineering, and math. This recognition is a process that does not happen by chance. It happens through systematically and purposefully integrating these content areas in such a way that it becomes a natural part of instruction. Schools receiving the STEM Schools of Distinction honor undergo a rigorous application process to demonstrate the application of STEM attributes are interwoven throughout the school setting.

Meadowview Magnet Middle's recognition on September 7th was the realization of three years of diligent work towards a one-year application process. Meadowview applied during the 2017-2018 school year. As part of their ongoing work, Meadowview has been implementing Project Based Learning (PBL) as an instructional strategy to help students solve real-world problems over an extended period of time. Teachers and administrators have also been building and fostering relationships with business partners to support programs like the Mustang Scholars program, which has been largely successful and is designed to help underrepresented students explore careers in the biomedical and biotechnology fields.

Students shared what it is like to attend Meadowview Magnet Middle and how the STEM program works at their school. One student, Zamaya Strickland, a residential student at Meadowview, is working very hard and progressing extremely well due to the STEM opportunities afforded her by the school. Zamaya also serves on the Principal's Advisory Council. Principal Goins, shared, "Give Zamaya a task and the tools and she will figure it out."

Ashley Flores, another member of the Principal Advisory Council shared her experiences as a Mustang Scholar and how that was just one example of students at Meadowview participating in out of school learning programs. Other students in attendance were Mustang Scholar participants, Jay Eades, and Kole Bryant.

Dr. Shelley Goins shared with the State Board of Education, "We are getting it right at Meadowview Magnet Middle. I am proud of my staff for their commitment to providing opportunities for students and striving for continuous improvement." Dr. Travis L. Reeves, Superintendent of Surry County Schools, Dr. Jill Reinhardt, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, and Mrs. Alicia Ray, Media Specialist and Digital Learning Leader at Meadowview Magnet Middle were also in attendance.

Superintendent Reeves remarked, "I am extremely proud of the hard work and effort by the Meadowview Magnet Middle School staff and students to achieve this high level of recognition for their work with STEM. Today's students must be prepared for a workforce where their skill sets will need to be flexible and constantly changing. STEM education prepares students with the necessary skills to be thinkers and problem solvers so they are equipped to be a part of the workforce business and industry is looking for in the future." Moreover, Dr. Reeves commented, "Meadowview Magnet Middle School is an example of what is right with public education. The Surry County School system prides itself on providing school choice and opportunities for students to develop transferable skills for life in preparation for college and careers. This recognition for Meadowview is one example of many where employable skills are being developed on a daily basis for students, which benefits them and their families. Today we celebrate the students and staff at Meadowview for a job well done."

In addition to attending the State Board of Education meeting, students and principal, Dr. Goins were also recognized and celebrated with an awards luncheon. Mrs. Alicia Ray told attendees at the awards luncheon, "After being at Meadowview Magnet Middle for three years, I've seen students transform in their leadership. What we are doing with STEM is truly making a difference."

It is worth noting, 20 schools began the application process with 15 schools completing it and submitting their applications. Five schools were awarded a site visit and only three were awarded the designation of NC STEM School of Distinction.



Dr. Shelley Goins Presents to the State Board of Education at the September Meeting on September 7, 2018 Photo Courtesy of Elaine.Darby@dpi.nc.gov



Left to Right: Mark Johnson, Dr. Jill Reinhardt, Alan Duncan, Dr. Travis Reeves, Zamaya Strickland, Bill Cobey, Ashley Flores, Dr. Shelley Goins, Jay Eades, Kole Bryant, Eric Davis, and Alicia Ray. Photo Courtesy of Elaine.Darby@dpi.nc.gov