

South Orangetown Middle School
Grades 6 – 8
21st Century Goals and Projects
2011-2012

Karen Tesik, Principal
Richard Neidhart, Assistant Principal

As we begin our Middle School journey together, we are excited to look ahead to the challenges of meeting the needs of all of our students. We will continue to address their social and emotional needs through these adolescent years while maintaining a culture based on acceptance and respect.

Goals: South Orangetown Middle School through the increased use of student-centered lessons will:

- allow all students to transition to the high school with the knowledge and experience of utilizing 21st century skills and exploring 21st Century Themes.
- address the diverse needs of learners.
- foster a respectful learning environment.
- continually search for avenues that Enhance Student Literacy.

Exciting course offerings and highlights include:

- Mandarin Chinese is now being offered as an exploratory course.
- “Investigations” is a new explore course that allow students to explore additional topics in Mathematics and Science using technology.
- All 6th grade students are now part of a Character Education program which introduces the “7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens”.
- As a learning community, we continue to reflect on NYS assessment data, classroom assessment data, tri-state reports and survey results to continually refine programs and curriculum so as to celebrate our success and address our needs.
- We are developing in-house Professional Development Classes using our own talented staff to support one another in learning.
- We are further engaging in professional discourse around student work. These conversations are becoming the driving force behind our Professional Development.
- We are looking forward to a great year filled with excitement and numerous opportunities to showcase our best work.
- Students identified as needing support in order to meet NYS Standards in ELA or Mathematics have been identified and will receive various supports in the classroom and if necessary additional classes in the identified subject.