

**2008 SCHOOL REPORT CARD**  
**Converse Middle School**



OCTOBER, 2008

Dear Parents and/or Guardians,

As required by No Child Left Behind (NCLB), we are publishing our annual school "Report Card" to share pertinent information compiled by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. The report card you are receiving is specific to CMS, but district-wide information regarding academic achievement and related information is available at the Superintendent's office, each school, and at the Palmer Public Library. School and district profiles can also be accessed through our website at [www.palmerschools.org](http://www.palmerschools.org). Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

*Sincerely yours,*

*David Stetkiewicz*

*Principal*



**VISION:**

The Palmer School System embraces lifelong learning through a learning-centered approach to education.

**DISTRICT GOALS:**

- To enhance teaching and learning and improve student achievement
- To provide and maintain a current and reliable technological system to support the learning process
- To increase community support for the Palmer Public Schools
- To upgrade and maintain the physical plants to provide safe, modern facilities for learning

**OUR MISSION:**

~Preparing our students for life and learning!

**MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of the Palmer Public Schools is to ensure the opportunity for all of the children of Palmer to participate in the benefits afforded by a well-planned, coordinated educational program designed to serve their needs by:

- \* Providing a safe, secure and positive environment that fosters the growth of self-esteem through accomplishments in learning
- \* Assessing their educational requirements, recognizing the validity of varied learning styles, and providing appropriate programming for each student
- \* Preparing our students for a lifelong commitment to intellectual, physical, social, and emotional growth
- \* Encouraging our students to have a deep understanding of the principles of fair play and the rights of all responsible individuals within a democratic society.

To make the most of the educational opportunity afforded the student by the community, the student will demonstrate:

- \* The self-motivation and the self-discipline necessary for the pursuit of excellence
- \* His/her understanding of how to learn, and applying that knowledge to the enhancement of his/her life and the lives of others.



**VALUES:**

- ~A commitment to the shared vision
- ~An environment which is safe, supportive and accepting of intellectual risk taking
- ~The sharing of ideas and experiences
- ~The students belong to all of us



**Grades @ CMS: 5, 6, and 7**

**Percent of teachers licensed: 92.5%**

**Percent of teachers in core academic subject areas who are Highly Qualified: 86.2%**

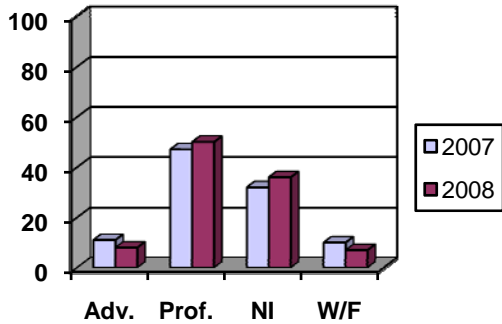
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**MCAS RESULTS 2008:  
Grade 5 – English Language Arts**

|                      | Included in Results |     | % Students at Each Performance Level |    |    |     |
|----------------------|---------------------|-----|--------------------------------------|----|----|-----|
|                      | #                   | %   | A                                    | P  | NI | W/F |
| <b>STUDENT GROUP</b> |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| Students w/Disab.    | 25                  | 100 | 4                                    | 8  | 56 | 32  |
| Low Income           | 43                  | 98  | 5                                    | 51 | 33 | 12  |
| White                | 120                 | 99  | 7                                    | 51 | 37 | 6   |
| Male                 | 60                  | 98  | 5                                    | 43 | 42 | 10  |
| Female               | 72                  | 100 | 10                                   | 56 | 31 | 4   |
| Title I              | 23                  | 96  | 0                                    | 13 | 74 | 13  |
| Non-Title I          | 109                 | 100 | 9                                    | 58 | 28 | 6   |
| Non-Low Income       | 89                  | 100 | 9                                    | 49 | 37 | 4   |
| <b>ALL STUDENTS</b>  |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| 2008                 | 132                 | 99  | 8                                    | 50 | 36 | 7   |
| 2007                 | 152                 | 99  | 11                                   | 47 | 32 | 10  |
| <b>DISTRICT</b>      |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| 2008                 | 138                 | 99  | 7                                    | 49 | 36 | 8   |
| 2007                 | 158                 | 99  | 11                                   | 47 | 33 | 9   |
| <b>STATE</b>         |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| 2008                 | 70644               | 100 | 13                                   | 48 | 30 | 8   |
| 2007                 | 71320               | 100 | 15                                   | 48 | 28 | 9   |

NOTE: MCAS results for groups with fewer than 10 students are not shown to protect student confidentiality.

**Percentage of Students by Performance Level**

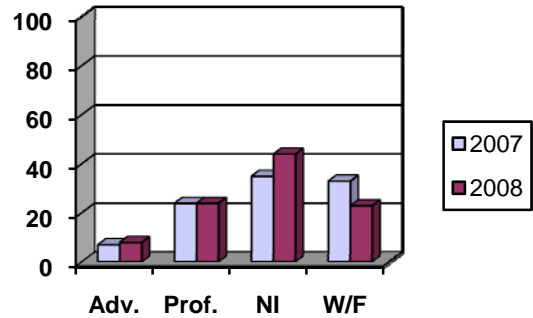


**MCAS RESULTS 2008:  
Grade 5 – Mathematics**

|                      | Included in Results |     | % Students at Each Performance Level |    |    |     |
|----------------------|---------------------|-----|--------------------------------------|----|----|-----|
|                      | #                   | %   | A                                    | P  | NI | W/F |
| <b>STUDENT GROUP</b> |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| Students w/Disab.    | 24                  | 96  | 4                                    | 4  | 25 | 67  |
| Low Income           | 44                  | 100 | 0                                    | 16 | 55 | 30  |
| White                | 121                 | 100 | 8                                    | 23 | 45 | 23  |
| Male                 | 60                  | 98  | 10                                   | 20 | 45 | 25  |
| Female               | 72                  | 100 | 7                                    | 28 | 43 | 22  |
| Title I              | 24                  | 100 | 0                                    | 0  | 38 | 63  |
| Non-Title I          | 108                 | 99  | 10                                   | 30 | 45 | 15  |
| Non-Low Income       | 88                  | 99  | 13                                   | 28 | 39 | 20  |
| <b>ALL STUDENTS</b>  |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| 2008                 | 132                 | 99  | 8                                    | 24 | 44 | 23  |
| 2007                 | 153                 | 100 | 7                                    | 24 | 35 | 33  |
| <b>DISTRICT</b>      |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| 2008                 | 139                 | 99  | 8                                    | 24 | 42 | 26  |
| 2007                 | 159                 | 100 | 7                                    | 24 | 35 | 35  |
| <b>STATE</b>         |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| 2008                 | 70748               | 100 | 22                                   | 30 | 30 | 17  |
| 2007                 | 71352               | 100 | 19                                   | 32 | 31 | 18  |

NOTE: MCAS results for groups with fewer than 10 students are not shown to protect student confidentiality.

**Percentage of Students by Performance Level**

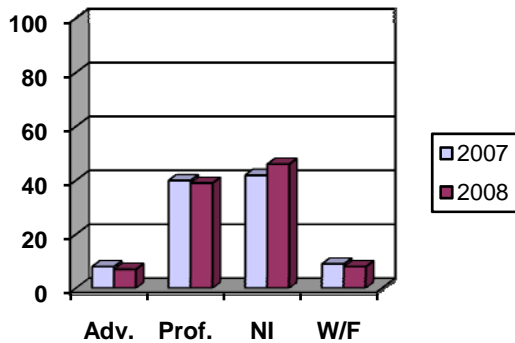


**MCAS RESULTS 2008:**  
**Grade 5 – Science & Technology**

|                      | Included in Results |     | % Students at Each Performance Level |    |    |     |
|----------------------|---------------------|-----|--------------------------------------|----|----|-----|
|                      | #                   | %   | A                                    | P  | NI | W/F |
| <b>STUDENT GROUP</b> |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| Students w/Disab.    | 24                  | 96  | 0                                    | 8  | 71 | 21  |
| Low Income           | 44                  | 100 | 2                                    | 41 | 43 | 14  |
| White                | 121                 | 100 | 6                                    | 39 | 50 | 6   |
| Male                 | 60                  | 98  | 7                                    | 35 | 50 | 8   |
| Female               | 72                  | 100 | 7                                    | 43 | 43 | 7   |
| Title I              | 24                  | 100 | 0                                    | 13 | 75 | 13  |
| Non Title I          | 108                 | 99  | 8                                    | 45 | 40 | 6   |
| Non-Low Income       | 88                  | 99  | 9                                    | 39 | 48 | 5   |
| <b>ALL STUDENTS</b>  |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| 2008                 | 132                 | 99  | 7                                    | 39 | 46 | 8   |
| 2007                 | 153                 | 100 | 8                                    | 40 | 42 | 9   |
| <b>DISTRICT</b>      |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| 2008                 | 139                 | 99  | 6                                    | 40 | 45 | 9   |
| 2007                 | 159                 | 100 | 8                                    | 38 | 44 | 9   |
| <b>STATE</b>         |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| 2008                 | 70689               | 100 | 17                                   | 33 | 38 | 12  |
| 2007                 | 71338               | 100 | 14                                   | 37 | 37 | 12  |

NOTE: MCAS results for groups with fewer than 10 students are not shown to protect student confidentiality.

**Percentage of Students by Performance Level**

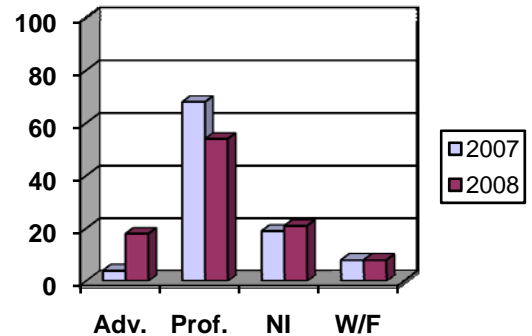


**MCAS RESULTS 2008:**  
**Grade 6 – English Language Arts**

|                      | Included in Results |     | % Students at Each Performance Level |    |    |     |
|----------------------|---------------------|-----|--------------------------------------|----|----|-----|
|                      | #                   | %   | A                                    | P  | NI | W/F |
| <b>STUDENT GROUP</b> |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| Students w/Disab.    | 29                  | 100 | 0                                    | 21 | 48 | 31  |
| Low Income           | 38                  | 100 | 13                                   | 50 | 26 | 11  |
| White                | 133                 | 100 | 20                                   | 51 | 21 | 8   |
| Male                 | 71                  | 100 | 6                                    | 55 | 27 | 13  |
| Female               | 82                  | 100 | 28                                   | 52 | 16 | 4   |
| Title I              | 18                  | 100 | 0                                    | 39 | 39 | 22  |
| Non-Title I          | 135                 | 100 | 20                                   | 56 | 19 | 6   |
| Non-Low Income       | 115                 | 100 | 19                                   | 55 | 19 | 7   |
| <b>ALL STUDENTS</b>  |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| 2008                 | 153                 | 100 | 18                                   | 54 | 21 | 8   |
| 2007                 | 166                 | 100 | 4                                    | 68 | 19 | 8   |
| <b>DISTRICT</b>      |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| 2008                 | 160                 | 100 | 17                                   | 53 | 23 | 8   |
| 2007                 | 176                 | 100 | 4                                    | 67 | 20 | 9   |
| <b>STATE</b>         |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| 2008                 | 71575               | 99  | 15                                   | 52 | 24 | 8   |
| 2007                 | 72887               | 100 | 9                                    | 58 | 25 | 7   |

NOTE: MCAS results for groups with fewer than 10 students are not shown to protect student confidentiality.

**Percentage of Students by Performance Level**

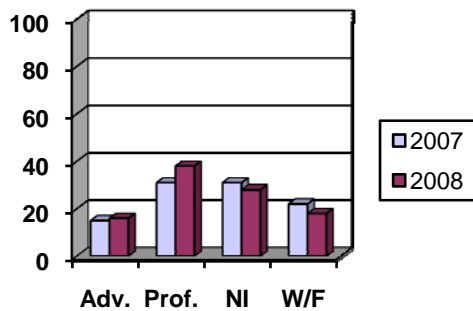


**MCAS RESULTS 2008:**  
**Grade 6 – Mathematics**

|                      | Included in Results |     | % Students at Each Performance Level |    |    |     |
|----------------------|---------------------|-----|--------------------------------------|----|----|-----|
|                      | #                   | %   | A                                    | P  | NI | W/F |
| <b>STUDENT GROUP</b> |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| Students w/Disab.    | 29                  | 100 | 0                                    | 17 | 28 | 55  |
| Low Income           | 38                  | 100 | 0                                    | 29 | 45 | 26  |
| White                | 132                 | 100 | 17                                   | 41 | 25 | 17  |
| Male                 | 71                  | 100 | 13                                   | 34 | 27 | 27  |
| Female               | 81                  | 100 | 19                                   | 42 | 30 | 10  |
| Title I              | 18                  | 100 | 0                                    | 11 | 50 | 39  |
| Non-Title I          | 134                 | 100 | 18                                   | 42 | 25 | 15  |
| Non-Low Income       | 114                 | 100 | 21                                   | 41 | 23 | 15  |
| <b>ALL STUDENTS</b>  |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| 2008                 | 152                 | 100 | 16                                   | 38 | 28 | 18  |
| 2007                 | 166                 | 100 | 15                                   | 31 | 31 | 22  |
| <b>DISTRICT</b>      |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| 2008                 | 159                 | 100 | 15                                   | 36 | 28 | 21  |
| 2007                 | 175                 | 100 | 14                                   | 30 | 32 | 23  |
| <b>STATE</b>         |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| 2008                 | 71679               | 100 | 23                                   | 33 | 26 | 18  |
| 2007                 | 72889               | 100 | 20                                   | 32 | 28 | 20  |

NOTE: MCAS results for groups with fewer than 10 students are not shown to protect student confidentiality.

**Percentage of Students by Performance Level**

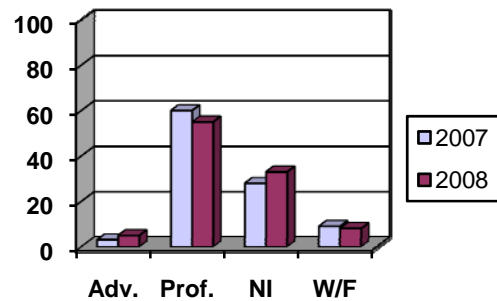


**MCAS RESULTS 2008:**  
**Grade 7 – English Language Arts**

|                      | Included in Results |     | % Students at Each Performance Level |    |    |     |
|----------------------|---------------------|-----|--------------------------------------|----|----|-----|
|                      | #                   | %   | A                                    | P  | NI | W/F |
| <b>STUDENT GROUP</b> |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| Students w/Disab.    | 23                  | 100 | 0                                    | 9  | 52 | 39  |
| Low Income           | 49                  | 98  | 2                                    | 47 | 37 | 14  |
| White                | 152                 | 99  | 5                                    | 54 | 34 | 7   |
| Male                 | 87                  | 99  | 3                                    | 48 | 37 | 11  |
| Female               | 76                  | 100 | 7                                    | 62 | 28 | 4   |
| Title I              | 40                  | 98  | 0                                    | 33 | 63 | 5   |
| Non-Title I          | 123                 | 100 | 7                                    | 62 | 23 | 9   |
| Non-Low Income       | 114                 | 100 | 6                                    | 58 | 31 | 5   |
| <b>ALL STUDENTS</b>  |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| 2008                 | 163                 | 99  | 5                                    | 55 | 33 | 8   |
| 2007                 | 176                 | 99  | 3                                    | 60 | 28 | 9   |
| <b>DISTRICT</b>      |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| 2008                 | 170                 | 99  | 5                                    | 54 | 34 | 8   |
| 2007                 | 190                 | 99  | 3                                    | 58 | 28 | 11  |
| <b>STATE</b>         |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| 2008                 | 72799               | 99  | 12                                   | 57 | 23 | 8   |
| 2007                 | 73577               | 100 | 9                                    | 60 | 23 | 8   |

NOTE: MCAS results for groups with fewer than 10 students are not shown to protect student confidentiality.

**Percentage of Students by Performance Level**

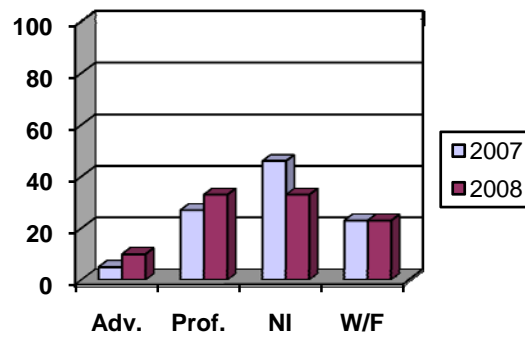


**MCAS RESULTS 2008:**  
**Grade 7 – Mathematics**

|                      | Included in Results |     | % Students at Each Performance Level |    |    |     |
|----------------------|---------------------|-----|--------------------------------------|----|----|-----|
|                      | #                   | %   | A                                    | P  | NI | W/F |
| <b>STUDENT GROUP</b> |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| Students w/Disab.    | 23                  | 100 | 0                                    | 0  | 22 | 78  |
| Low Income           | 50                  | 100 | 4                                    | 20 | 40 | 36  |
| White                | 152                 | 99  | 11                                   | 34 | 32 | 23  |
| Male                 | 88                  | 100 | 7                                    | 34 | 36 | 23  |
| Female               | 75                  | 99  | 15                                   | 32 | 29 | 24  |
| Title I              | 41                  | 100 | 0                                    | 20 | 39 | 41  |
| Non-Title I          | 122                 | 99  | 14                                   | 38 | 31 | 17  |
| Non-Low Income       | 113                 | 99  | 13                                   | 39 | 30 | 18  |
| <b>ALL STUDENTS</b>  |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| 2008                 | 163                 | 99  | 10                                   | 33 | 33 | 23  |
| 2007                 | 176                 | 99  | 5                                    | 27 | 46 | 23  |
| <b>DISTRICT</b>      |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| 2008                 | 172                 | 99  | 10                                   | 31 | 34 | 25  |
| 2007                 | 191                 | 99  | 4                                    | 25 | 45 | 27  |
| <b>STATE</b>         |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| 2008                 | 73169               | 99  | 15                                   | 32 | 29 | 24  |
| 2007                 | 73592               | 100 | 15                                   | 31 | 30 | 24  |

NOTE: MCAS results for groups with fewer than 10 students are not shown to protect student confidentiality.

**Percentage of Students by Performance Level**



**Data Definitions:**

**Race/Ethnicity:**

**African-American** - A person having origins in any of the black racial groups in Africa.

**Asian** - A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, the Indian subcontinent or the Pacific Islands. This area includes, for example, China, India, Japan, Korea, the Philippine Islands and Samoa.

**Hispanic** - A person of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.

**Native American** - A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North America, and who maintains cultural identification through tribal affiliation or community attachment.

**White** - A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, North Africa, or the Middle East.

**Limited English Proficient:**

Defined as "a student whose first language is a language other than English who is unable to perform ordinary classroom work in English.

**Low Income:**

An indication of whether the student meets ANY ONE of the following definitions of low income:

1. The student is eligible for free or reduced price lunch; or
2. The student receives Transitional Aid to Families benefits; or
3. The student is eligible for food stamps

**Percent of teachers licensed:**

The percentage of teachers with Provisional, Initial, or Professional licensure (all teaching staff, including long-term substitutes). This information is not required from charter schools.

**Percent of core academic classes taught by highly-qualified teachers:**

The percentage of staff, measured in "full-time equivalency", teaching in core academic areas, that meet the NCLB definition of highly-qualified. To meet the definition, teachers must hold a valid Massachusetts license AND demonstrate subject matter competency in the areas they teach. The core academic areas are defined as English, reading or language arts, mathematics, science, foreign languages, civics and government, economics, arts, history, and geography.

**Performance Level Definitions (MCAS):**

**(A) Advanced** - Students demonstrate a superior understanding of challenging subject matter, and solve a wide variety of problems.

**(P) Proficient** - Students demonstrate a solid understanding of challenging subject matter, and solve a wide variety of problems.

**(NI) Needs Improvement** - Students demonstrate partial understanding of subject matter, and solve some simple problems.

**(W/F) Warning/Failing** - Students demonstrate minimal understanding of subject matter, and do not solve simple problems.

**Special Education:**

Students who have an individualized Education Plan (IEP).

**Adequate Yearly Progress History:**

| Adequate Yearly Progress History |               |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | NCLB Accountability Status       |
|----------------------------------|---------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|----------------------------------|
|                                  |               | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 |                                  |
| ELA                              | Aggregate     | -    | -    | -    | Yes  | Yes  | Yes  | Yes  | Yes  | Yes  | No Status                        |
|                                  | All Subgroups | -    | -    | -    | No   | Yes  | Yes  | No   | Yes  | No   |                                  |
| MATH                             | Aggregate     | -    | -    | -    | Yes  | Yes  | No   | No   | Yes  | Yes  | Restructuring Year 1 - Subgroups |
|                                  | All Subgroups | -    | -    | -    | No   | No   | No   | No   | No   | No   |                                  |

**Adequate Yearly Progress Performance:**  
 A determination of whether a school/district has made "adequate yearly progress". Detailed information on the AYP determinations can be found on the MA Department of Education website at <http://www.doe.mass.edu/sda/ayp/cycleIII/>.

**Enrollment (2008)**

|                                      | School     | District     | State          |
|--------------------------------------|------------|--------------|----------------|
| <b>RACE</b>                          |            |              |                |
| White                                | 90.4%      | 91.7%        | 70.8%          |
| African-American                     | 1.7%       | 1.3%         | 8.1%           |
| Hispanic                             | 2.1%       | 2.4%         | 13.9%          |
| Asian                                | 1.5%       | 1.9%         | 4.9%           |
| Native American                      | 2.1%       | 0.1%         | 0.3%           |
| Native Hawaiian,<br>Pacific Islander | 0.4%       | 0.7%         | 0.3%           |
| Multi-Race, Non-<br>Hispanic         | 1.7%       | 1.3%         | 1.9%           |
| <b>GENDER</b>                        |            |              |                |
| Male                                 | 49.0%      | 51.9%        | 51.4%          |
| Female                               | 51.0%      | 48.1%        | 48.6%          |
| <b>SELECT<br/>POPULATION</b>         |            |              |                |
| Limited Eng.<br>Proficiency          | 0.2%       | 0.3%         | 5.8%           |
| Low-income                           | 29.4%      | 28.3%        | 29.5%          |
| Special Education                    | 16.0%      | 17.7%        | 16.9%          |
| First Language Not<br>English        | 2.1%       | 1.6%         | 15.1%          |
| <b>TOTAL COUNT</b>                   | <b>469</b> | <b>1,883</b> | <b>962,806</b> |

**School Administrators:**  
*Dr. Gerald Fournier*  
Superintendent of Schools  
**Phone: (413)-283-2650**

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**CONVERSE MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
*Mr. David Stetkiewicz ~ Principal*  
*Mrs. Jacqueline Haley ~ Assistant Principal*  
**Phone: (413)-283-8109**  
**FAX: (413)-283-2655**

The **Converse Middle School** believes that every student will be given the opportunity to maximize learning abilities. This environment should address the unique characteristics and needs of early adolescents through cooperation among teachers, staff, counselors and administrators. Students will gain mutual trust and respect that encourages self-esteem, dignity, cooperation and the ability to solve problems necessary for lifetime learning.



District website @  
<http://palmerschools.org>

