

NASHUA SCHOOL DISTRICT**MIDDLE LEVEL EDUCATION POLICY**

Middle Level Education, as defined by the Nashua Board of Education, is provided to students in Grades 7, 8. Effective September, 2004, Middle Level Education will include Grades 6, 7 and 8.

The components of Middle Level Education include an emphasis on a student-centered program; development of effective learning communities; interdisciplinary planning; block scheduling; leveling of students for instructional purposes (homogeneous grouping); establishing small group student/teacher relationships; parents as active partners; accountability; and program evaluation.

- Team teaching of a small community of learners consists of two or more teachers who provide the educational program for a set group of students.
- Interdisciplinary planning is the connection and integration of content purposefully planned to maximize learning.
- Block scheduling is an administrative tool used to provide teachers with common planning time and the potential for elongating blocks of instructional time.
- Leveling, or homogeneous grouping, is the grouping of students at instructional levels based on achievement.
- Small group teacher/student relationships can include advisor/advisee relationships, where the teacher meets with the students collectively or individually on a regular basis in a consulting fashion throughout the year.
- Parents as active partners: Engaging the family as partners in supporting student achievement by building collaborative relationships with the entire community.
- Increased accountability and commitment to routine program evaluation by utilizing a variety of measures including improved achievement scores, enhanced attendance, and improved discipline, as well as authentic measures of student performance.

Board approved 3/9/98
R/Bd. Approved 10/28/02