

# Frequently Asked Questions

## Six School Council Middle School Information Seminar

1. School name and location	Alice Deal Middle School
2. Number of grades in the school building	2009/10: Grades, 6, 7, and 8
3. Enrollment levels and recent trends (e.g., added a middle school lately? Moved?)	Current enrollment: 870 Approximately 290 students per grade level.
4. Number of classes per grade	There are 3 teams at each grade level. Each team has approximately 100 students. Core team teachers (Humanities, Sciences, Mathematics, and English) have 5 classes averaging 20 students per class.
5. Number of students per grade and teacher/student ratio	Teacher student ratio is 24:1 (approximately) although there are much smaller classes and a few larger ones, due to the use of homerooms and specialty electives.
6. Most recent two years of DC CAS/BAS scores in English + Math	2008 math: 77.01 2009 math: 77.63  2008 reading 78.37 2009 reading; 78.59
7. Made AYP in NCLB?	No. Our deficiencies were in Special Education and English Language Learners.
8. Elementary schools that “officially” feed into each middle school (if not charters)	Janney, Lafayette, Murch, Shepherd – straight feeders. Split feeders include Eaton and Bancroft. This situation has been evolving over the last couple of years.
9. Application deadline for consideration (either charter or out-of-boundary)	No application necessary, unless students are out-of-boundary, in which case the DC OOB process applies.
10. Pct of student in-boundary last three years and projected and how are projections going to be realized (N/A for charters)	Approximately 60 percent of our students are in-boundary, although for our new 6 <sup>th</sup> grade class this percentage is closer to 70 percent.
11. % on free lunch program, % ESL	2008/9: FRL – 33 percent 2008/9 ELL – 13 percent
12. Which high school(s) does the school feed in to?	We are a feeder for Wilson High School.
13. (a)What percentage of students go on to public high school? (b) What percentage go on to private high school? (c) Can you list all schools to which your graduates go, and the numbers of students (or	For our 2009 8 <sup>th</sup> grade class, 94.7 percent went on to DC public high schools.  3.5 percent went to private high schools.  Our students went to:

percentages) that go to each?	Wilson (78.4 percent) School Without Walls (9.6) St. John's (private) (2.5) Duke Ellington School for the Arts (2.1) Banneker Academic (2.1) McKinley Tech (1.4) Columbia Heights Educational Campus (1.0) Georgetown Day (private) (0.7) Sidwell Friends (private) (0.3) Maret (private) (0.3)
14. Admission process?	None. Registration per regulations of DC Public School
15. What proportion of the school budget comes from: (a) DCPS, (b) PTA, (c) other sources?	
16. Does your school have a before-school or after-school program?	School doors open at 8 am, 45 minutes before class. Students in music performance groups begin some days at 7:45 am.  We do have an after-care program. Extracurricular activities run from 3:30 until 4:30; after-care continues until 6 pm.

### Academic Program

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is there an honors program of any kind, and if so, in what subjects?</li> </ul>	Program and instruction are designed around providing an intensive (honors) program for all. Distinct from work and expectations in core academic classes, 8 <sup>th</sup> graders all take either Algebra or Geometry; all students take World Languages for high school credit. IB MYP provides a clear academic focus targeted at rigor and comprehensiveness. All students participate in National History Day and Science Fair.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Which foreign languages are taught? Is there provision for advanced study in any of the languages? Are languages required, and if so, for which years?</li> </ul>	Spanish (regular and intensive), French, Mandarin Chinese. Language instruction is required for each year at Deal. Spanish Humanities classes are advanced classes intended for students who have had an immersion experience.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is there a special orientation to the academic program, and if so, what is it (e.g., IB middle years, arts orientation)? What additional requirements are attached to this programmatic focus (e.g., learning an instrument)?</li> </ul>	International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program – no additional admission requirements – the program serves all students.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What is the arts and music curriculum? What classes are required?</li> </ul>	Visual arts/music – 1 semester total 6 <sup>th</sup> grade Music – 1 semester 7 <sup>th</sup> grade Visual Arts – 1 semester 8 <sup>th</sup> grade Before- and after-school chorus and band activities.

### Teachers and Principal

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the average number of years of tenure of teachers at your school?</li> </ul>	Due to expansion (number of students and added teams), approximately half of our teachers are new to Deal this year.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What percentage of teachers turn over every year?</li> </ul>	Last year, 5 teachers left needing to be replaced.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the teacher training/professional development program – how often are teachers trained, and in what areas?</li> </ul>	Professional development is intensive, including support for IB MYP, teacher growth, school- and district-initiatives, and identified areas of need.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What percent have been through any form of certification?</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the policy with regard to encouraging (or not) teacher interaction with families and students, e.g., by email to ask questions, to express concerns?</li> </ul>	Deal has a readily available staff. In addition to requirements for parent contact (48 hours or less), teachers maintain online communication for teams as well as online grade books and assignment posts.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What percentage of classes have homework or other information about the class on a website?</li> </ul>	All classes are required to maintain homework and class information on EdLine. Some classes provide additional information on other web addresses.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How long has the principal been leading the school?</li> </ul>	This is Dr. Kim's 5 <sup>th</sup> year at Deal.

### School Environment

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the security arrangement for the school? Does your school use/have metal detectors at entrances?</li> </ul>	Our school has a standard security arrangement for DCPS middle schools. We have a DC police presence with school resource officers, a security team, and we do have metal detectors. We are a very low incidence school.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is there a community service requirement? If so, can you please describe it?</li> </ul>	Through the IB MYP, our teachers and staff are developing a community service program that will provide meaningful and personal community service for all students.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the best website for gathering information about the school?</li> </ul>	<a href="http://www.alicedeal.org">www.alicedeal.org</a>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For charters: what is the governance of the school? Who is on the Board?</li> </ul>	N/A
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do students wear uniforms? What is the dress code and how is it enforced?</li> </ul>	There are no uniform requirements at Deal. The dress code is for reasonable wear (defined for students and families) and is vigorously enforced by all staff.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transportation to and from school? Additional cost?</li> </ul>	Deal is accessible by local bus, Metro (Tenleytown Metro station), by walking, and by drop-off.

*Extracurricular*

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What sports programs are there within and outside the curriculum? Where do kids have PE?</li></ul>	All students take PE each year for a semester. Deal has competitive athletic teams in boys and girls soccer, basketball, girls volleyball, cheerleading, baseball, softball, cross-country and track. We also offer intramural activities in rugby, fencing, Ultimate Frizbee, and dance, among others.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What other major extracurricular programs does the school have and how much does it cost? Who runs these programs?</li></ul>	The school has an extensive extracurricular program, both academic and activity focused: MathCounts, Debate, robotics, GeoPlunge, spelling and geography bees, school musical, improv club, language clubs, student council, arts studio club, among many, many others. We also have an embedded period once every two weeks in which students try completely different activities sponsored by all members of the staff.