

Twin Falls Middle School 2009-2010

Fast Facts (2008-09)

Grades 6-7-8

571 Students
27 Teachers:
 9 Math/Science
 8 LA
 1 Intervention
 3 Special Education
 1 Music
 1 Art
 3 Fitness/Health
 1 Technology
9 Instructional Assistants
1 Technical Support
7 Custodial & Food Service
1 Librarian
2 Counselors
2 Administrators
150+ Volunteers

Class Size

31 Average Core Class
28 Average Exploratory
15 Average Special Education

Welcome to SVSD's newest facility and our inaugural school year. Twin Falls Middle School was the final name selected from a list of over 500 submissions. Twin Falls is one of the famous waterfalls of the Pacific Northwest. It is located near Twin Falls State Park. Our school is surrounded by the beautiful Cascade Mountains, with wildlife abundantly sharing the environment with our "Green" school. Our school colors are Forest Green named after our surrounding green belt, Black representing our Raven Mascot and Silver the mighty Twin Falls. As you walk into our facility you will be greeted by an open feeling and quick connection to all areas of our school. Each area is labeled with a name from our beautiful setting. The South Fork houses seventh, Middle Fork, sixth and North Fork eighth grade students. The TFMS gym is front and center and is an inclusive gathering for our sports and fitness programs. Art is showcased throughout the year in the Commons and in each grade level fork. The emerald stage area is home to our choir and band programs. The library is a favorite place of comfort, beauty and resources. Four tech labs are located throughout the school for easy access and learning.

Everyone is connected by the Cascade Commons which has hosted a number of special events this past year. The colors in our building and uniquely shaped windows create classroom environments that are inviting and comfortable for learning. We are proud of our facility, the school community takes extra time to keep it clean and orderly.

TFMS Beliefs and Mission: The beginning work of the TFMS staff was spent brainstorming all aspects of school culture, including our hopes and dreams. We evaluated what works based on our experiences as well as what we would like to do differently based on latest research and the instructional needs of students. The staff embraces the following statement to guide our collaborative work in an effort to positively impact student learning and engagement.

***TFMS is a safe, accepting, learning-community that prepares middle school students to be respectful, resourceful, educated citizens.
Based on.....Relationships, Relevance, Rigor***

TFMS Daily Vision and Actions: Twin Falls Middle School is an inclusive learning environment based on academic rigor, collaboration, and the belief that all students learn as they become active participants in their own education.

- **Everyone feels safe and accepted**
- **Partnerships between students, staff and parents**
- **Smiles on students and staff faces**
- **A variety of learning opportunities**
- **A belief and message that all can achieve their potential in words and actions**
- **High level of success/competence and every child is challenged**

Student Learning Commitments Based on...*Relationships, Relevance and Rigor*

- **Core teams that collaboratively plan units, daily lessons and common assessments**
- **Student placements at instructional levels with targeted high level skills and expectations for all students**
- **Differentiation practices to scaffold learning for all levels of learners (high achievers to students needing greater support)**
- **Dedicated collaborative time with all language arts teachers, math and science teachers to review common practices and assessment results for instructional planning**
- **Exploratory team attention to student needs in connecting to the culture of TFMS through experiences in fitness, health, technology, art, band, choir and extra reading and math projects**

Where are we going?

Going into our second year of establishment, with new systems created and practices more in place, our journey will continue to focus on 100% of our students improving and moving to their next step of achievement. We want all students engaged and productive as they prepared for high school and the 21st Century. We are excited by parent partnerships through volunteer programs such as VISTAS and the TFMS PTSA. We desire to engage any community member that would like to support students in their learning and contribute time to TFMS. Programs like Natural Helpers, mentoring, and community service learning projects will continue to establish the TFMS learning culture based on *Relationships, Relevance and Rigor*.