

Middle School Principal's Report

Date: November 18, 2025

Principal: Josh Gifford

School: Charles R. Leask Sr. Middle School

Enrollment & Attendance

Charles R. Leask Sr. Middle School currently serves 59 students. Average daily attendance for October was 90%. We continue to reinforce the importance of consistent school attendance through family communication and positive recognition for students with strong attendance habits.

Academics & Instruction

Teachers are currently completing the i-Ready assessments for both reading and mathematics. These assessments will provide valuable mid-fall data to guide instructional planning and targeted supports. I continue to do walkthroughs with a focus on student engagement, formative assessment, and pacing aligned to curriculum standards.

Student Life & Culture

Our school continues to build a positive culture through consistent expectations and relationship-centered practices. Students have been actively participating in classroom routines and schoolwide activities designed to reinforce respect, responsibility, and readiness.

Safety & Operations

We conducted our scheduled fire drill on October 3, and students and staff responded efficiently and appropriately. Recent building maintenance includes the installation of new copy machines and updates to the HVAC system, improving both instructional operations and building comfort as we head into winter.

Family & Community Engagement

Our recent student-led Science Night was well attended and received positive feedback from families who appreciated hands-on activities and opportunities to explore student learning. Teacher collaboration between the middle school and elementary school science departments was critical in ensuring the success of the event. Thank you to Ms. Parise and Ms. Pike, as well as middle school science students. We are now preparing for our upcoming Community Holiday Craft Night on December 15, which we anticipate will draw strong participation and continue to strengthen school-community connections.

Celebrations & Highlights

Students showed great enthusiasm and curiosity during Science Night. Teachers continue to use effective instructional practices, including differentiation and meaningful formative assessment, and grade-level collaboration continues to support strong instructional alignment and student success. We also had 90% turnout for student-led parent-teacher conferences. Middle school students just finished their basketball season, and I am extremely proud of our student-athletes for finishing the season strong. I am also thankful for the coaches who devoted their time and energy toward ensuring a successful season.

Looking Ahead

Key priorities for the upcoming month include completing and analyzing i-Ready data, maintaining a focus on improving attendance, preparing for winter behavior-support initiatives, and finalizing plans for the Community Holiday Craft Night.