



MARANA MIDDLE SCHOOL

11285 W. Grier Rd.

Marana, AZ 85653

520-682-4730

Principal- Leron Dickson



MUSD 2023 School Profile

Vision Statement:

Marana Middle School will work collaboratively to create an environment that supports critical thinking, cultivates self-direction, and fosters diversity so that all students and staff become the most successful version of themselves.

Mission Statement:

Marana Middle School will provide an experience that fosters life-long academic and personal growth in a world-class education environment. Faculty and staff will collaborate with families, students and the community to develop strong, caring and productive leaders.

Principal Message:

It is with great excitement that I welcome you to our incredible school! I have been an educator in California and Arizona for over 25 years and I am grateful that I have been given the opportunity to serve as principal of Marana Middle School. You will find that each staff member at MMS is completely dedicated to the success of our students. We understand how crucial the middle school years are. We have created many programs for our students that result in a truly unique educational experience. We also have developed a climate that we hope ensures our students love coming to school each day! We want our students to be well-rounded scholars who also experience the fun and joy of learning.

It is the passion of the MMS staff to work with our students to introduce, practice, and strengthen the skills, habits and behaviors necessary for personal growth and academic success. We also strive each day to evoke the love of learning in all students on our campus.

Please contact me anytime with questions or concerns you might have. It is our goal to nurture a true partnership with our parents in order to create an environment where the unique needs of each child are met. Please join us for all of the wonderful events and activities that we have at our school. We want you to feel as though this is your school as much as it is your child's!

As the Principal of MMS, my purpose is to create a school where the academic, social and developmental needs of our students are the top priority. Each decision I make is made with this belief as the foundation. It takes a great team to accomplish these lofty goals and we have a great team at Marana Middle. As part of that team, please share any concerns or suggestions you might have. Together, we can accomplish so much.

Go Falcons!

Leron Dickson

Principal, Marana Middle School

School Highlights- Points of Pride

- **Marana Middle School has a proud heritage:**
 - Our campus originally served as the high school for MUSD and therefore, has wonderful facilities for a middle school. We are known for our exceptional performing arts program and our athletic offerings, which draw hundreds of students each athletic season.
- **MMS completes their fifth year of Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Centers Grant:**
 - Our 21st CCLC grant serves hundreds of students in our after-school classes. We offer a wide range of options from cooking and sewing to “weights and cardio”. A few other favorites are “Wheel Fun” mountain biking, bird watching and a partnership with Parks in Focus that provides students the basics of photography.
- **MMS has the largest athletic program in the Northwest League:**
 - Last year, we had over 700 student athletes compete!
- **MMS is a PBIS School:**
 - So far this year, students have earned hundreds Falcon Tickets for following our PBIS expectations of Pride, Respect and Responsibility in what they say and do!
- **MMS received High Reliability School certification:**
 - This certification recognizes that MMS has put procedures and systems in place to create a safe, orderly school environment.

Marana Middle School Student Programs

Academic Offerings: Last year **104** high school credits were earned in Math and Spanish at Marana Middle School.

- Gifted Education in Marana (GEM) courses Language Arts, Social Studies, Science and a GEM elective.
- Enriched Courses Language Arts, Social Studies, science, and math.
- High School Algebra and Geometry
- High School Spanish
- Co-taught classes for Math and ELA to support students with special needs
- Exceptional Student Services Programming
- English Learner Programming

Elective Courses: **100%** of Marana Middle School students participate in Visual and/or Performing Arts, Physical Education, or STEM electives daily!

- Agriculture Science
- Art
- Drama, Advanced Drama, Drama Crew
- Family and Consumer Science
- GEM Elective, STEM Coding
- Multimedia Technology
- Concert Band, Advanced Band, Jazz Band
- Choir, Orchestra, Guitar
- Spanish, High School Spanish
- Student Council, Yearbook
- Physical Education
- WEB (Where Everybody Belongs)

Athletics Programs: Last year, Marana Middle School had **over 700** athletes playing the following sports:

- Tackle and Flag Football
- Softball and Baseball
- Boy's and Girl's Volleyball
- Cross Country
- Boy's and Girl's Soccer
- Boy's and Girl's Basketball
- Wrestling
- Track and Field

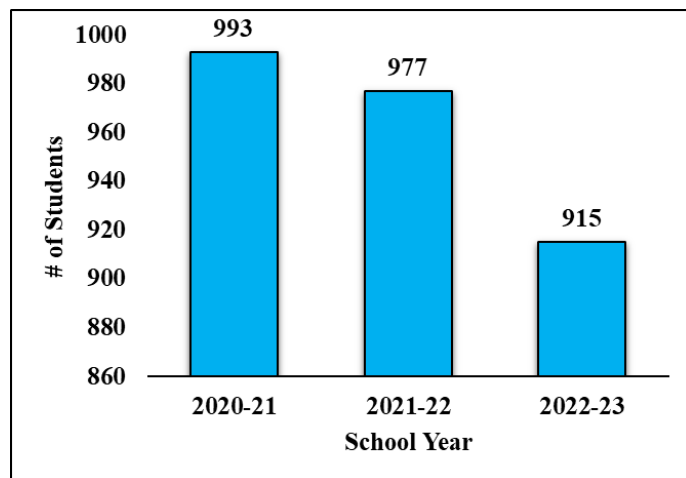
Clubs: At least **80%** of Marana Middle School students participate in at least one extracurricular activity (club, sport, youth group, etc.).

- Economics Club
- NJHS
- Student Council
- WEB (Where Everybody Belongs)
- Drama Club
- Builder's Club
- Fabulous Falcons
- Yearbook Club

Our Students

Our students come from a wide variety of backgrounds that enhance our diverse community. MMS has six feeder elementary schools. Our students are committed to showing PRIDE, RESPECT and RESPONSIBILITY in everything they do. They care about each other and our school. Our Falcons are highly engaged in their academics, the performing arts, athletics, clubs, and community projects. They are full of spirit, humor and hope and they bring joy to "The Nest" each and every day!

Student Enrollment: Last year, 915 students attended Marana Middle School.



Student Mobility Rate: 20%
Free and Reduced Lunch: 44.37%

2022-2023 Student Demographics: The Marana Middle School student body is diverse.

Race/Ethnicity	% of MMS students
White	53.4%
Hispanic	36%
Multi-Racial	5.3%
Black	1.7%
American Indian	1.5%
Asian	1.1%
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	<1%

Students with Special Needs: 20.22%
Students Identified as Gifted: 11.69%

Our Staff

At MMS, we have a diverse staff of beginning and veteran teachers. The feeling of “being a family” is something that MMS staff often express. Our staff care about each other and our students. The middle school years are often viewed as the most difficult for students and each one of our staff members has chosen to be at MMS because we love working with this age-group. We all know how tough middle school can be so our staff are committed to providing the care, support and love that young adolescents need. MMS staff are committed to lifting each other up and embrace collaboration. Teachers meet frequently to discuss CIA (curriculum, instruction and assessments), but also to discuss the needs of individual students and how to make our school culture conducive to the wide-array of needs our students have. Many staff members sponsor extra-curricular activities for our students such as; clubs, teaching 21st CCLC classes, coaching a sport or staying after school to offer tutoring. Everything the MMS staff does is in the spirit of serving students!

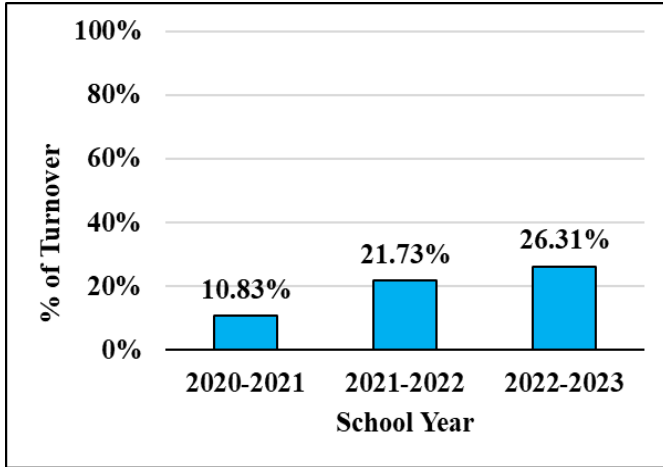
Marana Middle School Staff Profile: We have 83 staff members who work at our school.

- 28 Support Staff
- 51 Certified Staff
 - 92% Appropriately Certified

Staff Demographics and Experience: We have an experienced and diverse staff supporting our students at Marana Middle School.

- Average Years of Experience: 11
- Staff Members with an Advanced Degree: 24

- 4 Administrative Staff



MMS teachers participated in **953.75** hours of professional learning during the 2022-2023 school year!

- Nationally Board Certified Teachers: 1

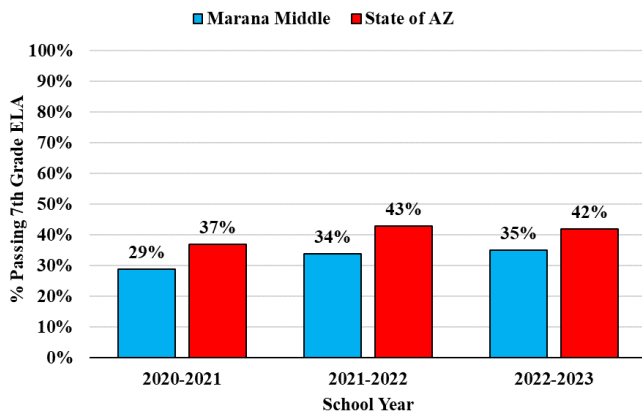
Race/Ethnicity	% of MMS staff
White	75.7%
Hispanic	15.7%
Native American	6.2%
Asian	1.2%
Black	1.2%

Gender	% of TMS staff
Female	73.5%
Male	26.5%

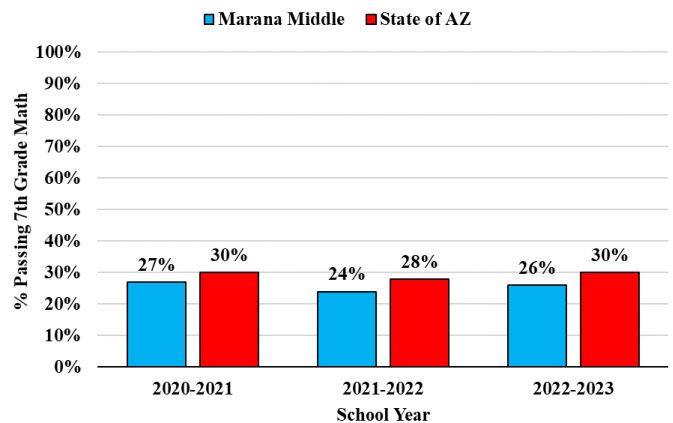
Student Academics

State Assessments: AzM2 / Arizona Academic Standards Assessment (AASA)/ AzSCI

Standardized Testing Performance 7th Grade ELA:

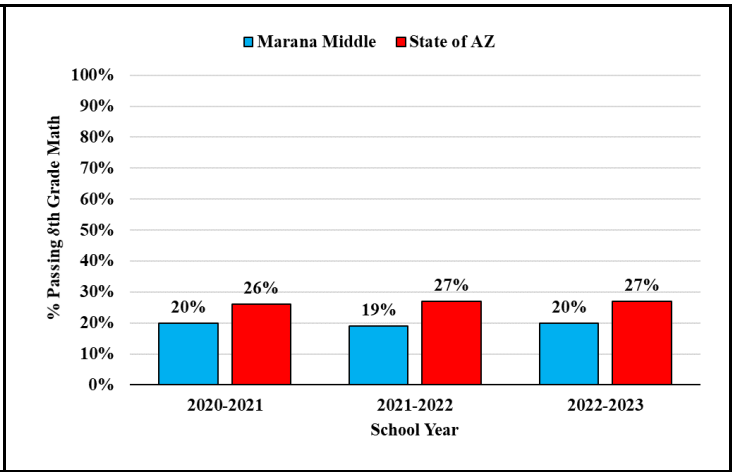
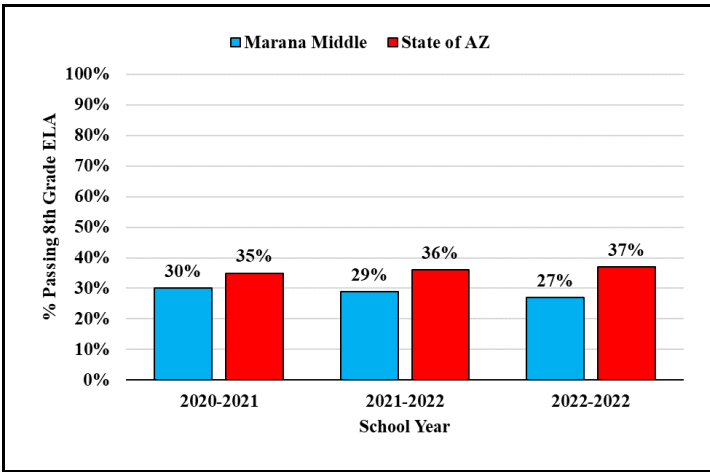


Standardized Testing Performance 7th Grade Math:

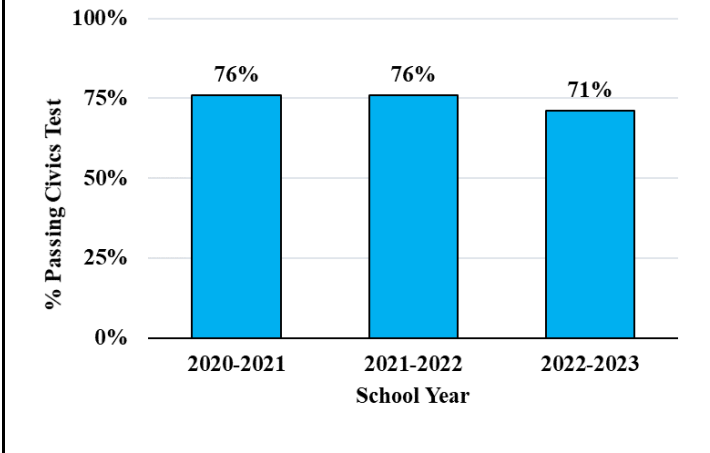


Standardized Testing Performance 8th Grade ELA:

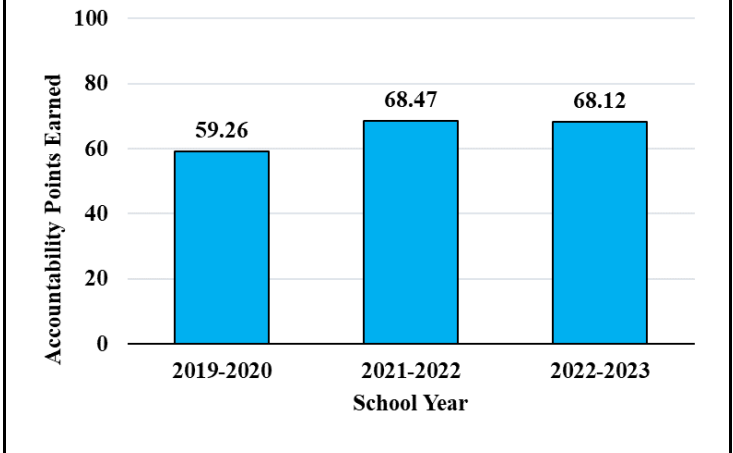
Spring Standardized Testing Performance 8th Grade Math:



Civics Test Performance: We had 423 8th Grade students pass the Civics test and complete this high school graduation requirement while in middle school!

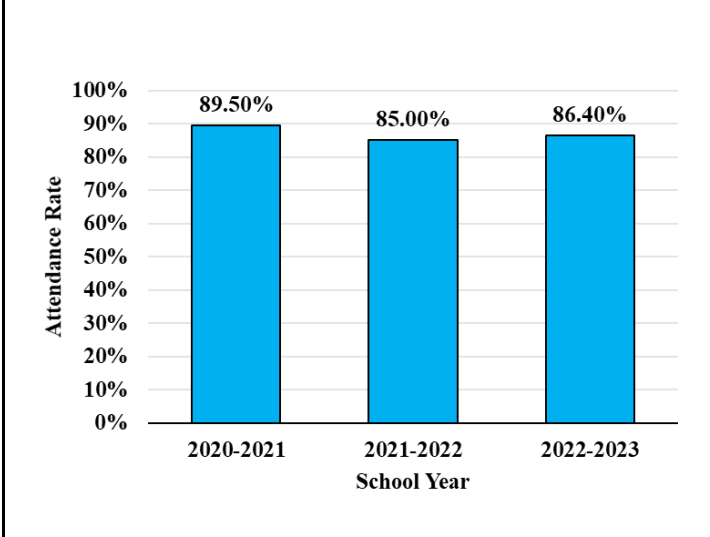


State of Arizona Letter Grade: Marana Middle School School currently has a C letter grade from the Arizona Department of Education.

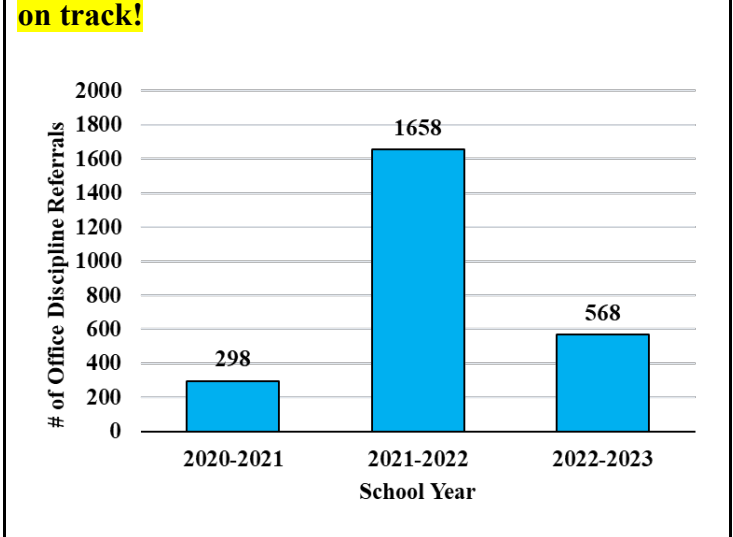


On Track Indicators

Attendance Rate: Last year, 554 of our students had fewer than 15 absences last school year!



Discipline Data: Our first quarter data shows that we are well below our 2022-2023 numbers and back on track!



High Reliability Schools

We are excited to announce that Marana Middle School is OFFICIALLY CERTIFIED in Level One of the High Reliability Schools Framework established by the Marzano Research Group. The focus of this level is “Safe, Supportive, and Collaborative Culture”. We are so proud of our school community for coming together to earn this certification.

This year we are focused on Level Two: “Effective Teaching in Every Classroom”. We are excited to share action steps we are taking to make sure every student in our school experiences effective instruction every single day.

ACTION STEPS TO SUSTAIN LEVEL ONE

- At MMS, we have Universal Classroom Management plans with specific expectations in all classes.
- We have a “Falcon No Fly Zone” at the beginning and end of each class. This ensures that the halls are clear between each class period so administration and hall monitors can ensure all students are safe in class and ready to begin learning.
- We are committed to high visibility: Teachers are at their door during passing periods, 3 hall monitors are available, and administrators are out and about before school, during passing periods, at every lunch and after school.
- MMS has a single-point entry and all staff are diligent in knowing who is on our campus and for what purpose.
- Students and parents have an anonymous safety tip line to call if they have a concern to report.
- We gather student surveys at least once a quarter to identify areas of strength and potential needs for additional focus.
- We gather input and feedback from students on various issues once a month through Advisement
- Each hall has a suggestion box available for students and staff.
- MMS has placed QR codes and feedback forms in the front lobby so parents can provide suggestions for improvement

ACTION STEPS TOWARD LEVEL TWO CERTIFICATION

This year, MMS will focus on “Effective Instruction in Every Classroom.” Below are just a few of the action steps we will take to reach this goal:

- Each department is focused on a specific part of our instructional model (Gradual Release of Responsibility).
- Each teacher chose a growth goal aligned with their department’s focus area.
- Professional development is provided throughout the year to increase teacher understanding and proficiency in the instructional model and pedagogical skills.
- A “Snapshot of Effective Practices” was developed to illustrate elements that should be seen in classrooms throughout the instructional period .

- Administrators, instructional coaches and district specialists conduct classroom walk-throughs to gather data and leave feedback.
- Teachers will have the opportunity to participate in instructional rounds to observe the best practices of colleagues.