



# Alexis I. du Pont Middle School

## Restructuring for Success

<http://aidupontmiddle.redclay.k12.de.us/>

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### Alexis I. du Pont Middle School

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### A Parent's Guide to Understanding Restructuring

AIMS is aiming for success. We've identified what we need to do to be successful by taking an insightful look into our past performances, setting new goals, and progressing each day toward making those goals achievable.

Although the DSTP scores of our students have continued to show improvement, the specific target scores have continued to increase. As a result of this achievement gap, AIMS has now entered a process called *RESTRUCTURING* to meet requirements set by No Child Left Behind. What this will mean for students are additional learning opportunities and a school environment and culture that focuses on continuous, sustained achievement.

Providing students with incentives to be successful will be a central theme in the coming year. On a monthly basis, students will be recognized for academic achievement, citizenship, attendance, and reading acceleration.

Some of the changes that we have made in the 2006-2007 school year have already resulted in success. For example, NWEA diagnostic testing has enabled teachers to select students to participate in extra time programming, called "After School Academy." These tests were given in September, January, and May; early review of the data has shown that most of our students have improved. We will enhance the After School Academy next year by splitting the extra time equally between reading and math, rather than just in one subject area. The After School Academy will offer an additional opportunity for improvement, during which teachers will plan focused instruction to help students improve.

In the coming school year, teachers will expand their efforts to provide personalized instruction for all students. One change that will benefit both teachers and students is additional professional development opportunities that will enable staff to

increase the level of differentiated instruction. This will mean grouping students within a class to better address skill deficiencies, as well as to enable under-achieving students to catch up.

Yet another change that will be implemented next year is the addition of a Teacher-Student Advisory program. This program will create small learning communities within the school to ensure that every child has at least one adult in the building entrusted with the responsibility of guiding him or her to a successful future.

Parents are also an integral part of the restructuring effort. Your input is extremely important to the success of the plans for restructuring AIMS. In the coming weeks, we will invite you to share with us your ideas about these improvements and what you will need to become more involved in the AIMS school community.

### What you will notice next year...

- Student Recognition Programs that highlight student success
- Expanded After School Academy for extra time instruction
- Teacher-Student Advisory Program to provide one-on-one guidance and individualized planning for the future

### Informational Meeting and Honors Celebration, June 6th at 6:30

To learn more about Restructuring and what it will mean for your child, please plan to attend an informational meeting on **Wednesday, June 6th, at 6:30 PM**, in the auditorium. Following this meeting, we will also recognize those students who have achieved honor roll status for three marking periods this school year. Refreshments will be served. Please join us for this important event!