



# MELILLO MIDDLE SCHOOL IS INSPIRING

Houston Schools That Inspire celebrates extraordinary work in ordinary public schools. While we often focus on fixing problems, this initiative spotlights what's already working brilliantly in our classrooms. By recognizing schools achieving remarkable results through innovation, we nurture excellence across our educational landscape. This celebration honors the selected schools, vibrant communities that support them, and the unique promise of Houston. **Melillo Middle School is now part of this inspiring story!**



## Breaking the Rules, Building the Future: Inside Melillo Middle School

Thomas Melillo Middle School is a 2025 School That Inspires because it challenges everything we think we know about middle school. In a time when most schools double down on structure and control to manage adolescent chaos, **Melillo leads with trust, creativity, and joy—and it's working.** Students are outperforming peers across the state in both reading and math, not by tightening the reins, but by loosening them.

Here, academic excellence is built on a culture of ownership, collaboration, and authentic learning that feels anything but traditional. **Thomas Melillo Middle School is rewriting the rule book on what's possible in middle school.** And in doing so, they're showing the rest of us what can happen when we trust students, center relationships, and treat joy like the powerful force it is.



**EVERY STUDENT, EVERY DAY:**  
Student Achievement through Responsive Education

Scan for an inside look at Melillo's innovative methods.

# HOUSTON SCHOOLS THAT INSPIRE

EDUCATE • ELEVATE • CELEBRATE

## WHAT WE BELIEVE IN:



**Educating** and empowering Houston to think expansively about what school can, and should, be.



**Elevating** best practices and key insights that we can learn from and be inspired by.



**Celebrating** schools in our own backyard that are demonstrating excellence in a variety of ways.



Scan here to  
learn more!

[goodreasonhouston.org/schools-that-inspire](http://goodreasonhouston.org/schools-that-inspire)



## THE NUMBERS BEHIND THE INSPIRATION

In a city as richly diverse as Houston, true educational excellence means creating learning environments that respond to and celebrate each student's unique identity and potential. This year's Houston Schools That Inspire are doing just that and the results speak volumes.

These schools aren't just making gains with one group of students; they're seeing achievement across the board. Black students, Hispanic students, emergent bilingual learners, and students with special needs are all exceeding local and state averages. That's not just progress; it's inspiration.

## MELILLO MIDDLE SCHOOL

Melillo Middle School is shining bright—outperforming state and local averages by 6 points in reading and 13 points in math.

With Hispanic and Emergent Bilingual students meeting or exceeding overall performance, it's clear that every learner is being lifted up and supported to succeed.

