



# WILDCAT SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT REPORT TO PARENTS (2023-2024)



## HILLCREST MIDDLE SCHOOL

### About Your SIC:

Your SIC is part of a state-wide network that is dedicated to helping students succeed. SIC is open to all parents, students, teachers, and community members.

**Hillcrest Middle School**  
**4355 Peach Orchard Rd,**  
**Dalzell, SC 29040**

**Mission:** Believing Achieving and Succeeding through Academics, Citizenship and Service

**Vision:** We believe in a school where the majority emphasis is on the development of the total child and students achieve simultaneous gains in academics, citizenship, and service.

### Your SIC Members: Ex-Officio Members:

Tarsha Staggers, Principal

Lauren Cantey, Assistant Principal

**Chair:** Tremain Owens

**Vice Chair:** Gwynette Taylor

**Secretary:** Misty Roberson

**Parent Representative:** Nicole McMillon

**Community Partner:** Gail Hyatt, Sumter Evening Optimist Club

**Liaison Officer:** Kirsten Wildman, Shaw AFB

**The purpose of this report:** This Report is issued by the HMS School Improvement Council in accordance with South Carolina law to share information on the school's progress in meeting various goals and objectives, the work of the SIC, and other accomplishments during the school year.



# SIC REPORT TO PARENTS

2023-2024



## Goals from the School Renewal Plan (2023-2027)/Student Achievement Data:

**At Hillcrest Middle School, we are driven by performance goals in the following areas: College/Career Readiness, High Performing Workforce, Safe and Supportive Schools, Strong Stakeholder Partnerships, and Effective and Efficient Operations. The goals as outlined in our school renewal plan drive our vision and mission to ensure a quality and effective learning environment is provided for all stakeholders.**

### Pillar 1: College/Career Readiness

Goal: By the end of the 2027 school year, the percentage of students scoring proficient or better in grades 6-8 at Hillcrest Middle School will increase by 10% on the state summative assessment.

### Pillar 2: High Performing Workforce

Goal: The percentage of the certified staff will increase from 95% to 100% by June 2027.

### Pillar 3: Safe and Supportive Schools

Goal: The number of discipline referrals that result in suspension and expulsion will decrease by 20% by 2027 through the use of effective classroom management, positive school and community relations, and providing a safe, secure, and healthy environment for learning to take place.

### Pillar 4: Strong Stakeholder Partnerships

Goal: Partner with stakeholders to build advocacy for our students, families, schools, and Sumter School District by promoting transparency and providing accurate information in an effort to increase stakeholder investment by 10%.

### Pillar 5: Effective and Efficient Operations

Goal: Hillcrest Middle school will increase/maintain building level facility management and operations by ensuring protocols are met, technology resources are available to staff/students, and funds are allocated appropriately for instructional purposes/programs to 10% by the end of the 2027 school year.

# STUDENT DATA ACHIEVEMENT

## 2022-2023 LAST REPORTED STATE STANDARDIZED TESTING RESULTS COMPARISON



Student Progress

Good

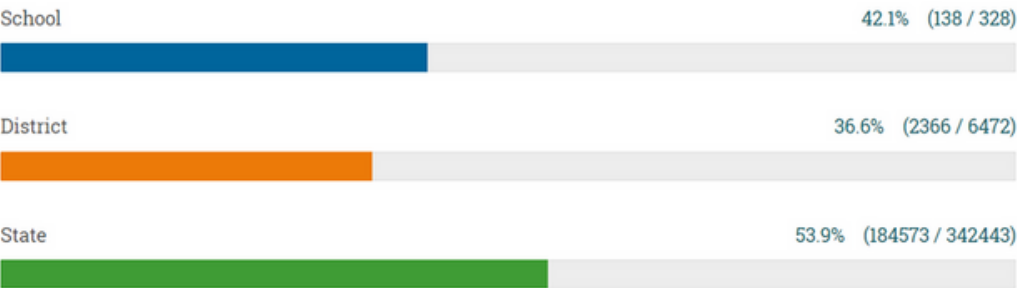


Academic  
Achievement

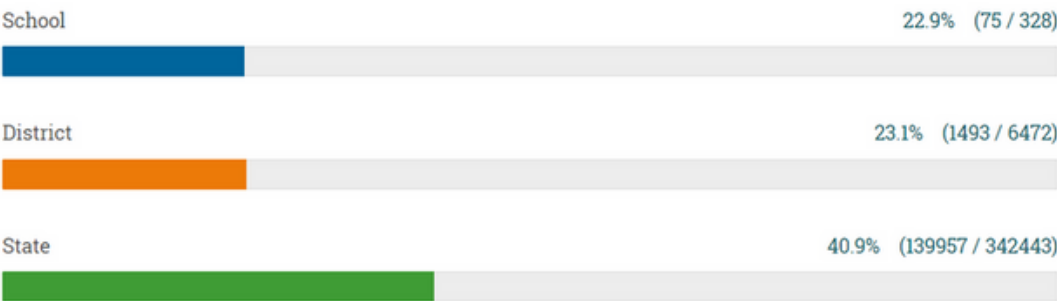
Average

### SC Ready English Language Arts and Mathematics

English Language Arts (Reading and Writing) - [Percent Met or Exceeding](#)



### Mathematics - [Percent Met or Exceeding](#)



Preparing For  
Success

Below Average



School Climate

Below Average

### SCPASS Science

Science - [Percent Met or Exceeding](#)







## HMS Highlights

- AVID School
- Quarterly Attendance, Behavior, and Grade Celebrations
- Quarterly Academic Awards Program
- Good Report Card rating
- Algebra 1 Spring 2023 EOC - 96% of students scored an A, B, or C.
- Perfect Score - SC Ready (3 students)
- Five students qualified as Junior Scholars for the South Carolina Junior Scholars Program.
- Bookit Program - 6th grade
- Anti-bullying campaign
- Golden Apple Awards Program sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce
- Stem Club, Beta Club, National Junior Honor Society
- 2023 Boeing Dream Learners - Relaunch
- Red Ribbon Week
- Veteran's Program
- Black History Program
- Wildcat Band Program - 38 instruments donated
- Art Class - Walk of Art Participation
- Mayor's Christmas Card Contest Winner
- Sensory Room
- STEM Challenge/Manufacturing Expo - 2nd place, top prize in robotics
- The Evening Optimist Club student recognition
- Parent Universities



## HMS Athletic Program

- Two Hillcrest young ladies qualified for All Conference in Volleyball
- Three young men qualified for All Conference for Football
- Two young men and two young ladies qualified for All Conference in Basketball
- Four young men qualified for All Conference in Track
- Three young ladies qualified for All Conference in Track.
- Two students participated in the South Carolina High School League Leadership Summit
- Unified Sports attended the Sports Pep Rally at the State House.



## Hillcrest at a Glance

389 students  
24 certified staff members  
14 support staff



Hillcrest Middle School is located at the intersection of Old Camden Hwy and Highway 441 in Dalzell, South Carolina. Our sixth (6th) grade through eighth (8th) grade school serves a population of approximately 389 students from Dalzell, Shaw Air Force Base, and surrounding communities.

### Our Staff

- AASE Teacher of the Year 2023
- Teachers nominated for Sumter's Best
- Two published authors
- 90% highly qualified teachers
- 100% qualified paraprofessionals
- Teachers hold advanced degrees including masters and masters plus 30. One teacher holds a doctoral degree.
- One teacher is a USC Noyce Teaching Fellow and has National Board Certification.
- Palmetto Status 2021 and 2022



**Advancement Via Individual Determination**  
**We are an AVID School. Our students are taught independent learning and organizational skills daily, and their success is celebrated by all.**

## HMS Service Projects

- American Heart Walk
- Relay for Life
- eSTEAM participation
- Beta/Cheerleaders - Sumter Evening Optimist Christmas Parade
- NJHS canned food drive for Catchall Center for Seniors
- NJHS Shower Shaw with Goodies program
- NJHS fresh vegetables to the Catchall Shaw Community Center
- Unified Sports Team - Valentine's Basket for Crosswell Children's Home
- Unified Sports Team - March of Dimes
- Winter STEAM Night - Service Learning Project
- One 7th grade student served on the student advisory council.

