

## STAFF SPOTLIGHTS!

- Air & Space Forces State Teacher of the Year
- Teachers Nominated for "Sumter's Best"
- 70% Highly-Qualified Teachers
- 100% Qualified Paraprofessionals
- 1 USC Noyce Teaching Fellow
- 1 Chamber of Commerce Middle School Teacher of the Year
- 1 National Board Certified Teacher
- 1 Published Author
- 1 SC Assn. for Middle Level Education "Teacher to Watch"
- Various Advanced Degrees (Masters and Masters + 30)

## STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS!

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place - Operation Space Talk SC Rover Competition @ The Citadel
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place - Operation Space Talk SC Astronaut Talk with International Space Station
- 3 Student Placements in the SCBDA Region 5 Band
- High School Level Participation of HMS Students: Band, Soccer, Baseball, & Softball
- Represented SSD @ The ArtsFields, Jr. 2025 Art Competition

## SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS!

- AVID School
- Quarterly Attendance, Behavior, and Grade Incentive Celebrations
- Anti-Bullying Campaign
- Golden Apple Awards Program, Sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce
- STEM Club
- Beta Club
- National Junior Honor Society
- Red Ribbon Week
- Veteran's Day Program
- Black History Program
- Wildcat Band Program
  - Concert Band, Wildcat Pep Band, and HS Band Participation
- Wildcat Step Team
- Sensory Room
- NASA "Plant The Moon" Challenge
- School Garden Program, Sponsored by Clemson Extension
- Edmentum Empower Hour
- Wildcat Clubs
- First Priority
- Student Advisory Council



## PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

This report is issued by the Hillcrest Middle School Improvement Council in accordance to 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 MEMBERS

### Ex-Officio Members:

Tarsha Staggers, Principal  
Jocelyn Fowler, Asst. Principal  
Misty Roberson, Other  
Jayna Patel, Business Partner

### Elected Members:

Meachelle Clea, Chair  
Cornelius A. Blanding, Teacher  
Robert Easley, Teacher  
Jamie Gore, Teacher  
Nicole McMillion, Parent

### Appointed Members:

Jorge Borja, Community Member  
Loretta Sanders, Community Member  
Gwynette Taylor, Community Member

## HMS STATS:

**365 STUDENTS**  
**20 CERTIFIED STAFF**  
**18 SUPPORT STAFF**



facebook.com/hillcrestmiddlewildcats



2024-2025

# SIC ANNUAL REPORT TO PARENTS

4355 Peach Orchard Road  
Dalzell, SC 29040

(803) 499-3341  
hms.sumterschools.net

Tarsha B. Staggers, Principal

*"Believing, Achieving, and Succeeding  
through Academics, Citizenship, and Service!"*



# SCHOOL RENEWAL PLAN 5 PILLARS

At HMS, we are driven to achieve following performance goals by June 2027:

- ✓ Increase the percentage of students scoring proficient or better on state assessment by 10%
- ✓ Increase to 100% Certified Staff
- ✓ Decrease the number of referrals resulting in suspension/expulsion by 20%
- ✓ Increase partnership and stakeholder investment by 10%
- ✓ Increase/maintain building facility management and operation by 10%

## JOIN THE SIC!



We seek parents and community members interested in improving student achievement and enhancing the Hillcrest learning environment through community partnership. Meetings occur once a month via Google Meet. If interested, reach out to Ms. Meachelle Clea:  
[meachelle.clea@sumterschools.net](mailto:meachelle.clea@sumterschools.net)

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT



\*\*Student Musicians @ the Catchall Christmas Luncheon!

- Partnership with Catchall Community Center
  - Catchall Community Senior Citizen Christmas Luncheon
  - Clemson vs. Carolina Canned Food Drive
- Sumter Inspire (Walk of Art) Participation
- Manufacturing Expo Participants
- STEM Challenge Participants
- Sumter eSTEAM Festival
- American Heart Association Heart Walk
- American Cancer Society "Relay for Life"
- "Shower Shaw with Cookies" Cookie Drive

## Hillcrest Middle School

2023-2024 Overall Rating

Average  
42

School performance meets the criteria to ensure all students meet the Profile of the SC Graduate



Academic  
Achievement

Average

## SCHOOL REPORT CARD

Under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), State Education Agencies are required to prepare and disseminate an annual state report and Local Education Agency (LEA) report card that meet the minimum requirements described in federal law. For the 2023-2024 school year, Hillcrest Middle School was rated **AVERAGE** by the South Carolina Department of Education. Please refer to <https://ed.sc.gov/data/report-cards> for more information on Hillcrest Middle School.

## WILDCAT SPORTS



\*\*Award-Winning Volleyball Team's Post Game Photo!

At HMS, we offer sports for eligible 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. They are:

- Football
- Volleyball (2024 District Champions)
- Basketball
- Track
- Cheerleading

\*\*Hillcrest Middle School All-Conference athletes honored for excellence in Volleyball, Football, Basketball, and Track as part of the Sumter Middle School All-Conference Team.\*\*