

Your Wildcat School Improvement Council Report to the Parents 2020-21



HILLCREST MIDDLE SCHOOL

4355 Peach Orchard Road, Dalzell, SC 29040

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Mission Statement:

Believing, Achieving, and Succeeding through Academics, Citizenship, and Service.

Vision Statement:

We envision a school where the major emphasis is on the development of the total child and students achieve simultaneous gains in academics, citizenship, and service.

About Your SIC:

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

Your SIC Members:

Chair: Gabriela Prosser

Vice Chair: Amber Ketchum

Secretary: Gayle Wilson

Parent Representative : April McFadden

Community Partner: Dennisse Jones, Shaw AFB

Community Partner: Gail Hyatt, Sumter Evening Optimist Club

Ex-Officio Members:

Tarsha Staggers, Principal

Stephanie Gregg, Assistant Principal

Brandon Graves, 21-22 Teacher of the Year



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.

Goals from the School Renewal Plan (2017-2022)/Student Achievement Data:

At Hillcrest Middle School, we are driven by performance goals in the areas of student achievement, teacher/administrator quality, and school climate. 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.

Area One: Student Achievement Goals

Goal #1: The percentage of students scoring proficient or better in grades 6-8 will increase by 10% on the SC Ready ELA/Writing and Mathematics and the 6th Grade Science SCPASS by 2022.

Area Two: Teacher Quality

Goal #1: The percentage of certified teaching staff will be maintained at 100% through June 2022.

Area Three: School Climate

Goal #1: The number of discipline referrals that result in suspensions and expulsions will decrease by 10% by 2022.

Goal #2: The percentage of parent/guardian and community involvement in school activities and partnerships will increase by 10% by 2022.

Goal #3: Increase the number of parents, students, and teachers by 5% who are satisfied with the social and physical environment by 2022.

Data Results:

2017-2018 Overall Rating
Excellent
63

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

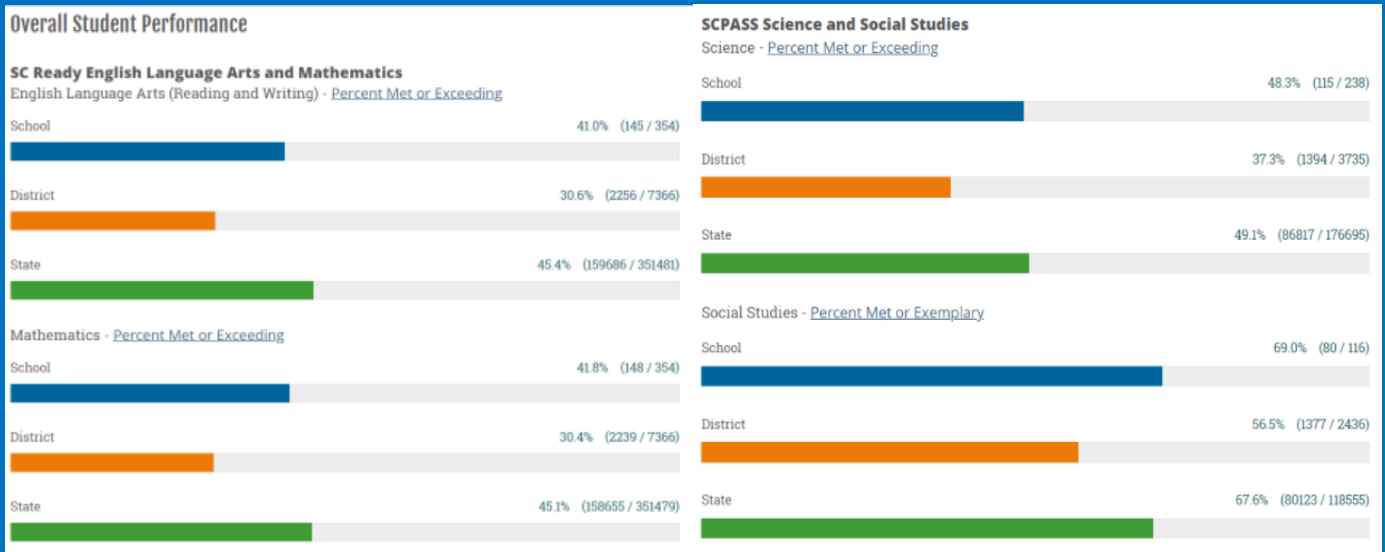
2018-2019 Overall Rating
Excellent
61





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

Content Area	2018-2019 SCReady (Traditional)	2018-2019 SCPASS (Traditional)	2019-2020 SCReady (Traditional)	2019-2020 SCPASS (Traditional)	2020-2021 Goals
English Language Arts	41.0% Proficient		No Data		44.18%*
Mathematics	41.8% Proficient		No Data		44.63%
Science		Science 48.3% Proficient		No Data	57.59%
Social Studies		Social Studies 69.0%		No Data	<i>Subject area will not be tested.</i>

- 2018 - 2020 Data represents students testing during the traditional school year.
- 2020-2021 Data represents students testing in the Hybrid Model, in which students attended 2 days face to face and 2 days remotely.

2018-2019 - Last Reported State Standardized Testing Results Comparison



 Academic Achievement Average	 Preparing For Success Average	 Student Progress Excellent	 Student Engagement Average
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Wildcat Family:

Hillcrest Middle school is located at the intersection of Old Camden Hwy and Highway 441 in Dalzell, South Carolina. The school serves a population of approximately 352 sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students from Dalzell, Shaw Air Force Base, and surrounding communities. Our population includes: 48.3% Black or African American, 39.5% White, 4.8% Hispanic/Latino, 4.3% Mixed Race, 1.9% Asian, 0.9% Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, and 0.3% Native American/Alaska Native.

We take pride in our Wildcat family. We encourage parental participation, and provide quarterly teacher and administration led "Parent Universities" to keep parents educated on school policies, programs, and content area learning specifics. Parents are kept updated on their child's progress through quarterly academic conferences, interims, progress reports, and personal contact as needed. We have a full-time guidance department and career specialist who work with students to plan their future path and to help with present educational and supportive needs.

We have several community partners that work with Hillcrest Middle School. The Sumter School district has been designated as a Purple Star district, and at HMS we have a Shaw Air Force Base liaison that holds monthly Military Child support group meetings on our campus. Becton Dickinson boosts our school spirit with teacher and student incentives. They also send representatives to speak with students on preparing for career choices. Alice Drive Baptist church and the Sumter Combat Veterans Group also encourages our teachers and staff by providing incentives. The Sumter Evening Optimist Club provides special incentives for teachers and hosts an Outstanding Youth Male and Female Award each year.

The HMS faculty is comprised of 96% highly qualified teachers, and 100% qualified paraprofessionals. Our teachers hold advanced degrees including, Masters and Masters plus 30. Several of our teachers have been nominated for the Airforce Aero Space Education Award, and we have AASE teacher of the year in our Science department! We also have teachers that have been nominated for the Sumter's Best and Sumter Chamber of Commerce Educator Award. Our Math department has Math Nation Builders and presenters. We have a teacher that was selected as a USC Noyce teaching Fellow. Our ELA teachers partner with Pizza Hut and the "Book It" program to encourage students to read daily. They also partnered with Charleston's Poet Laureate, Marcus Amaker, through a virtual visit, to encourage students to write as well as read poetry. The Social Studies department brings history alive with virtual museum tours and interesting lessons of the past. HMS faculty and staff readily participate in Relay For Life and the American Heart Association fund raisers. The combination of administration, faculty, staff, students, and community partners has launched Hillcrest Middle School to Palmetto Silver status two years in a row.



Wildcat Student Pride:

At Hillcrest Middle we take pride in our students and their accomplishments. Our students continuously participate in community service projects helping others. **Beta Club** adopted an elementary classroom. Members recorded themselves reading poetry for the elementary students to encourage literacy. Beta club members also made positive bulletin boards to share around the HMS campus. **NJHS** members participate in an annual canned food drive providing donations to the Catchall Center for Seniors. **Student Council** members traveled to Oakland Primary School as Elf Ambassadors. They attended a Sing-along, read letters from Santa, led a craft and spread cheer through dance! HMS **Cheerleaders** asked the children living at Crosswell Children's Home to be their Valentine and surprised them with Valentine gift bags!

HMS **alumni** also keep the tradition of giving back to the community. HMS athletes received backpacks full of Nike gear from Alumni Ja Morant, 2019-20.

HMS STEMcats were named an SC State winner in 2019-20, and received an Honorable mention in 2020-21, in the Samsung Solve for Tomorrow competition.

We are an **AVID School**, our students are taught independent learning and organizational skills on a daily basis, and their success is celebrated by all.

Our Fine Arts department encourages students to test and enhance their abilities through performances and State fair entries. HMS has had winners in many categories. Each year Hillcrest is represented in the **REACH** Fine Arts summer camp by several students. Five HMS students were selected to attend the 1st Middle School Leadership Summit, sponsored by the Carolina Panthers and the SC High School league. Three HMS students were selected finalists in the USC Sumter Spring Poetry Contest 2020-21, with 1 winning 1st place. Six HMS students were named State Winners 2019-20 from Algebra Nation/ Algebra 1 Wall competition. An HMS student has been accepted into the Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities Odyssey Summer Program. An HMS student received the Sumter Evening Optimist Club Award.

HMS Highlights:

- Quarterly Academic Awards Program
- Excellent Report Card Rating
- Crystal Apple Awards
- Golden Pen Awards
- SC Junior Scholars
- Golden Apple Awards (Sumter Chamber of Commerce)
- WiseCat Academic Team
- 3 Season Team Sports opportunities
- Beta Club
- NJHS
- FBLA
- STEM Club
- Student Council

BETA bulletin board on SELF-CARE

