

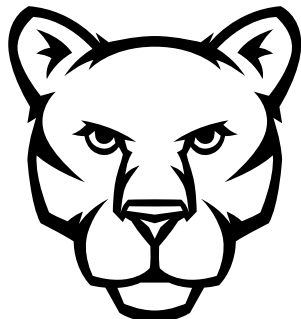
York Middle School

April 2024

Annual Report to Parents

School Improvement Council Members

Cassidy Valerino, Principal
 Kellie Mondo, Assistant Principal
 Sean Cunningham, Assistant Principal
 Suzie Abrams, Community Member
 Rita Stawhorn, Community Member
 Jaime Benfield, Teacher
 Mary Gump, Teacher
 Beth Godfrey, Parent
 Russell Rider, Parent
 Jody Spera, Parent
 Kelly Tiblier, Parent
 Marie Webster, Parent



Thank You to these Community Sponsors:

| | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|
| Bush-N-Vine | York County Animal |
| Blacks Peaches | Shelter |
| York Vet | Dr. Teague |
| Pizza Hut | Pelicans Snowballs |
| Strikers Bowling | Zaxby's |
| Dominos | Walmart |
| Taco Bell | Edward Jones |
| Yorkville Historical Society | Bank of York |
| York County Recycling | York Eclectic Coop |
| Center | Adventure Air |
| Arby's | Food Lion |
| Army | Andy Kelly Insurance |

Vision

To Learn, Serve and Give as One.

Mission

Our mission is to cultivate a service-oriented community of learners who strive for personal growth and excellence as communicators, collaborators, creators, and critical thinkers.

District & School Goals

Create a challenging and supportive educational environment that ensures readiness for all students.

Create quality opportunities for ongoing learning for students and staff to promote innovation and flexibility.

Build capacity and leadership at every level of the organization

About Our School:

Name: York Middle School (YMS)

Address: 1010 Devinney Rd.

York, SC 29745

Phone: 803-684-5008

Website: www.york.k12.sc.us/yms

Student Enrollment: 778

Grades: 7th and 8th

Mascot: Cougar

The YMS Cougar Creed



I am here to commit my time and effort to my future.

I will treat myself and others with **respect**.

I am **organized** and prepared to succeed.

I know my **attitude** can change my entire day.

I am **responsible** for my actions and my future.

York Cougars **ROAR** with pride and we **ROAR** as One!



Principal

Cassidy Valerino

YORK SCHOOL DISTRICT
CONNECTED AS



Assistant Principals

Sean Cunningham- 7th
Kellie Mondo- 8th

York Middle School - SIC

At YMS, we know that we only get stronger when families and schools work in unison. Therefore, the SIC goal for the 23-24 school year has been to increase the home-to-school connection. This has been accomplished in a variety of ways:

- An SIC / PTO newsletter was created and distributed during Winter Sports events.
- A section of the Weekly Newsletter is dedicated to SIC/PTO events and ways to support the school.
- PTO/SIC hosted the Turkey Trot fundraiser event.
- SIC/PTO sponsored a December Staff Appreciation Breakfast.
- SIC has Sponsored a Snack Cart for staff on April 19, 2024.
- SIC is holding a school supply drive to help stock the shelves for the 2024-2025 school year in May 2024.

Overall, SIC and PTO regular attendance has increased, in part, due to these efforts.

SC READY is the end-of-year assessment given to all South Carolina students in grades 3-8 for ELA and Math. YMS has been working diligently to close gaps in learning that were exacerbated by COVID.

YMS has seen year over year growth in ELA for the last 3 years due in part to a focus on small group instruction, conferencing, and the implementation of an intervention reading program called Read 180.

Scores reflected below are indicative of met/exemplary overall ratings.

| | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| ELA | 7 th - 36.7% | 7 th - 39.3% | 7 th - 42.7% |
| | 8 th -29.7% | 8 th -43.3% | 8 th - 47.2% |
| Math | 7 th - 25.6% | 7 th - 23.3% | 7 th - 25.8% |
| | 8 th -16.4% | 8 th - 26.8% | 8 th - 21.4% |

York Middle School Points of Pride

Arts & Athletic Excellence

Band and Chorus:

- Chorus earned an Overall Excellent Rating with a Superior in Sight-Reading at State Concert Assessment.
- Band students received 36 Superiors and 31 Excellent Ratings at State Solo and Ensemble Festival.
- 3 students made the SCBDA Region Band.
- 13 students were selected for the Limestone Honors Band.
- 2 students were selected for SCACDA Honors Choir

Theater:

- Theater Arts was added as a course option for both 7th and 8th grades.
- The drama performance of "Hamlet Hears a Who" was presented during the Fall of 2023.

St-ARTS:

- 2 students selected to attend Winthrop's St-ARTs summer program.

Wrestling:

- 5 wrestlers placed at the YCMSAC Conference Tournament
- the Girls Wrestling Team (8 girls) took home 3rd place in the State Championship

Softball:

- YMS Softball team finished undefeated and 1st place in the YCMSAC regular season with a 10-0 record



Instruction & School Culture

- Highest ELA scores on SC READY ever achieved.
- 21 students scored a perfect reading sub-score on their 2023 SC READY.
- 618 students met their Spring-to-Spring Growth target for MAP testing.
- 12 students earned the title of PSAT Junior Scholars.
- 36 students were selected to go to regionals for National History Day with 3 students who were named state qualifiers.
- Creation of staff-led student programs: SEL Club and Ladies of Legacy girl's group.
- Continued the following Career Initiatives:
 - Lunch with Leaders (81 students have attended)
 - Career Day Conference with 21 community sponsors
 - 8th grade Job Shadow Day (105 students participated)
 - 7th grade Junior Achievement Field Trip
 - FFA State Conference Field Trip
- 2 teachers were selected by the district and named Student Centered Learning Fellows.
- Multiple grant winners and National Board Certified staff members.
- YMS is a Special Olympics Unified Champion School.

Principal
Cassidy Valerino

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