

Castle Heights Middle School

SIC Annual Report to Parents April 2025



Our Mission

To provide high-quality classroom instruction within a safe and nurturing learning environment where students and teachers collaboratively work together to inspire one another to achieve their highest potential.

Our Vision

We will intentionally create and deliver data-driven, rigorous instruction to meet the learning needs of each CHMS scholar.

School Improvement Council Members

Alicia Thompson, Parent Jessa Summerlin, Parent Ann Whisonant, Community Member Stephanie Bryant, Teacher Chip Newton, Assistant Principal Susan McNally, Assistant Principal Will Tonks, Assistant Principal Cynthia Robinson, Principal

ADERSHIP SCA

INME

CASTLE HEIGHTS MIDDLE SCHOOL

We are in Year 1 on our Leader In Me journey. This year we introduced our students to the Leader In Me 7 Habits. Our 8th grade student mentors were utilized to partner with teachers in teaching the Leader In Me modules. This opportunity gave our mentors an experience in modeling the Leader In Me habits.

Our School Year

The programs and instruction at Castle Heights Middle School are rooted in and designed around data. MAP, SCReady, SCPass, benchmarks, and formative and summative assessments are all used to instruct, enrich, remediate, and place students. Students at Castle Heights have advanced placement options, including GT, Algebra 1, and English 1. Students can also take classes to earn a high school credit in Spanish. Data is analyzed to determine the direction for classroom instruction and individualized needs. Students can work at their own pace during enrichment on skills in ELA and math.

Our daily enrichment time provides opportunities for students to receive remediation instruction and enrichment activities. Teachers use this time to group students based on data analysis, such as common formative assessments and district-created benchmarks. During these times, teachers collaborate to adapt curriculum, instruction, and scheduling to meet our students' diverse and changing needs. Our students have receive character education during this time.

We have implemented explicit teaching strategies and fine-tuned our strategies for working with small groups. Additionally, our teachers provide a studio of learning for our students by providing students with hands-on learning in science and math through dissections and experiments. Another instructional strategy we use to engage and challenge our students is instructional/collaborative grouping. Many teachers implement the workshop model and gradual release model in classes. Both allow the teacher to model a lesson, and the students work in

groups to complete a task. To engage through technology, our school is one-to-one with laptops, and all classrooms have an interactive technology panel.

Clubs and extracurricular activities, such as Math Counts, Battle of the Books, Academic Challenge, and Catawba Youth Council, are essential to the school day. Our club offerings are student-selected. Clubs promote creativity and self-expression for our students. Clubs meet once a month.

Students are celebrated throughout the year for academic success and positive behaviors during our Knights of Excellence Awards Program. Our students our utilizing our media center to check out books. Our data shows that library books circulation is up by 30%.

Our library sponsors several initiatives to get students interested in reading including Reading 'Passports' where students have an opportunity to win a free pair of Nike sneakers and a story time with author Jason Reynolds.

Our wrestling team had a very successful season and were named the 2025 Conference Champions. Our Concert Band received a Superior with Distinction rating at South Carolina's Concert Performance Assessment.

Castle Heights is proud to be a National Schools Forum recognized Schools to Watch.

Hosted by Castle Heights. Students in the 8th grade students served as docents.



Anne Frank: A History for Today With generous donations from Founders Federal Credit Union, Comporium,

With generous donations from Founders Federal Credit Union, Comporium, and Temple Beth El, Castle Heights Middle School is proud to share this experience with you and our school community.

"In the late 1980s, the Anne Frank House (at The University of South Carolina) created the traveling exhibit <u>"Anne Frank: A History for Today"</u> to educate students and adults worldwide about Anne Frank's life and legacy. It has traveled to over 80 countries in the succeeding decades."

March 13, 4:30-6:00pm

Castle Heights Middle School Media Center 2382 Fire Tower Rd, Rock Hill, SC

"EVERYONE HAS INSIDE OF HIM A PIECE OF GOOD NEWS. THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT YOU DON'T KNOW HOW GREAT YOU CAN BE!"

-Anne Frank

TEMPLE BETH EL

FEDERAL CREDIT UNION COMPORIUM

Cynthia Robinson

Cynthia is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters