

FMMS 2025-2026 Report to Families

Fort Mill Middle School

Dear Jacket Families,

As we wrap up the year, I want to celebrate the incredible journey we've shared. From navigating significant changes in leadership to upholding our long legacy of excellence, our Jackets have soared — and they didn't do it alone.

To our Families: You are the support beam of FMMS. Student success starts with the foundation you build at home, and we are so grateful for your partnership, your time, and your encouragement.

To our Staff: Thank you for your unwavering commitment to making sure every student is seen and supported. You all are the heart and soul of FMMS and make this place home. This year brought significant shifts, yet you remained a constant, steady force for our students. Beyond the lesson plans, counseling sessions, and grading, it is your empathy, your patience, and your unwavering belief in our students' potential that truly defines our school. I am honored to work alongside such a passionate team.

It's been a monumental year, and I couldn't be prouder or more grateful to be part of this community. As we all head into summer, I want to encourage everyone to take time to celebrate the achievements of your student(s), reflect on successes and lessons learned, and return for the 26-27 school year ready to thrive.

Warmly,

Trina L. McFadden, Principal

PROFILE OF THE South Carolina Graduate

WORLD-CLASS KNOWLEDGE

Rigorous standards in language arts and math for career and college readiness

Multiple languages, science, technology, engineering, mathematics (STEM), arts and social sciences



WORLD-CLASS SKILLS

Creativity and innovation

Critical thinking and problem solving

Collaboration and teamwork

Communication, information, media and technology

Knowing how to learn

LIFE AND CAREER CHARACTERISTICS

Integrity • Self-direction • Global perspective • Perseverance • Work ethic • Interpersonal skills

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Adopted by: SC Arts in Basic Curriculum Steering Committee, SCASCD, SC Chamber of Commerce, SC Council on Competitiveness, SC Education Oversight Committee, SC State Board of Education, SC State Department of Education, TransformSC Schools and Districts.



AN INITIATIVE OF



SOUTH CAROLINA COUNCIL ON
COMPETITIVENESS

Our Mission

Each day at FMMS we nurture and educate our students to value life-long learning and positively impact the world.



Schools to Watch
Designation 2026

Academic Excellence

This year, Fort Mill Middle School has much to celebrate. We are proud to announce that FMMS received an **Excellent** rating on our school report card, maintained our **Palmetto Gold** status, and was designated as a **National Forum School to Watch**.

Beyond these institutional honors, our students continue to shine individually; specifically, we are thrilled to recognize 19 eighth-grade students who were celebrated as South Carolina Junior

Scholars. These achievements are a testament to the exceptional academic growth and dedication of our students, the hard work of our faculty, and the unwavering support of our school community.

We look forward to continuing this tradition of excellence as we work together to empower every student to reach their full potential.



Culture & Community

One Book One School

FMMS values literacy and the importance of providing time for middle school students to read during the school day. One of our most important literacy events for the past 10 years is our One Book, One School (OBOS) program, in which the entire school participates in a collective reading journey. This year our book, *The Miscalculations of Lightning Girl* by Stacy McAnulty, was about a middle school girl who suddenly becomes a math genius after being struck by lightning. While her "superpower" is fascinating, the heart of the story lies in her struggle to step out of her comfort zone, cope with her OCD behaviors, and find her place in a traditional middle school. In addition to the discussions about making friends and facing fears, students were also drawn to the animal adoption theme in the book. As part of our STEAM lessons for the book, students were assigned a dog at a local shelter to persuade the public to adopt. They researched animal adoption, the shelter, and the dog's information to create a digital flyer that was posted on the dog's kennel at the shelter and on their website. A dog adoption wall display of the dogs' pictures and flyers is posted in our main hallway and updated as dogs get their forever homes. This real life connection between reading, writing, and outreach to the community made this year's OBOS event extra meaningful.



Global Connection

FMMS values outreach projects, both locally and globally, as a way for students to gain new perspectives, build empathy, and have tangible proof that their actions matter in the world. In addition to supporting a local animal shelter, we continue to support our sister school in Kenya called City of Light for the third year. Our first year of support was to provide water filters for students and their families as we read *A Long Walk to Water* for our OBOS. Last year, we raised money to fund a classroom of desks for City of Light, and this year we are helping to build a classroom. Reading together and participating in outreach projects is a vital part of our school culture.

Our Hive

To ensure every student feels welcomed, supported, and seen, FMMS will implement high-leverage practices designed to improve both the social and physical learning environments:

- Safe School Ambassadors Program: Empowering student leaders to foster a climate of exclusion-free peer interactions by empowering students to be upstander and not bystanders.
- Targeted SEL Instruction: Delivering weekly, evidence-based Social-Emotional Learning to equip students with essential life skills.
- Attendance Advocacy: Minimizing instructional loss by proactively addressing absenteeism and re-engaging students in the classroom.



JACKET

Positivity

Be the best version of yourself.

Respect

Be kind and listen.

Integrity

Be honest and take responsibility for your actions and words.

Dedication

Be committed to achieving your goals.

Engagement

Be prepared and actively involved.



Excellence in the Arts

This was another banner year for the FMMS Band (under the direction of Mr. Jocquin Fuller). The students earned a Superior Rating at Concert Performance Assessments (CPA) Festival. There

were 17 students named to the All-Region Honor Band, including three students who earned first chair for their respective section.

There were also three students who earned seats (and four alternates) in the most prestigious SC All-State Band including a first chair student. The students capped off the year with every participating student receiving a superior rating at Solo and Ensemble Festival.

Our fall production of *The Lion King Jr.*, directed by Claudia Snowber-Marini and Julia Bouldin with visual support from art teacher Amber Mades, captivated audiences with its vibrancy and showcased the immense talent of our students. This year also marked the inaugural season of our show choir, Vocal Motion. They have made a dynamic entrance to the school community, and we look forward to their continued success at FMMS for years to come.



Excellence in Athletics

FMMS athletics has had a good year in 2025-2026. Beginning in the fall, our 7th grade volleyball team won the championship and FMMS is excited for their possibility of repeating next year!

The football team came close to a championship as well, losing in the championship game to BTMS. When winter rolled around, our basketball teams competed at a high level. The 7th grade girls earned a #2 seed in the playoffs, with 8th girls earning a #3 seed and 7th boys earning a four seed. This allowed them all to host a home game in the first round.

Spring sprung, and so did our teams into action. Girls track won several of their meets throughout the regular season and finished 2nd in the conference meet. Baseball earned a 3 seed and advanced to the championship game against ILMS. Our teams did an outstanding job in their seasons this year!

We are incredibly grateful for the Booster Club's unwavering support of our students. From hosting seasonal breakfasts to tireless fundraising and volunteering, their dedication ensures our programs have the resources needed for our athletes to truly excel. FMMS Athletics extends a sincere thank you to the volunteers, coaches, parents, and community members who made this year such a resounding success.

Go Jackets!!



Excellence in Extracurricular Activities

Our Mathcounts team, led by Ms. Naomi Elkin, achieved an impressive first-place finish at the annual Catawba Chapter Mathcounts competition.

Additionally, our Academic Challenge team, remained highly competitive and active throughout the season; we are incredibly proud of their hard work and look forward to their continued success.

Every single one of our staff members pour their heart into providing spaces for our students and encourage their unique interests. Our goal is to have every single student connected and involved at the Hive. This year alone, we had just under 40 different club offerings for students to choose from and we look forward to continuing to diversify those options and creating spaces for student-led service and leadership opportunities.



Excellence in Action: Our 2026 Honorees

While every member of our staff works tirelessly to support our students, we are thrilled to shine a spotlight on four individuals whose recent honors reflect the excellence of our entire school community. Congratulations to:

- **Annalise Eberhard:** Teacher of the Year & FMMS Honor Roll Teacher
- **Rhonda Hunter:** FMMS Support Staff Member of the Year
- **Donna Allen-Jones:** School Support Staff Member of the Year

Annalise, Rhonda, and Donna exemplify a deep commitment to our students and community. They represent the very best of us, and we are proud to see their dedication recognized at both the school and district levels.





Reporting Purpose

This report is issued by the Fort Mill Middle School Improvement Council in accordance with South Carolina law that requires we share information on our school's progress toward goals stated in our School Improvement Plan.

For more information regarding Fort Mill Middle School and the work of the School Improvement Council, please contact Trina McFadden at mcfaddent@fortmillschools.org.

FMMS School Improvement Council Members

Parent/Community Members

Beth Kowalczyk
Jennifer Godwin
LauraBree Monday
Sonya Schwede
Tirany Tyler

Faculty Members

Julia Bouldin
Dawn Brooker
Leah Cox
Lamont Hall
Trina McFadden
Dee Sanders



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Trina McFadden

Trina is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters