

*Fort Mill Middle School
School Improvement Council
Report to Parents
2015-2016*

The 2015-16 school year included growth, opportunities, and continued success for Fort Mill Middle School.

Fort Mill Middle had three goals for the 2015-16 school year: 1) Enhance literacy across all subject and content areas 2) Successfully implement Student Learning Objective process for all teachers 3) Complete the Fort Mill Middle School portion of the district's AdvancEd evaluation.

Our main focus for the 2015-16 school year has been to emphasize literacy across all subjects and content areas. We are very pleased that our literacy specialist has been able to work with math, science, and social studies teachers to include more reading in these subject areas. This not only includes informational or technical reading, but also biographies and historical fiction. Also, we have adapted a systemic approach for writing paragraphs in all subject areas so that students have common expectations, and hear a common language related to writing throughout the school. In addition, we have continued our extra help time for struggling readers, and have sustained silent reading throughout the whole school two days a week.

A great challenge for our staff was the implementation of the new teacher evaluation model that included developing student learning objectives for all courses. Teachers collaborated by grades and departments to develop pre and post tests and assessments based on project based learning.

Our third goal was to successfully complete our self-study as part of the district AdvancEd accreditation process. We continued the process that we initially started in the spring of 2015 and completed our part in February 2016. Our school and district were re-accredited in the spring of 2016.

Once again, Fort Mill Middle School was the recipient of the prestigious Palmetto Gold Award. 13 Schools received Palmetto Gold Awards in 2015. The Palmetto Gold Award is awarded by the state Department of Education to schools with outstanding academic performance.

Our Academic Challenge Team were state champions for the 2014-15 school year, and finished as state runners up for the 2015-16 year.

Our extra help period continues to evolve to meet the needs of our students and community. We now have an extra thirty minute period built into our schedule five days per week. Not only do we use this time for remediation/acceleration of learning but student clubs meet one day per week, and two days per week are devoted to sustained silent reading.

FMMS will continue to promote rigor and relevance in academics, fine arts, and athletics for the upcoming school year.