

School Accomplishments

- ✓ Fully accredited by Cognia
- ✓ Maintains an "All Clear" status from the S.C. Department of Education
- ✓ Met Federal Standards for Annual Yearly Progress
- ✓ Review of new Strategic Plan for 2022-2027
- ✓ Continuing a partnership with Winthrop University as a Partnership School and hosting interns and Junior Faculty members
- ✓ Hosted Teacher Cadet students from Fort Mill area high schools
- ✓ Ms. Laura Whitley, Second Grade Teacher, was voted the FMES Teacher of the Year during the 25-26 school year.
- ✓ Ms. Josie Leasure, Behavior Technician, was voted the FMES Support Staff of the Year during the 25-26 school year.
- ✓ Ci3T Implementation Phase continued.
- ✓ Ci3T school store implemented where all students had access to spend tickets that were earned for showing school WINGS behavior expectations
- ✓ School level Battle of the Books competition and involvement in district Battle of the Books
- ✓ Our PTO raised over \$60,000 this year, and contributed to a variety of school endeavors, including supporting teacher initiatives, professional development opportunities, and more
- ✓ FMES staff and students held a fundraiser in February for National Heart Month and wore red to support childhood heart defects
- ✓ FMES held a 'Pink Out Day' and students and staff wore pink to support the Go Jen Go Foundation for cancer research
- ✓ 2nd Grade students participated in swim evaluations and lessons through the YMCA
- ✓ STEAM Leadership Team participated in STEAM professional development to share with staff
- ✓ Implementation of student ambassadors to take on leadership roles around the school
- ✓ Multiple students from FMES participated in the district Art Show
- ✓ Partnered with local churches to lead monthly All Pro Dad sessions to support relationships between parents, most of which were fathers, and their child(ren)
- ✓ Quarterly pep rallies were held to support positive behaviors and students earning tickets for showing behaviors tied directly to WINGS behavior expectations
- ✓ Held Title I events to support families and students that receive interventions through Title I funding

School Improvement Council

Jad Griffin, Principal

griffinjk@fortmillschools.org

Rebecca Cook, Assistant Principal

cookr@fortmillschools.org

Kay DeWalt, Assistant Principal

vanderhorstdewaltk@fortmillschools.org

Melva Pinckney, Assistant Principal

pinckneym@fortmillschools.org

Alexis Claassen

claassena@fortmillschools.org

Katie Harris

harrisk@fortmillschools.org

Ashleigh Lanzaone

lanzonea@fortmillschools.org

Erin Love

lovees@fortmillschools.org

Jacquelyn Lucas

jdrev04@gmail.com

Whitney Shamp

Whitney.shamp@syneoshealth.com

Purpose of This Report

This report is issued by the Fort Mill Elementary 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.

Fort Mill Elementary School



School Improvement Council Report 2025-2026

Our Mission

Strengthening the Potential of All

Our Vision

Fort Mill Elementary encourages a nurturing community by building relationships, challenging ourselves academically, and celebrating diversity. Everyone belongs!



Fort Mill Elementary School
192 Springfield Parkway
Fort Mill, SC 29715
(803) 547 - 7546

Initiatives and Partnerships

Enriched Student Education

- o Grade level collaborative PLC times for planning and data analysis
- o Dreambox and Reflex programs for classroom math support
- o Raz-Kids, Epic, Brain Pop, Flocabulary, and PebbleGo for classroom reading support
- o Partnership and coaching with Kansas University to support Ci3T Implementation phase
- o YMCA 2nd Grade Swim Program
- o Mystery Readers, including parents, staff, and community members, invited to classrooms to read
- o Winthrop Partner School
- o Partnership with Local High Schools and Middle Schools
- o Mentor program with 8th grade students at Fort Mill Middle School
- o Camp Invention
- o Partnership with the Foundation for Fort Mill Schools to provide students in need with school supplies
- o Pink Out to support Go Jen Go
- o Blood Drive with One Blood to support Heart Month and the Gordon Owino Heart Foundation, support children with heart defects
- o Partnership with the Rotary Club to promote reading in 1st grade through the Literacy Picnic
- o FMSD Summer Space Camp, including Summer Reading Camp, Lunch & Learn, ESOL Camp, and Title I camp
- o PTO Fun Run
- o Discussions and review of procedures with local police and district safety and security staff to enhance safety measures
- o Partnership with River Rock Community Church to support staff and students through staff appreciation events and All Pro Dad monthly meetings
- o Partnerships with multiple Eagle Scouts to complete projects for the school – Garden beds and school beautification

Enhanced Parent Involvement and Communications:

- o Classroom SeeSaw and Google Classroom accounts
- o Parent involvement through volunteering opportunities, chaperoning, PTO, and SIC
- o Biweekly and Weekly newsletters from classrooms and administration
- o Frequent communication through the use of Blackboard to share information and reminders with families
- o Weekly Principal Newsletter
- o Book Publishing across multiple grade levels
- o Mystery Readers done with parents, staff, and community members
- o Fathers and male community members involved in All Pro Dad monthly meetings

Demographic Information

Total Enrollment: 632
White: 341
Black or African American: 104
Hispanic/Latino: 82
Asian: 51
Other: 54
Grades Served: PreK – 5

What Are Our Current Goals?

Increase student achievement

- Deepen understanding of how students learn to read through LETRS Professional Development
- Raise student achievement in all grade levels by utilizing best practices and research proven instructional strategies.
- Long term and short term planning to help deepen teacher understanding of essential standards.
- Utilize common formative assessments and adjust teaching and learning appropriately based on student assessment data.

Ensure best practices and resources in learning, teaching, and leadership

- Utilize Professional Learning Communities for team lesson planning, student assessment and data analysis, organizing students for extra support and/or enrichment, engaging students in goal setting, and monitoring progress.
- Hold MTSS and Leadership Intervention Team meetings with grade levels to discuss student data, progress, and interventions.

Build positive home communication and school environment

- Evaluate school survey data for continuous improvement.
- Weekly parent communication from Principal's Newsletter.
- Use of web-based SeeSaw, Google Classroom, and Blackboard messaging for consistent communication highlighting class activities.
- Bi-weekly newsletters or website updates from classroom teachers.

Promote healthy habits and lifestyles

- SRSS-IE Social Emotional Screener
- Breakfast in the Classroom
- Healthy Together 5210