



SPRINGFIELD MIDDLE SCHOOL

A Year in Review

2021-2022

This report, entitled “A Year In Review,” was developed by the staff at Springfield Middle School in conjunction with our School Improvement Council. We are including goals for improvement, progress related to our goal, major events, honors, and awards plus challenges for our school. Our hope is that we keep our community informed about the challenges and successes of our school for the current school year.



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GOALS FOR THE 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR FROM THE SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Instructional practices will actively engage students, increase rigor, and also provide opportunities for life applications.

Strategy 1. Core area teachers will develop and administer an end of the year test to determine whether students have retained prerequisite information for the next level at an 80% retention rate.

Strategy 2. All teachers will administer and analyze the results of formative common assessments within their Power Team Professional Learning Community (PLC), and use the results to change instruction.

Strategy 3. Staff development sessions held during staff meetings, department meetings, and planning that are related to instructional technology will allow staff to institute best practices.

Meet the social, emotional, and academic needs of all subgroups so that all students can be successful academically.

Strategy 1. Identify at-risk students using data from a variety of sources and provide mentoring and other support services in order to increase their chance of academic success.

Strategy 2. Educate teachers on effective strategies for teaching boys and children of poverty.

Springfield Middle School will develop a comprehensive program for using data to promote student growth and school improvement.

Strategy 1. Teachers and administrators will develop a systemic approach to using formative common assessments to analyze student strengths and weaknesses.

Strategy 2. All teachers and administrators will systematically review summative data.

Strategy 3. A data committee consisting of administrators, teachers and support staff will meet to analyze data about people, practices and perception.

Strategy 4. Professional development opportunities will be offered to train teachers in using data to affect student learning.

Members of Springfield Middle School Improvement Council

Takesha Pollock
SIC Chairperson/Parent

Keith Griffin
Principal

Christy Matkovich
Assistant Principal

Jim Wilke
Assistant Principal

Logan Hudak
Teacher

Chris Humphries
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Kristi Josephson
Parent

Sara Layton
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Peter Olinger
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Dhriti Patel
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Tracy Thomas
PTO President/Parent

Rachel Walters
Booster Club President/Parent

Toiya Warthen
Parent

Amber White
Parent

MAJOR EVENTS, HONORS, GROUPS AND AWARDS

2021-2022

SPRINGFIELD MIDDLE SCHOOL HAD AND IS CONTINUING TO HAVE A VERY SUCCESSFUL YEAR. MAJOR EVENTS, HONORS AND AWARDS ARE LISTED BELOW:

School Honors and Activities

- We are in the third year of our Schools to Watch designation. We received our 2nd re-designation from the National Forum on Middle Grades Reform (NFMGR.) after our school was visited on February 2nd.
- The Fort Mill School District and Springfield Middle School were nationally accredited this school year by COGNIA. This accreditation process holds you accountable for improvement and for having a growth mindset for your organization.
- Continued to be a Partner School with Winthrop University's NetSCOPE program. We help train future teachers through Winthrop internships. We had four year-long interns this year.
- Job shadowing for 8th grade was on November 23. Students ventured to shadow individuals throughout our community.
- Seventh grade district-wide career fair was in our school. 16 career clusters were represented by the Town of Fort Mill.
- Sixth grade students had a live Career Speakers Day.
- Seventh grade was trained on the SC Occupational Interest System (SCOIS) March 22 – 26.
- Sixth grade was given an orientation on the high school career clusters through SCOIS.

Fine Arts/Culture

- One band student was all-region. One student performed a Solo and Ensemble and received a superior rating. Band activities were limited due to the pandemic.
- African American History month included a Door Decorating Contest with many outstanding depictions of Black History.
- A PowerPoint was developed by our African American History Committee. The PowerPoint was shown in February to our students. It highlighted little known facts, prominent African Americans, and times of importance in history.
- Springfield Honor Band received a superior rating (highest possible score) at the State Concert Assessment event hosted by South Carolina Band Directors Association (SCBDA) on March 17th
- Springfield Out Loud (SOL) is our honors show chorus. They are practicing hard and plan to perform at end of the year celebrations.

Student Achievement

- Fourteen 8th graders were designated as Junior Scholars.
- Our Academic Team had one full team this year. They came in 3rd place in the state competition in their division.
- The SMS Yearbook Crew was nationally recognized for design and journalism by Jostens. This is the 4th year in a row they've been recognized.
- A student came in 3rd place in the FM Community Optimist Club Oratorical contest. He will compete in the state contest on May 7th. He also won 2nd place in the respective essay contest.

Service

- Springfield Band raised over \$11,000 in their Rock Your Socks fundraiser campaign and donated 168 pairs of socks to Fort Mill Care Center
- Our student body raised close to \$1000 for UNICEF that would go to helping Ukrainian children.
- A Springfield Middle family initiated a food drive to help the Fort Mill Care Center replenish their shelves.
- Our PTO did amazing things for our school, students, and staff this school year under the direction of our PTO President, Ms. Tracy Thomas.

There are too many things done to list in this newsletter.

Athletics

- The Springfield Middle Athletic Teams did not win any championships this year. Our young athletes did work very hard and they displayed incredible sportsmanship. They learned by working as a team and sacrificed their time for the team.
- Congratulation to all of our sports teams for learning and growing as young people! What you learned as a member of a team will be valuable to you. There are many life lessons when you give it your all and compete.
- Our Athletic Booster Club did a wonderful job for our athletes and coaches under the direction of our Booster Club President, Ms. Rachel Walters. Many new things were provided for our student athletes during this school year.

OUR CHALLENGES

2021-2022

CHALLENGES ARE AREAS OR CONCERNS THAT WE ARE WORKING TO RESOLVE SO THEY DO NOT BECOME PROBLEMS. WE LOOK AT THESE CHALLENGES AS HURDLES THAT WE MUST CROSS IN ORDER TO CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN THE INTEGRITY OF OUR INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM.

The pandemic continues to be one of our biggest challenge as we finish the end of the 2021-2022 school year. Our staff worked hard to help students during very difficult times. Student discipline and emotional health are areas of concern since they are intertwined with each other. We hope that as our student body is acclimated to socialization with large groups of their peers that they will develop more empathy and kindness. Our guidance counselors, mental health professionals, and staff have worked overtime to help our students with transitioning back into full time school. Hopefully, the pandemic will continue to cooperate.

The mental health of our students is a concern. We will work to help and support all students as it relates to their mental health along with their academic gaps. Our school has mental health support personnel in place and we have to utilize their skills and talents. A designed program, which will identify those who need help, is important and necessary. We continue to develop a system of interventions for all students' mental and academic health.

We continue to have the most diverse group of students among the district's middle schools. We strive to find ways to meet the needs of our students. This is a challenge that we plan to meet. We want to provide our teachers with strategies and information about how best to meet the needs of our student body and the community. We will develop committees that will work to develop strategies to battle racism. We will work with all groups of students to help them feel comfortable and valued at Springfield Middle and in the community.

We are working to determine the Academic Gap Skills of our students, especially in math and language arts, especially reading through STAR testing. Gap skills are those skills that students are missing between where they are academically and where they should be. The pandemic has caused students to miss regular school instruction. We are identifying those students and developing strategies to help them.

Staffing needs are a huge concern. Teaming at the middle school level is important. The certification of teachers dictates how teams are configured. When we don't have a number of teachers on a grade level that is a multiple of four, we can have problems with certification. It does help that we have a number of teachers with multiple certifications in subject areas. The pool for available teachers is getting smaller each year.

Growth will always be a major challenge for our school district. York County is among the fastest growing regions in the United States. We know that the quality of life in the Fort Mill/Tega Cay area continues to attract people to our area. The Fort Mill School District has a great reputation. Because of that, we will continue to attract young families to our area. Housing developments continue to be developed in our attendance zone, contributing to our growth.