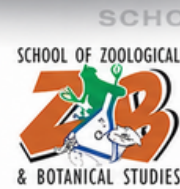


LONGLEAF MIDDLE SCHOOL

Annual Report to Parents 2026



*Leopards believe.
Leopards achieve.*



The 2025–2026 school year continues Longleaf Middle School's proud tradition of serving students and families in the northeast area of Richland County with purpose and passion. At LMS, excellence is not an aspiration—it is our daily commitment across every classroom and every experience. Guided by our vision of “*Student Success – Every Student, Every Day*,” we remain grounded in our core values represented by L.E.A.P.:

- L – Lead by example
- E – Exercise good judgment
- A – Achieve excellence
- P – Participate responsibly

Longleaf Middle School continues to experience meaningful growth. Our ongoing analysis of benchmark and MAP assessment data indicates steady progress, particularly in grades seven and eight, where students have demonstrated consistent gains throughout the year. These results reflect the collective effort of our students and staff and reinforce our commitment to continuous improvement.

Our 2025 SC READY data is especially encouraging. We saw measurable growth across all grade levels in English Language Arts, a direct result of our intentional focus on literacy across all content areas. By prioritizing reading, writing, and critical thinking in every classroom, we are strengthening students' ability to access and engage with rigorous academic content.

In mathematics, we are using our 2025 SC READY results in conjunction with this year's benchmark and MAP data to identify targeted areas for improvement. This data-driven approach is guiding our instructional planning and intervention efforts. We are optimistic that the adoption of our new math curriculum, along with focused professional development, ongoing teacher support, and a strengthened emphasis on high-quality Tier 1 instruction, will lead to increased student achievement in mathematics.

As we prepare for the 2026 state assessments, we remain confident that our students' performance will reflect the high-quality instruction and dedicated effort taking place in our classrooms each day. Building upon our previous successes and lessons learned, Longleaf Middle School remains committed to ensuring that every student is supported, challenged, and positioned for success.

SIC Goal 2026-2027: Enhance parental engagement by organizing a diverse range of events throughout the academic year that inspire parents to actively participate in supporting staff and student success. These events will be designed to foster a sense of community.

Longleaf Middle School

1160 Longreen Parkway

Columbia, SC 29229

Office - 803.691.4870

Fax - 803.691.4043

www.richland2.org/schools/lm

School Hours

8:20 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.

Student Enrollment

Grades 6 - 8

840

Mission Statement

LMS is committed to nurturing and preparing our students for future success by offering a challenging academic hands-on, STEAM infused curriculum

At Longleaf Middle School, learning is more than a schedule of classes—it is a shared experience built on relationships, purpose, and belonging. We are a community where students are known, supported, and challenged to grow into confident learners and thoughtful citizens.

Longleaf is proud to be the home of two nationally recognized magnet programs, **LEAP** and **ZooBot**, and to have been named a **Magnet Schools of America Top School of Excellence** for both. This recognition reflects the intentional work happening every day to create meaningful, engaging learning experiences for our students.

Longleaf Middle School

Where Engineering, Arts, and
Environmental Science
Come Together



LEAP—Longleaf's Engineering and Arts Program—is our schoolwide magnet, meaning every student who enters Longleaf is part of LEAP. Through this program, students develop an engineering mindset that encourages curiosity, problem-solving, collaboration, and innovation. Alongside this, students are immersed in both visual and performing arts, strengthening communication, creativity, and self-expression. These experiences build confidence, deepen understanding, and help students discover their unique strengths while learning how to work and grow with others.

Within our schoolwide magnet, **ZooBot—Zoological and Botanical Studies—offers a smaller learning community** for students with a strong interest in environmental studies. ZooBot challenges students to become responsible stewards of the environment through hands-on, authentic learning. Students engage in field studies, service-learning opportunities, classroom investigations, and interactions with guest speakers, connecting their academic learning to the world around them in meaningful ways.

Across both magnet programs, Longleaf students learn inside and outside the classroom through experiences that promote collaboration, responsibility, and real-world application. Teachers, staff, families, and community partners work together to create an environment where students feel supported, encouraged, and inspired to do their best.

At Longleaf Middle School, we believe that strong relationships and purposeful learning go hand in hand. We are not just a school—we are a connected community committed to helping every student grow, explore, and succeed.

Leopards Believe. Leopards Achieve.



LONGLEAF MIDDLE SCHOOL

ANNUAL REPORT TO PARENTS 2026



SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

Kiannah Pena - Chairperson

Teresa Mingo - Ex Officio

Kimberly Danner - Ex Officio

Calvin Rascor, Chanelle Jackson, Melanie Holmes, Hanin Abdel Halim,
Antionette King, Jessica Winfrey and Tammy Johnson



PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION (PTO)

Michelle Bennett - President

Christian Lippe- Vice President

Santana Bridges - Treasurer

Teresa Mingo - Ex Officio

Aneitra Gaymon - Ex Officio



SCHOOL LEADERSHIP TEAM

Teresa Mingo(Principal), Aneitra Gaymon (AP-8),

Martin Sims(AP-7), Kimberly Danner(AP-6),

Mary Dixon(School Counseling Director),

Casey Ellisor (Tech. Coach), Tabitha Cuffy (Magnet Lead)



TITLE 1

Longleaf Middle School has been identified as a Title 1 school based on the economic needs of our families.



CLUBS

Mock Trial, Quiz Whiz, Career Girls, M.A.L.E. Mentoring, Recycling Club, Student Council, Beta Club, NJHS, Engineering Club, Art Club, Cheer Club, Basketball Club, Lego Club, MakerSpace, Ultimate Frisbee, Step Team, Yearbook and many more



INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

Football, Volleyball, Basketball (Boys and Girls), Soccer (Boys and Girls) and Cheerleading



FINE ARTS

Visual Arts, Dance, Theater, Musical Theater, Chorus, Band and Orchestra