

# Bluffton Middle School School Improvement Council Report to Parents April 2019



*Home of the Mustangs!*

**Mr. Matthew Hall, Principal**

**Mr. Steven Schidrich, Assistant Principal**

**Dr. Kathy Johnson, Assistant Principal**

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## **VISION STATEMENT**

We envision the Bluffton Middle School community working together to **challenge every student** to perform at an **internationally competitive level** in a learning environment that is **safe, nurturing, and engaging**.

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

Bluffton Middle School seeks to promote a tradition of **academic excellence** through **exploration and discovery, technology awareness,** and **rigorous student-centered learning**. Teachers, as facilitators, inspire intellectual curiosity in an environment where students develop the ability to think, be responsible, respectful, and honest to achieve their role as effective citizens in our global society.



## SCHOOL SPONSORED STUDENT ACTIVITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES

<b>Art Center of Coastal Carolina VSA Art</b>	<b>Mustang Roundup</b>	<b>Rising 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Transition Orientation</b>
<b>FLEX time</b>	<b>WordMasters Challenge</b>	<b>River of Words</b>
<b>Outdoor Nature Trail "Mustang PATH"</b>	<b>Fellowship of Christian Athletes</b>	<b>Responsive Classroom Advisory</b>
<b>Art Club</b>	<b>Mustangs Mornings</b>	<b>STEM Accredited</b>
<b>SCHSL Athletics</b>	<b>Orchestra and Band</b>	<b>Safety/Security Trainings</b>
<b>6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Awards Ceremonies</b>	<b>Live Morning News Show</b>	<b>School Volunteers</b>
<b>Intramural Club</b>	<b>Teacher of the Month</b>	<b>Scholastic Book Fair</b>
<b>Before School Care</b>	<b>Math Assist</b>	<b>Volunteer of the Month</b>
<b>Advanced Studies Program</b>	<b>Mustang of the Month</b>	<b>School Store</b>
<b>Outback Lunch for Honorees</b>	<b>Mustang Camp</b>	<b>Second Breakfast Food Carts</b>
<b>Career Fair</b>	<b>Mustang Messenger Newsletter</b>	<b>Science Fair</b>
<b>Chess Club</b>	<b>National Google Doodle Contest</b>	<b>Bluffton 8th Gr. Juried Art Show</b>
<b>School Choice Fair</b>	<b>PBIS Incentive Days</b>	<b>Student Health Screening</b>
<b>College Colors Day</b>	<b>National Geographic Bee</b>	<b>VEX Robotics Club</b>
<b>Fundraising for Hurricane victims</b>	<b>Canned Food Drives for Bluffton Self Help</b>	<b>Multiple VEX Robotic Competition Teams</b>
<b>Prevention Screening for Staff</b>	<b>National Junior Honor Society</b>	<b>Student Council</b>
<b>1 to 1 Student Device Initiative</b>	<b>Vaccination Clinic for students</b>	<b>Summer Reading Program</b>
<b>District Student of the Month</b>	<b>Naviance</b>	<b>Summer School</b>
<b>ESOL Parent Nights</b>	<b>Nights of the Arts</b>	<b>Open House</b>
<b>After School Academic Program</b>	<b>Read Assist</b>	<b>Summer ESOL Enrichment Program</b>

## 2018-2019 MUSTANG HIGHLIGHTS- POINTS OF PRIDE

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 18 BLMS students auditioned and earned spots in the BCSD All-County Band.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multiple BLMS students will perform at Solo and Ensemble Festival in May.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BLMS Symphonic Band received a SUPERIOR rating at the Concert Performance Assessment. This is the highest rating that a band can receive and the first SUPERIOR for BLMS.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Geographic Bee contestant qualified to compete at the state level in April.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The school band performed at Carowinds and earned an Excellent rating.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BLMS Robotics competed at the SC VEX State Championship in Columbia, South Carolina.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 Duke Tip Finalists who received State Recognition</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BLMS Orchestra received an Excellent rating at the Concert Performance Assessment.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approximately 100 students participated in the BLMS Science Fair. Of those students, 7 went on to compete in the Sea Island Regional Science with two students placing in their categories, including a 3<sup>rd</sup> place winner in the category of Medicine and a 3<sup>rd</sup> place winner in Environmental.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 16 students contributed art and poetry in the district 2019 “River of Words” publication.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BLMS families raised funds for the victims of Hurricane Florence and collected donations for the Hilton Head Head Humane Associations and Toys for Tots.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BLMS teachers were recipients of multiple grants this year including a Palmetto Electric Cooperation Bright Ideas Grant, Low Country Master Naturalist Association Grant and the Junior Jazz Foundation Grant</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 200 BLMS student athletes participated in the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of BLMS Mustang sports teams</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Field trips were taken to BJWSA treatment plants, kayaking on the May River, .</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A band student auditioned and was chosen for the SCBDA Region 4 Clinic Band.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 14 - 8<sup>th</sup> grade students qualified for SC Junior Scholars</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Our volleyball team went undefeated this year winning the county championship.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Boys soccer team won the county championship.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mrs. Jacobs was recognized as the Middle School Counselor of the Year for BCSD.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7<sup>th</sup> Grade team ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> in the nation during the fall Wordmaster’s Challenge. In the winter challenge, our 6<sup>th</sup> grade team ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> in the nation and 7<sup>th</sup> grade ranked 9<sup>th</sup> in the nation.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 15 students from 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduated from the JROTC Bobcat program at BLHS.</li> </ul>

## OVERVIEW

When Bluffton Middle School opened its doors in 2010, we set a precedent of supporting our students and families socially, emotionally and academically. We serve a diverse population of 800 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students. Our student population is comprised of 47% Hispanic/Latino, 34% Caucasian, 13% African American, and 6% Other. On our most recent state report card, Bluffton Middle School was rated Average according to the newly adopted ESEA ratings for the state of South Carolina. To compliment and further develop our core academic program, we offer Project Lead the Way (PLTW) courses. Through PLTW, our students engage in hands-on, collaborative, real-world learning opportunities. This curriculum includes: Design and Modeling, Automation and Robotics, Medical Detectives, Introduction to Career Clusters, Computer Science for Innovators and Makers, and Energy and the Environment. Due to our heavy focus on STEM learning building wide, we received the prestigious STEM certification through AdvancED last year. This award recognizes the extraordinary opportunities our students have to interact with technology to research, collaborate, and think critically to problem solve real world situations incorporating all subjects. To support our students social/emotional needs, not only are we a PBIS school, but we have also implemented the Responsive Classroom Advisory structure. This framework promotes the trust and emotional safety necessary for students to take risks to grow academically. Additionally, we offer a number of clubs and extracurricular activities that support our students' interests and investment in their school. We will maintain these wonderful traditions we know are at the core in fundamentally developing our students into high quality citizens who are the future leaders of our community.

**Bluffton Middle School**  
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For more information, please visit our SIC page at [blms.beaufortschools.net](http://blms.beaufortschools.net)  
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