



**Timberwolves**  
Teamwork, Responsibility, Ambition, Integrity, Leadership

## Banks Trail Middle School

1640 Banks Road  
Fort Mill, SC 29715

803-578-2990  
<http://btms.fortmillschools.org>

# Banks Trail Middle School

*Together, Building a Tradition of Excellence.*



**With a motto of, "Together, Building a Tradition of Excellence,"** Banks Trail Middle School believes diversity is our strength. We've brought together many different backgrounds, talents, and ways of thinking to create one of the finest middle school environments imaginable.

Located in the Piedmont in Fort Mill, South Carolina, Banks Trail Middle School opened its classrooms to students in the fall of 2011. The school contains 126,000 square feet of space that accommodates our current enrollment of 766 students. There are 30 classrooms (100% of which are equipped with state-of-the-art Smart Boards), nine science labs, classrooms for fine arts and vocational education, and a gymnasium for special performances and assemblies. Our physical education and sports facilities include a gymnasium, a football/soccer stadium, a baseball field and batting cage, and four paved basketball courts.

It is our desire to create a school environment that will be enriched with academic, extracurricular, and community-based opportunities that equip all Banks Trail students

for their journey into high school and beyond. It is our responsibility to ensure that students have the knowledge, skills, and understanding to compete locally, nationally, and globally in all aspects of their lives. Middle school is a time when students are establishing the foundation for their successes in life through academic and social development and individual and societal awareness. We firmly believe these variables are cultivated by: classroom lessons that are rigorous, relevant, and engaging; extracurricular activities that enhance student learning and self-development; and community involvement, interaction, and service that make relevant connections to practical and educational experiences

In striving for that vision, our school has realized many accomplishments (see

page 5). BTMS students' academic achievement has been well documented by an Excellent rating every year in both absolute and growth ratings on the State School Report Card. Students participate and excel in local, region, and state competitions that represent all aspects of school life including academics, the arts, and athletics.

Though always proud to discuss our successes, the faculty, parents and students of Banks Trail Middle School realize that excellence is the *vision* and not the *destination*.

Working together, we continue to identify and set goals that must be attained in order to continue providing the best possible educational community.





## **Banks Trail Middle School**

*Teamwork, Responsibility, Ambition, Integrity, Leadership*

### **Report to Parents 2015-16**

Dear Parents,

It is hard to believe that the end of the 2015-2016 school year has arrived. It was without a doubt a great year for me, as it was my first year as your principal. The initial impressions that I had of BTMS have been strengthened and solidified — this indeed is a place where “Together We Build a Tradition of Excellence.”

I am excited and honored to be part of your family’s journey through middle school. The faculty and staff of Banks Trail Middle School strive to provide the highest quality education possible to our students and over the years have developed an extraordinary reputation for success, as individuals and as a school community.

I have experienced first-hand why BTMS continues to lead the way in Fort Mill. The cooperation between parents, community members, staff, and students is the key to our success. As we look forward to the 2016-2017 school year, we will continue to improve in an effort to offer our students an even more exceptional learning environment.

Dr. William Pollard once said, "The arrogance of success is to think that what we did yesterday is good enough for tomorrow." I am extremely grateful for your tremendous support this year, and I look forward to working together to educate our children. I welcome your input as we strive to move BTMS forward. If you have ideas or suggestions feel free to stop by the school or contact me.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael W. Pratt". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping flourish at the end.

*Michael W. Pratt*

*Principal*

**Banks Trail Middle School**



***Payton Wilson***  
***BTMS Student Council President 2015-16***

“I have enjoyed being a leader at such a great school. Not only have I enjoyed it, but I have learned so much about responsibility and work ethic.”



***Trish Mumaw***  
***BTMS Teacher of the Year 2016-17***

"Banks Trail Middle School is a community of dedicated professionals with a passion for teaching. Every learner that passes through the halls of Banks Trail Middle School is on the trail to succeed academically, professionally, and emotionally."



***Christine Maggio***  
***BTMS SIC Chair***

“Banks Trail Middle School is more than a bridge for students as they transition from elementary to middle school and then middle to high school. Students at Banks Trail are continuously challenged to succeed both academically and socially and presented with opportunities for self-expression and personal growth through academics, arts, athletics, and community. The years spent at BTMS are valued and respected by the students, parents, teachers and staff of Banks Trail Middle School.”

***Kristi Whitaker***  
***PTO President***



“Banks Trail Middle School is an outstanding school. The teachers, staff, and administration go above and beyond to not only assure an exceptional education for our children, but to encourage our kids to be their personal best in all that they do. As PTO President, I can say that the parents are always eager to volunteer in any way we need them. The BTMS staff is gracious and appreciative of what the PTO does, and that is reflected in the parents' willingness to always step in and do!”



## Our Mission

- Gifted and Talented Classes in ELA, Math, Science, and Social Studies
- Daily Power Period time
- High School Credit Courses
  - English 1 Honors
  - Algebra 1 Honors
- Related Arts Electives
  - Gateway to Technology (ITE) courses in:
    - Magic of Electrons & Basic Webpage, Design & Modeling, Automation & Robotics
  - Physical Education

- Junior Beta Club
- Character Education Program
- Cultural & Performing Arts
  - Art
  - Band
  - Chorus
  - Drama
- A/ B Honor Roll program
- Academic Challenge Team
- Science Olympiads Team
- Math Counts Team

- **Middle School Sports**
  - Football
  - Volleyball
  - Cheerleading
  - Basketball Boys and Girls
  - Soccer Boys and Girls
  - Baseball
  - Track Boys and Girls

- Active School Improvement Council
- Awesome PTO
- Making Middle Grades Work
- Rising 5<sup>th</sup> graders Tour and Orientation
- Back-to-School Orientation
- Fine Arts Performances
- Faculty Websites

## Academic

- Spanish
- Computer Technology
- Family and Consumer Science
- Extra Help – before school, during lunch, and after school
- Special Education Classes (resource and inclusion)
- Six-period daily schedule
- Intervention/Enrichment time (Tuesday/Thursday)
- Smart Boards, which allow for interactive learning
- Multiple Computer Labs, Google Chromebook Carts, and Ipad carts
- Media Center with 10,000+ volumes, one full-time certified librarian

## Enrichment

- Service Learning
- Student Council
- Yearbook Staff
- The Howl – Student News Program
- Class field trips
  - 6th: Discovery Place – Electric Circuit Lab
  - 7th: Charleston, SC
  - 8th: Washington, DC
- Club Time (Monday and Wednesday)

## Athletics

- **High School Sports**
  - Cross Country Boys and Girls
  - Golf Boys and Girls
  - Swimming Boys and Girls

## Home School Connection

- Weekly Class Newsletters
- Community Service projects and events
- 5K Fun Run
- Staff Luncheons
- Staff Appreciation
- Box Top Fundraising
- Community Spirit Nights
- Volunteer Opportunities

*Banks Trail strives to provide educational experiences in and outside of the classroom which empower all students to make a positive impact on their world.*

## Accomplishments, Recognitions, & Awards:

- Palmetto Gold Award Overall Academic School Performance
- Palmetto Gold Closing the Achievement Gap
- BTMS Band performance at STARS Festival Orlando, FL
- Four students: SC All-State Band Event: Furman University
- Thirty-one students earned York County Band Honors.
- Eighteen students represented in the All-Region Band
- Forty-three students recognized as Jr. Scholars
- Eighteen students invited to attend summer studies through Duke T.I.P Scholars' program
- BTMS MATHCOUNTS Team placed 2nd in the Catawba Chapter Competition
- MATHCOUNTS had four students go to state competition, placing 7<sup>th</sup>
- Science Olympiad Team placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the state
- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Academic Challenge Team placed first in the Olde English Consortium
- Alexis Simpson was the District Spelling Bee Champion
- Sarah Kate Elhamahmy won the Martin Luther King, Jr. essay contest
- 6<sup>th</sup> grader Bise Blevins qualified for the State Geography Bee
- Eight students represented BTMS in Scripps National Spelling Bee District competition
- Abby Dowling and Kara Gommer named All-Star performers at the MTI Broadway Junior Musical Theater Festival
- BTMS Theatre Company performed at Broadway Jr. for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row
- Eight BTMS students competed in the first ever Kids Cook competition
- Four BTMS Students were awarded Do the Right Thing awards from the Fort Mill Police Department
- The 7th grade career fair that took place in November was a great success; we had over 60 businesses represented that provided displays, career information, and discussions for all 7th grade students in the district
- We had over 150 8th grade students take the PSAT
- Banks Trail participated in a food drive collecting over 1600 pounds of food for families in need
- BTMS Student Council raised over \$1500 for the Angel Tree gifts for the Fort Mill community
- Students in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade science and social studies classes participated in the Google Expedition virtual field trip
- Mr. Brooks successfully implemented the BTMS BMX Racing Bicycle STEM club
- Ms. McGinnis gained certification to borrow lunar samples from NASA
- The English Department completed a book study on Book Love by nationally recognized reading consultant Penny Kittle
- Ms. Trish Mumaw, 8<sup>th</sup> grade Special Education teacher, earned recognition as one of only five Honor Roll Teachers in the FMSD

### Science and Social Studies PASS Data:

The percentages below reflect students who have scored either met or above passing rate the year prior.

Grade	Science	Social Studies
6 <sup>th</sup>	95.2%	97.1%
7 <sup>th</sup>	93.3%	92.0%
8 <sup>th</sup>	91.1%	91.9%

### English, Reading, Writing, and Math ACT Aspire Data:

The percentages below reflect students who have scored exceeding and ready.

Grade	English	Reading	Writing	Math
6 <sup>th</sup>	85.0%	56.2%	52.9%	78.8%
7 <sup>th</sup>	89.0%	68.1%	55.7%	75.2%
8 <sup>th</sup>	88.9%	68.0%	51.5%	65.5%

### English 1 and Algebra 1 End of Course Data:

English – 100% passing  
Algebra 1 – 99.1% passing

## 2015-16 School Improvement Council Members:

- Chris Maggio, Chair, Parent
- Kristy Anderson, Parent
- Christine Fisher, Parent
- Michele Howard, Parent
- Kirk Ogden, Parent
- Maggie Hermanson, Teacher
- Tami Pettigrew, Teacher
- Adrienne Wiggins, Community Member
- Michael Pratt, Principal

### **School Improvement Council Purpose:**

Mandated by law, the SIC serves as an advisory group to the school. The SIC brings together parents, school faculty, and community stakeholders to collectively establish, monitor, and evaluate specific long and short-range goals for student achievement. In addition, the SIC is a forum for parents, community members, and faculty members to share ideas and concerns about the school. Other functions of the SIC are to provide an annual school report to parents and the community and to increase parental awareness of and involvement in SIC initiatives. The BTMS SIC meets monthly. Updates and reports about the SIC are available on the school's website.

### **Annual Report:**

Banks Trail Middle School and its School Improvement Council would like to share this Annual Summary Report with parents and community members who are interested in our school. The report provides information about our student academic achievement, school accomplishments, programs, and community service and involvement.

### **SIC Goals:**

1. The Banks Trail Middle School SIC will assist with developing the goals associated with AdvancEd accreditation process.
2. The Banks Trail Middle School SIC will assist with the development of a new school mission statement.
3. The Banks Trail Middle School SIC will continue to monitor the success of students on all state tests.