

About Our School

Philip Simmons Elementary offers a PreK-4 STEAM curriculum that focuses on providing students with a transdisciplinary curriculum in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics. At the end of 4th grade, we expect all of our students to be able to demonstrate competency with World Class Knowledge, World Class Skills, and Life and Career Characteristics as outlined in the **Profile of a SC Graduate**. Our Academic Arts classes include Discovery Lab, Media Arts, Music, Physical Education, and Visual Arts.

Teacher of the Year Colleen Bendig



"As a teacher at Philip Simmons Elementary and a member of the the community it is an honor and a privilege to do what I do everyday. I love having the ability to shape young minds through early literacy intervention, beginning math concepts, and introducing my students to the wonderful world of STEAM. I'm lucky to have my family as a part of the PS Iron Horse family as well."
#pseistheplacetobe #allin

School Improvement Council

Chair Person: Shawna Berden, Parent
Secretary: Dionna Ebeling, Parent
Rebecca Dorrity, Parent
Mike Davies, Community
Malachi Neal, Community
Josh Romine, Community
Tiffany Taylor, Teacher
Rosie Herold, Teacher
Jessica Moss, Teacher
Melissa Negreiros, Principal
LaToya King, Assistant Principal



#makeitbetter

Purpose of the Report

This Report is issued by the Philip Simmons 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.

PHILIP SIMMONS ELEMENTARY

2018-2019

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL
REPORT TO PARENTS & COMMUNITY



Our Mission Statement

BCSD STEAM Schools engage students in solving real-world problems through a transdisciplinary approach to learning focused on Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics.



Dr. Melissa Negreiros, Principal
LaToya King, Assistant Principal

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Student Achievement

Teachers administer assessments throughout the year to gain a better understanding of the learning needs of our students.

These assessments include:

- Authentic Assessments
- Fountas and Pinnell Reading Benchmarks
- CoGAT/ITBS
- Common Unit Assessments
- Kindergarten Readiness Assessment
- District Benchmark Assessments

PSE students have **outperformed** the State and the District in the content areas of Reading, Writing, Math, and Science on all State-wide Assessments because Due to this targeted instruction based on individual student achievement.

STEAM

Each year our students participate in one STEAM Unit each semester. Each unit focuses on a relevant, real-world problem. Our teachers create and facilitate transdisciplinary lessons through the use of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics. Throughout each unit, our students make their learning public and inform others of how we can solve problems to #makeitbetter.

In addition to the STEAM Units, our teachers implement **STEAM Instructional Approaches** daily. These approaches include:

- problem based & inquiry rich
- authentic assessments
- collaboration with peers & experts
- student choice
- utilizing the engineering & design processes
- discipline, arts, and technology integration
- making learning public

Programs & Events

- Archery Club
- Art Extravaganza
- Book Swap
- Career Vehicle Day
- Character Education
- Field Day
- Gatekeepers (Before/after school care)
- Gifted and Talented Curriculum
- Girls on the Run
- Golf Club
- Grade Level Music Performances
- Grandparents' Tea
- Iron Horse Choir
- Iron Horse Derby
- Kids Who Care
- MakerSpace
- Mindfulness
- Multi-Tiered Systems of Support
- Passion Project
- PSES News Show
- PTA
- Red Ribbon Week
- Reindeer Run
- Restorative Practices
- Robotics Club
- Scholastic Book Fair
- School Spirit Nights
- STEAM Night
- STEAM Color Run
- Student Council

Community Involvement

The parents and community members of Philip Simmons Elementary are invested in the education of all students. There are currently over 320 registered volunteers and over 25 active business partners. Parents and community members volunteer for reading buddies, career exploration, mentoring, PTA, character education, and School Improvement Council.

Technology

All students are issued Chromebooks to support learning at school and home. We use the Common Sense Media curriculum to ensure safe and meaningful use of technology. The availability of technology for every student allows teachers to accept student work and provide feedback in real time. It also brings the world into our classrooms which allows students to make their learning public.

Our teachers also use Robotics in the classroom to create more meaningful and engaging lessons.

Our instructional technologist visits monthly to train and work with teachers on the development and implementation of technology integrated lessons and robotics.

Our goal is for teachers and students to be proficient in the effective integration of technology to support student success. Students at PSE have authentic, meaningful learning experiences that help prepare them for the 21st century.

Building Community

PSE strives to cultivate community awareness, appreciation of culture and diversity, and a better understanding of how we fit into the global community. We do this through daily student morning meetings, **digital storytelling** and community events.

