

School Achievements

- We were awarded **Arts in Basic Curriculum (ABC) Certification** which provides leadership to achieve quality, comprehensive arts education (dance, music, media arts, theatre, visual arts, and creative writing) for all students in South Carolina. Our award annual amount is \$12,500.
- We were awarded the **Distinguished Arts Program (DAP) Grant**, which assists schools and districts in developing and implementing arts initiatives that support quality arts education programs. Our annual award amount is \$18,000.
- Twenty-four PSM students were selected for Berkeley County School District's All-County Honor Band and six students were designated as Junior Scholars.

Philip Simmons Middle School SIC Members

Chair Person: Anne-Magill Payne, *Community*
Rebecca Dorrity, *Parent*
Melissa Negreiros, *Parent*
Brian Magner, *Community*
Charla Groves, *Principal*
Chris Thurman, *Assistant Principal*
Julie Creel, *Instructional Coach*
Josh McCall, *Teacher of the Year*
Lexie Benardot, *Teacher*



Purpose of the Report:

“This report is issued by the Philip Simmons Middle 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 Middle School

**Annual
School Improvement Council
Report to Parents
2022—2023**



**Vision:
Create a future we dare to
imagine and make a positive
difference.**

**CHARLA GROVES, PRINCIPAL
CHRISTOPHER THURMAN, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL**

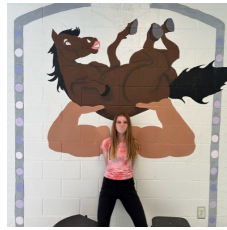
<http://www.bcstdschools.net/psm>

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What's going on at PSM?

Philip Simmons Middle School continues our pursuit of excellence in education through STEAM instructional practices. Students participate in grade-level STEAM projects to address real-world problems in area/community. Students participated in teacher and staff led in-school clubs once each month as a means to build community and build upon or discover new passions. This year's clubs included forensics which allowed students to learn and practice forensic skills to solve fictional crimes; Mock Trial, gardening, water color art, and many more. We began the Jostens Renaissance program in the fall of 2022 to enhance our school culture through the 6 Rs—respect, recognize, reward, reinforce, relationships, and results. Students in grades 5—8 submitted applications to become members of the inaugural Renaissance Leadership Team and led a successful year of culture building at PSM.



The Arts, Clubs and Awards

- Student Government
- Yearbook
- Renaissance
- Girls' volleyball team
- Boys' basketball
- Iron Horse Band held two concerts featuring both traditional and contemporary musical selections
- Eighth grade students enrolled in Art I designed and painted 2 new murals
- Theatre I students performed 4 one act plays
- 24 students were selected for Berkeley County School District's All-County Honor Band
- Grants awarded: PSTA mini-grant, Bosch, Bright Ideas, and Growing STEM



Teacher of the Year

PSM Teachers

53.4% of PSM teachers have advanced degrees and 100% of our teachers have received professional development in STEAM. We proudly celebrated our Teacher of the Year, Mrs. Lexie Benardot in the spring of 2023..

School Goals

- Promote teacher and student collaboration to set measurable short term goals aimed at growing students' behaviors and achievement.
- Support teachers in providing targeted, effective in-class interventions.
- Promote teacher and parent collaboration, as well as collaborating with the community.
- Increase the involvement of strategic partnerships in developing a sustainable positive school climate.

PSM Mission Statement:

To create, implement, and publish units that utilize STEAM processes that ignite and excite students to develop creativity, collaboration, and community in solving real-world problems.



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