

## School Achievements

- We were awarded the **Arts in Basic Curriculum (ABC) Grant**, 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 \$11,871.
- 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.
- Seventeen PSM students were selected for Berkeley County School District's All-County Honor Band and four students were designated as Junior Scholars.

## Philip Simmons Middle School SIC Members

**Chair Person:** Anne-Magill Payne, *Community*  
Dionna Ebeling, *Parent*  
Rebecca Dorrity, *Parent*  
Charla Groves, *Principal*  
Chris Thurman, *Assistant Principal*  
Julie Creel, *Instructional Coach*  
Josh McCall, *Teacher of the Year*  
Amanda Gemmell, *Teacher*  
Suzette Coors, *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  
2021—2022**



**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. We celebrated creativity, innovation, design thinking, and problem solving through our annual cardboard arcade. Students are charged with designing and building arcade games using recyclable materials. The culminating event is a morning of game play and community when all PSM students come together in the gym to experience the arcade. The event is a favorite at PSM! For the 2nd year



## The Arts, Clubs and Awards

Due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, our school clubs and teams were unable to meet and compete as we have in past school years. PSM had Student Government, Yearbook, girls and boys basketball teams, boys football team, and girls volleyball team. Our Iron Horse Band held two concerts featuring both traditional and contemporary musical selections. Eighth grade students enrolled in Art I designed and painted a new mural dedicated to the PSM band.

**Awards:** 4 PSM students were identified as Junior Scholars, 15 students were named to the All County Beginner Honor Band, 17 students placed in All County Honor Band, and 10 students were named to the Region 5 Honor Band. Our Bottle Rockets team placed 1st—7th place at the Storm the Citadel competition and set a new record with a launch of 403 feet.



## Teacher of the Year

### PSM Teachers

57.9% 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, Mr. Josh McCall. Mr. McCall was also a semi-finalist for Berkeley County Teacher of the Year.

## 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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