Congratulations Bulldog Nation!



Awards:

- **Ms. Susan Ballard** was named Beaufort County School District Counselor of the year.
- **Jacqueline O'Riordan** (8TH Grade) Overall Winner of the Regional Science Fair for Middle Schools.
- Eleven 6th and 7th graders' artwork was selected for the "River of Words" poetry and art publication.
- We had the largest percentage of nationally recognized **Junior Scholars** in all of Beaufort County.
- Two students were recognized as **BCSD Students of the Month**.
- **Jennifer Onate** was the first place winner of the Young Leader's Scholarship Award from BCEA.
- Four of our teachers were awarded grants from Palmetto Electric Trust's **Bright Ideas Program**.



Initiatives:

- Genius Village a dedicated, hands-on STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics) lab space that acts as an extension of the learning environment.
- The Dog House Invited over 20 professional and civic community members to work "think tank" style with our students in our unique collaborative space.



- Our PTO hosted over a dozen family and student events this school year (so far...)
- Stocked, staffed and managed a concession stand for all sporting and family events.
- Designed and sold T-shirts and sweatshirts for our #bulldognation.
- Raised over \$10,000 in our very first student fundraiser.

SIC



- Elected a brand-new SIC for our inaugural year.
- Celebrated seven students "Character of the Month."
- Held Parent "Tech Nights" to teach Naviance,
 Powerschool, and Google Classroom to our parents.
- Assisted with the development of the Five Year Plan.
- Conducted a safety inspection of the school grounds to identify any potential problems.

H.E. McCracken's SIC Goals

Goal 1: Increase Parent and Community Involvement

At HEMM communit bring ever teach our programs,

At HEMMS, we strive to be an active part of our community. To that end, we host several events to help bring everyone together. We held parent tech nights to teach our parents how to use the variety of apps, programs, and social media platforms we use to communicate information about our school and students.

In our monthly meetings, we joined with PTO to bolster parental support, and award a student with a "Character of the Month" award at each meeting for displaying that month's character trait. We value our student opinions as well and continue to encourage student attendance at our meetings by offering our PBIS incentive **Bulldog Bucks** to all attendees.

Our unique think-tank space **The Dog House** underscores our community commitment by pairing small groups of diverse students with civic leaders and business professionals to solve real-world problems. These activities give our students the opportunity to practice their "soft skills" and show their college and career readiness.



H.E. McCracken Middle School



@mmbulldognation



H.E. McCracken Middle School's Mission, Vision, and Goals

Mission

The H.E. McCracken Middle School mission is to build a rigorous academic and artistic foundation for diverse learners, and establish high expectations for independent collaborative members who contribute to an ever-increasingly creative and technology-driven society.

Vision

The H.E. McCracken Middle School vision is to promote:

- High expectations for <u>all</u> learners
- Critical thinking skills and authentic, real world applications
- Literacy
- Our diversity as a strength
- STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math)

Arts Infused

The HEMMS Art Mission is to provide an authentic and complete education for diverse learning across all content areas through the universal language of the arts. This program helps students use their unique talents and skills to reach their artistic and technical goals through visual arts, drama, dance, music, and other forms of creative expression.

Project Lead the Way

PLTW provides programs which encourage students to explore, create, and reach their full potential and prepares them for the global economy. Classroom settings inspire, develop, and attract talent essential to deliver innovative solutions for the Nation's current and future challenges.

Programs are designed to serve students of diverse backgrounds from those already interested in STEM-related fields to those who are more inspired by the application of STEM than they are by traditional mathematics and science courses.

Students develop critical thinking skills through hands-on project-based learning, preparing them to take on real-world challenges. Project-based courses engage students on multiple levels, expose them to areas of study that they typically do not pursue, and provide them with a foundation and proven path to college and career success.

Beaufort County School District Mission, Vision, and Goals

Mission

The Beaufort County School District, through a personalized learning approach, will prepare graduates who compete and succeed in an ever-changing global society and career marketplace.

Vision

We will work with families and our diverse community to ensure that students perform at an internationally competitive level in a learning environment that is safe, nurturing and engaging.

District Core Beliefs

We believe:

- Every student can learn using his or her valuable and unique talents and skills.
- Learning takes place when the physical, emotional, social and intellectual well-being of all students is assured at every level and during every transition.
- High expectations of the school community positively impact student success.
- Early childhood learning experiences form the foundation of future school success.
- Students learn best when they are engaged and provided with opportunities for problem solving and active participation.
- All students are entitled to learning experiences so that they can become competent and confident in the skills and knowledge needed to become successful and productive citizens.
- Investment, involvement and connection of all members of the school community are essential to a student's success.
- Frequent informal and formal assessment aligned to clearly defined learning objectives will provide improved student achievement.
- The collection, analysis and use of data from a variety of sources are critical to making decisions.
- Students should be prepared to compete and contribute in a changing global and multilingual society.

H.E. McCracken's SIC Goals

Goal 2: Transition and Tradition



HEMMS began as a "new" middle school this year, as our school completed the transition from an eighth and ninth grade school to a traditional sixth through eighth grade. This change brought an entirely new population of students and parents, a new Principal (Mr. Jerry Henderson), and the exciting opportunity to make an old school "new" again.

To commemorate this unique situation, a **Re-Grand Opening** was held in August complete with speeches, a ribbon cutting, and a performance from our local American Idol, Lee Jean. Our school became **Bulldog Nation**, and with our parent and community partners, we started building new traditions. School staff hosted informal social events off campus, and invited community members to share their real-world knowledge in our **Dog House**.



School Improvement Council (SIC)

<u>Purpose of this report</u>: "This report is issued by the McCracken Middle School Improvement Council in accordance with the South Carolina Law to share information of the school's progress in meeting carious goals and objectives, the work of the SIC and other accomplishments during the school year."

Elected Members:

Michel Claudio, Chair Anne Boerckel, Parent Steven Jeffcoat, Parent Holly Matteo, Parent Susan Romero, Teacher Jessica Taylor, Parent Suzanne Torgerson, Teacher

Appointed Members:

Jamie Harrison, Community Member Susan Madagan, Community Member Ivan Yunga, Community Member

Ex-Officio Members:

Jerry Henderson, Principal Pamela Maddox, Vice Principal

Join us on the last Monday of each month at 7:00pm in the Media Center

H.E. McCracken Middle School 2016-2017 School Improvement Council Annual Report to Parents



Jerry Henderson, Principal

Pamela Maddox, Assistant Principal

Susan Madagan, Assistant Principal

Inspiring Genius Thinking

H. E. McCracken Middle School: 250 H.E. McCracken Circle, Bluffton, SC 29910 Phone (843) 706-8700 Fax (843) 706-8778 hemms.beaufortschools.net