

# Congratulations Bulldog Nation!



## Awards:

- **Ms. Karen McKenzie** (Social Studies) named Beaufort County School District Teacher of the Year!
- **Addison Powell** (6<sup>th</sup>) and **Ahmari Cannick** (8<sup>th</sup>) were the grade level winners of the D.A.R essay contest.
- **30** of our 8<sup>th</sup> graders were recognized as Junior Scholars.
- **Symphonic Band** received a Superior rating on the Concert Performance Assessment.
- The Bulldogs **Softball team** finished the season undefeated.
- Our Ladies **Soccer team** are the District Champs for the second year in a row!
- Seven teams made it to the **State National History Day** competition.
- **Ms. Patterson** was the recipient of the Foundation for Educational Excellence's Innovative Teacher Grant.
- **Ms. Shea** and **Ms. McAllister** were both recipients of the Palmetto Electric "Bright Ideas" Grant.



## Initiatives:

- School-wide free tutoring program both before and after school in math, reading, and PSAT prep.
- Developed a volunteer Beautification Committee to coordinate the sweeping campus-wide beautification initiative aiming to create a learning space we can be proud to call home!



# PTO

- Our PTO hosted over a dozen family and student events this school year (so far...)
- Made sure our amazing teachers felt the love during **Teacher Appreciation Week** !
- Designed and sold T-shirts and sweatshirts for our **#bulldognation**.
- Combined fun, fitness, and fundraising with the **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Color Run**.



# SIC

- Reviewed and provided feedback on the **2019-2020 school budget**.
- Assisted with the development of the **Five-Year Plan**.
- Conducted a safety inspection of the school grounds to identify any potential problems.
- Met with School Board members in collaborative meetings to discuss topics such as **school safety and school performance**.

# H.E. McCracken's SIC Goals

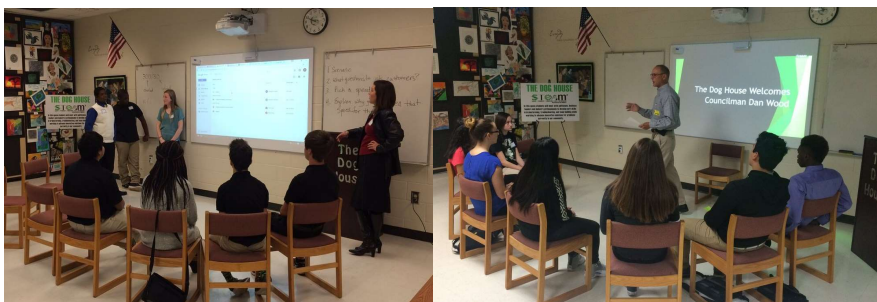
## Goal 1: Increase Parent and Community Involvement



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 hold 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.

While we continue to be active on social media through our Twitter updates and Facebook posts, we also make sure we reach each and every household through a weekly e-mail from our principal with a Spanish translation outlining upcoming events and initiatives.

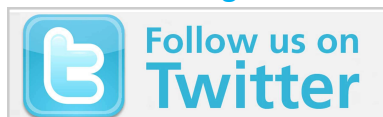
We continue to encourage a sense of community by inviting our parents, local businesses and community members to participate in our campus wide beautification initiative. Community members have responded with ideas, donations, and their time to create a learning space that our students, staff, and neighborhood can be proud of.



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 on the academic foundation of diverse learners and establish high expectations for contributing, independent, and collaborative members of an ever-increasing technologically driven society.

## Vision

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

- High expectations for all learners
- Critical thinking skills
- Authentic, real world applications
- Literacy
- The strength of our diversity

## 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: School Safety



Keeping our children safe is always a priority at H.E. McCracken Middle School. The SIC conducts an annual safety walk with an extensive tour of the building and grounds to identify any existing or potential safety concerns. We were able to implement small and inexpensive safety measures immediately, while notifying the district office of any capital improvement needs.

Dismissal time was identified as a primary concern for safety, with walkers, car riders, bus riders and activities occurring at the same time. Principal Skirtich created series of changes to the dismissal process including specific car and foot traffic paths and increased supervision as well as a video for our parents to explain the changes and dramatically improve the safety of our students.



## School Improvement Council (SIC)

**Purpose of this report:** “This report is issued by the H. E. 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	Buffy Wilborn Snider, Co-Chair
Patty Cottingham, Parent	Gloria Alvarez Kayser, Parent
Selina MacDonald, Parent	Kelly McMahan, Teacher
Jennifer Riley, Parent	Stacha Stinson, Parent
Suzanne Torgerson, Teacher	Tara Wallace, Parent

### **Appointed Members:**

Jamie Harrison, Community Member  
Ryenne Morgan, Community Member  
Karen Mullins, Community Member  
Jaime Marcotte, Community Member  
Chrissy Zito, Community Member

### **Ex-Officio Members:**

Lindsey Skirtich, Interim Principal  
Pamela Maddox, Vice Principal

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

H.E. McCracken Middle School  
2018-2019  
School Improvement Council  
Annual Report to Parents



Lindsey Skirtich, Interim Principal

Pamela Maddox, 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