

School Achievements

HSMS Honors Band received a superior rating in the Augusta University Regional Band Competition.

HSMS Boys Basketball competed in the first round of the county championship where they were beaten out by PKMS.

Congratulations to Da Capo Honors Band members: D. Wyatt, T. Fitts, J. Naranjo, J. Montiel, C. Hutto, B. Woodward, G. Zimmerman, and K. Dougherty.

Alex Sheridan was admitted to the summer SC Governor's school for music and art.

21 HSMS students were showcased in the NA Cultural Arts Student Art Show and 10 had pieces showcased in the Aiken County District Fine Arts Show.

Congratulations to Kinley Taylor who was named the first annual Ms. Highland Springs at the PTO pageant.

HSMS students participated in collection drives to benefit local food shelters, animal shelters, and veteran facilities.

We completed our first year in our new building!

Highland Springs Middle School 23-24 SIC Members

*Chair: Kristian Hermanson, Parent
Principal: Ms. Paige Day*

pday@acpsd.net

*Secretary: Jeremy Lehman, Assistant
Principal*

*Erica Bean, Parent
Gladys Snyder, Teacher
Melissa Cole, PTO Rep
Kevin Butler, Teacher
Kim Dewitt, Teacher*

Purpose of the Report

"This Report is issued by the Highland Springs 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."

Highland Springs Middle School Annual School Improvement Council "Report to the Parents" 2023-2024



822 Fountainhead Drive
North Augusta, SC 29841
803-822-9601

Vision:

We will offer a first-class educational experience in an "excellent" school because our students deserve nothing less.

Mission Statement:

The passionate and dedicated staff at Highland Springs Middle School strives every day to create a safe and secure environment that fosters personal growth, empowers students to embrace challenges, and promotes a culture of kindness and respect.

SIC Annual Goals

During the 23-24 school year, the HSMS SIC decided to focus on building a partnership with the HSMS PTO as a fundraising entity to support the vision of creating a caring closet for students in need of basic clothing and hygiene needs. A generous donation of \$3,000 from an individual donor has made the outlay of this project a reality. The SIC looks forward to implementing the closet during the 24-25 school year, as the raising of the funds, purchasing of the racks and other goods has taken place this year.

The team worked with local businesses, churches, and individuals to procure organizational materials as well as the products to go in the caring closet. We look forward to being able to better serve students who are experiencing need in the upcoming years with these generous donations.

Student Achievement

Highland Springs Middle School opened during the 23-24 school year so data reported was from the feeder schools from where students had matriculated.

ELA proficiency on the middle level in ACPSD was 50.4% in the 2023 school year – as measured through SC Ready Testing. This is below the state average of 52% proficiency which is well below the goal for the state of 70% proficiency in ELA by 2030. The current proficiency as determined by NWEA MAP Spring 24 data at HSMS is 54 leaving a significant amount of growth need to reach the goal of 70% mastery.

Math proficiency on the middle level in ACPSD was 33.7% in the 2023 school year – as measured through SC Ready Testing. This is in alignment with the state average of 33.1% proficiency which is much below the expected 70% proficiency goal of 2030. The current achievement as determined by NWEA MAP Spring 24 data at HSMS is 41% meeting or exceeding grade level standards.

“For more information, you may view Myschool’s “S.C. School Report Card” for the previous school year online at www.ed.sc.gov.”

Additional Information

As the newest school in Aiken County Public Schools, Highland Springs Middle School draws students from both areas 2 and 3 as well as many feeder schools. With students coming from many different areas and existing schools, one main goal for HSMS was to build a culture of teamwork and inclusion.

In order to achieve this goal, Highland Springs focused on building student engagement activities through organizations such as Girls on Fire, Growing Young Men, BETA club, HSMS Ambassadors, and our Student Council.

We additionally incorporated field experiences for different grade levels and focused on a student attribute each month. These attributes were highlighted by recognizing the “Riverhawks of the Month” during townhall meetings each month held with each grade level. We also highlighted student groups and upcoming events in these meetings.

- Paige Day, Principal
- Kristian Hermanson, Chair of SIC

