

School Achievements

PKMS Academic Team came in first in Aiken County for the second year in a row following the title of State runner-up during the 19-20 school year. State competitions were cancelled during 20-21 due to COVID-19.

PKMS Football Team won the title of City Champs and progressed to the regional playoffs which were cancelled due to COVID-19. The team boasted an undefeated season.

The PKMS Boys' Basketball team won the title of County Champions for 20-21.

The PKMS Girls' Basketball team won the title of County Champions for 20-21.

Congratulations to the PKMS Spelling Bee Champions, Katherine Ellis, and Jalen Aranda. Katherine went on to represent Paul Knox at the district spelling bee by winning the Area 2 competition.

The STEAM Team has placed in the STEAMify sponsored by Augusta University, but I haven't told the team yet as I am still trying to schedule the awards meeting to surprise them.

We are currently having a representative from Clemson University coming in to teach robotic coding. I sent some pictures last week. She will be coming in with 2 more robotic lessons.

The STEAM team received honorable mention in the US Crystal Competition.

Paul Knox Middle School 20-21 SIC Members

Chair: Ms. Megan Ball, Teacher
mball@acpsd.net

Principal: Ms. Paige Day
pday@acpsd.net

Secretary: Hannah Crawford
Shannon Cook, Parent
Regina Dunbar, Parent
Andrew Morris, Community
Michelle Stevens, PTO Rep
Shelby Weiss, Teacher

Purpose of the Report

"This Report is issued by the Paul Knox 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."

Paul Knox Middle School Annual School Improvement Council "Report to the Parents" 2020-2021



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Paul Knox Middle School commits to the development of life-long learners by providing a safe and nurturing environment where educators implement rigorous instruction to ALL students who will acquire the skills to become productive citizens and contribute to society.

SIC Annual Goals

During the 20-21 school year, the PKMS School Improvement Council, decided to continue to focus on reading achievement even with the challenges that COVID-19 hybrid and virtual learning posed.

The focus of this year's goal was to implement a reading counts program which was supported by the SIC helping to develop our "prize vault." Prizes are awarded based on points earned through the Reading Counts Program.

The team contacted community members that would be willing to assist with donations to the PKMS Reading Prize Vault. Students began participating in the Reading Counts Program in January and by March students had read a total of almost 4 million words.

Student Achievement

During the 2019-2020 school year, state testing was waived due to COVID -19. The last data points on reading and math come from the district screener for reading and math proficiency which is the Scholastic Reading and math inventory. The most recent testing data which was collected in the winter of 2020 showed current proficiency in Reading to be at 59% and current proficiencies in math to be at 16%.

In the most recent SC school report card data which comes from 18-19, Paul Knox Middle School scored an Overall rating of "Good" with an absolute point value of "55".

"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

At Paul Knox Middle School's thematic school of science, students are provided opportunities for collaboration, and acceleration within the framework of science. The program immerses students in an environment that emphasizes discovery and exploration, collaborative study, scientific research, use of scientific tools and technology, and a strong sense of community.

PKMS students have been emerged in a variety of engaging projects this year. The 6th grade students have been able to build their own circuits, test out simple electric machines, and test magnetic fields. The 7th grade students have had the opportunity to build atomic models, utilize compound microscopes to magnify various specimen, create 3D cells, and construct covalent and ionic bonds. The 7th grade students just completed a courtroom debate on the pros and cons of genetic engineering. The 8th grade science students have been on the move experimenting with force and motion. Students have experimented with different types of waves and even recreated "The Rock Cycle" with hot plates and candy. The 8th grade students have also experimented with the causes and effects of plate tectonics.

At Paul Knox we show strengths in standardized state testing, reading support, acceleration, and teacher and staff quality as determined by state survey results.

We are always looking to expand the parental involvement and have opportunities such as STEM night, Literacy night, PTO, and our middle grade expo to meet parental needs.

- Paige Day, Principal
- Megan Ball, Chair of SIC

