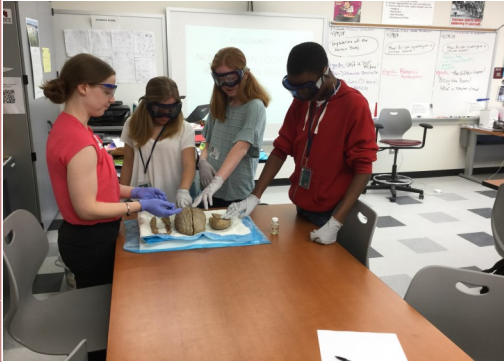


Course Offerings:

High School Credit

- ◆ Algebra I
- ◆ Geometry
- ◆ Spanish I
- ◆ Digital Literacy/Multimedia Basics



Science and Technology

- ◆ Forensic Science
- ◆ Pre-Engineering
- ◆ Design and Modeling
- ◆ Automation and Robotics
- ◆ Green Architecture
- ◆ Marine Science
- ◆ Medical Detectives
- ◆ Computer Science
- ◆ Google Basics

Fine Arts

- ◆ Drama
- ◆ Chorus
- ◆ Band
- ◆ Strings
- ◆ Advanced Art

HIGHLIGHTS 2019-2020

- ◆ Awarded the Program Excellence Award at the 80th annual International Technology and Engineering Educator's Association (ITEEA).
- ◆ 82 Junior Scholars
- ◆ 142 students qualified for Duke TIP
- ◆ SeaPerch competition winners
- ◆ Superior rated Orchestra Program
- ◆ Superior rated Band Program
- ◆ Superior rated Choral program
- ◆ Presentations to a national audience
- ◆ Future of Education & Technology, Orlando , FL



Comprehensive Guidance Program:

- ◆ Classroom Guidance /Small groups
- ◆ Career Guidance
- ◆ Advisory Program
- ◆ Overcoming Obstacles curriculum
- ◆ Digital Citizenship

LAING PRIDE

Personal Responsibility
Respect
Initiative
Diligence
Effective Behaviors

LAING MIDDLE SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



2019-2020
ANNUAL

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL'S REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

The Mission of Laing Middle School of Science & Technology is to prepare and inspire generations of learners to meet the challenges of our 21st century society by fostering academic achievement through technological literacy, innovation, collaboration and creative problem solving.

James Whitehair Jr. M. Ed.
Principal

James_Whitehair@charleston.k12.sc.us

Brandy Bocelli, SIC Chairperson

Myranda Brawley, M.Ed.
Assistant Principal

Myranda_Brawley@charleston.k12.sc.us

Wendy Anderson, M. Ed.
Assistant Principal

Wendy_Anderson@charleston.k12.sc.us

Carrie Knotts M.Ed.
Assistant Administrator

Carrie_Knotts@charleston.k12.sc.us

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2705 Bulrush Basket Lane,  
Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina 29466  
Phone: 843-849-2809  
Fax: 843-849-2895  
<http://laing.ccsdschools.com>

## School Improvement Council 2019-2020

Meeting the needs of a rapidly growing area and diverse student body has been a welcome challenge for the Laing SIC. The SIC is dedicated to being a strong advocate for public education and offers strong support for our Whole School STEM Initiative – ensuring that Laing not only prepares students for the 21<sup>st</sup> century workforce, but also prepares them to be community citizens. The Laing SIC has been focused on the following priorities for the 2019-2020 school year.



- ◆ Cultivate new partnerships with businesses and business associations, especially those involved with manufacturing, to ensure that the STEM-infused activities we develop are well-aligned to industry needs and opportunities.
- ◆ Develop new partnerships with other schools and education-focused organizations, particularly those that serve rural and low-income urban areas.
- ◆ Document existing and future activities to facilitate replication in other schools, in media that include internet archives, videos, and printable media.

## Laing Middle School's Whole-School STEM Initiative

Five years ago, Laing Middle School of Science and Technology embarked on a Whole-School STEM Initiative designed to build 21st century workplace skills, foster interest in STEM careers, improve academic performance, and close achievement gaps. Since its beginning, this initiative has piloted new instructional approaches and initiatives including student centered learning, physical computing, and computer science classes; developed a state-of-the-art fabrication laboratory with 3D printers, laser cutter, computer controlled routers, and microcontroller devices; attracted more than \$250,000 in community support, and received national awards including Top STEM Middle School in the U.S. (Future of Education Technology Conference, 2017) and Program Excellence Award (National Technology and Engineering Educators Association, 2018).

This experience now positions Laing's Whole-School STEM Initiative to play a key role in addressing the national skills problem by assisting new STEM-focused initiatives with program development, equipment acquisition, and staff training. Our experience can help fledgling STEM programs avoid common pitfalls, overcome staff apprehension and resistance, define realistic goals and implementation plans, and make the best use of human and financial resources.



## Core Beliefs

**The Laing faculty is committed to...**

- ◆ Facilitating student learning by encouraging innovation through independent and collaborative problem solving.
- ◆ Implementing collaborative ideas that promote openness to ask questions and take risks while seeking solutions.
- ◆ Developing professionally by setting goals and seeking growth opportunities.
- ◆ Creating assessments that address a variety of modalities so all students may achieve success.



**Students are successful when...**

- ◆ Content is relevant, engaging, and revolves around real world problem solving.
- ◆ Given the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge utilizing a variety of modalities.
- ◆ Multiple learning styles and creativity are recognized and appreciated by the teacher.
- ◆ There is meaningful collaboration amongst teachers.
- ◆ They work effectively, respectfully, and collaboratively.
- ◆ They take ownership of their learning.

**CCSD**  
**“Where Excellence is Our Standard”**  
**Core Values:**  
**Results, Access, Partnerships, &**  
**Diversity**