

Featured Information

- Our student body consists of 1143 students in grades 6-8, representing 85% White, 6% African American, 4% Hispanic, and 6% other ethnicities.
- We currently have 95 full-time faculty and staff and 4 part-time staff.
- Cario is one of the largest middle schools in South Carolina with some of the highest test scores in the state for a comprehensive middle school.
- Cario Middle School believes that parent involvement and positive relationships with the community best support successful students. We encourage parent volunteers, provide newsletters and information to parents, and leave open communication for the benefit of all our students and their families. We welcome and want our parent and community input!
- Cario has embraced Personalized Learning this year:

PERSONALIZED LEARNING AT THOMAS C. CARIO MIDDLE SCHOOL...

Charleston County School District has a mission to educate and support every child in achieving college, career, and citizenship readiness.

At Cario Middle School, we empower students to be collaborative lifelong learners, actively improving their world.

Goal #1: Empowerment: Teachers feel empowered and confident to make changes.

Goal #2: Data: Teachers are utilizing data to inform student choice, instructional model and differentiation.

Goal #3: Self-reflective & Ownership: Students are self-reflective and have ownership over their path of learning.

Cario Middle School SIC Members:

- Robert Lang, Chairman, Teacher
- Shannon Murphy, Teacher
- Christina Mahaffey, Parent, PTSO President
- Julie Guthrie, Parent, Teacher
- McLeod Best, Community Member
- Christine Reece, Media Specialist
- Evandro Valente, AP
- Sheila Osborne, AP
- Laura Osborne, AP
- Bryan Coleman, Principal

Student Achievement



Thomas C. Cario Middle School Annual School Improvement Council

Report to the Parents 2022-2023



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Mount Pleasant, SC 29466
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<http://cario.ccsdschools.com/home>

Administrative Team

- Mr. Bryan Coleman, Principal
- Dr. Evandro Valente, 8th Grade Assistant Principal
- Dr. Laura Osborne, 7th Grade Assistant Principal
- Ms. Sheila Osborne, 6th Grade Assistant Principal

Purpose of the Report

"This Report is issued by the Cario 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."

Cario's School Improvement Council (SIC) evaluates current practices and conditions at Cario that effect student performance, identify areas that need improvement, and offer suggestions for programs, incentives, and activities to attain clearly defined goals. The SIC goals are aligned with the Charleston County School District's mission statement. The mission of CCSD is to increase student achievement overall and close the achievement gaps in order to prepare all students to compete in a global economy and make a positive contribution to our community and nation.

Cario Middle School continues its tradition of excellence in academics, arts, and extra-curricular activities. Cario is a highly successful middle school with a large campus, a small-school atmosphere, and numerous opportunities for students. Our students have consistently demonstrated mastery of rigorous academic standards and excel in Fine Arts and our other programs and clubs.

Cario provides a quality academic program, as well as a structured system of interventions for students who need support. Students have opportunities to earn high school credits and take exploratory courses, such as choices in the Fine Arts, Spanish, pre-engineering (PLTW), marine biology, computer, journalism, and fitness. Cario has one of the highest percentages of students identified as gifted and talented (GT) in the Charleston County School District. Cario students compete in numerous local, state, and national academic challenges – and win TOP awards, such as in the American Mathematic Competition, Math Counts competition, CCSD Spellbound Spelling Bee, Quest, LEGO Robotics, SC State Scholastic Chess Championship, and National Geographic Geography Bee, to name just a few.

A recent recognition is for our Project Lead the Way GATEWAY Pre-engineering courses: Cario Middle School received *national* recognition as a distinguished school for STEM and Career Learning through Project Lead the Way (PLTW) Gateway. Cario offers all ten of the middle school courses available through this national program and is one of just five middle schools in South Carolina to receive this honor, and the only middle school in Mt. Pleasant. Through PLTW programs, students develop STEM knowledge, as well as in-demand, transportable skills that they will use both in school and for the rest of their lives, on any career path they take.

The Cario Chorus is the only program in South Carolina to have students selected to every regional and national honor choir since 2000. Orchestra students received superior ratings at the S.C. Concert Festival, along with many other awards.



Cario's band received the state's Outstanding Performance Award for the almost twenty consecutive years and earned superior ratings at the S.C. Concert Festival, among other awards. Cario Visual artists have earned numerous awards in local, state, and national competitions, such as placing in the top awards for the REEL ART competition, Federal Junior DUCK Stamp competition, among many others. Drama students were involved in several productions during the year, including the huge, mid-year *Oliver Jr.*, to rave reviews. They also have won numerous awards in local and state competitions.



Cario students have competed in local private and community teams in football, volleyball cheerleading, soccer, tennis, swimming, golf, baseball, and softball – and win numerous competitions and awards. The yearbook staff produced a high-quality publication, and our Horticulture Club is working to grow vegetables, along with flowers to make our school more attractive. We inducted our fourth group of students for our National Junior Honor Society. Our students organized and continued to grow a student-led and student-focused *Student Government* program to link our students with community service projects and programs. Our students produce daily video morning announcements to rave reviews.

Cario's PTSO has worked with our faculty, staff, and students to continue to run a school store this year and a Spirit Pantry to offer food and supplies to our Cario

families in need. Our PTSO and SIC offer important parent training and student training that is current and relevant to our world issues. We have spent much time over this school year focusing on student leadership and philanthropy, and we hope to continue and grow these programs for many years to come.



The Cario staff participates in on-going professional development in order to meet the needs of our students, including instructional rounds and tech Tuesdays to focus on class rigor and student engagement. Cario is working to implement Personalized Learning, which is differentiating instruction based on individual student data. Our faculty and staff have embraced the Capturing Kids' Hearts model and work to implement this daily with our students. Cario Middle School uses the Making Middle Grades Work national model to implement positive changes in our school. We recognize the importance of high expectations, rigorous academics, and a safe, supportive learning environment for all students. As partners in education, our faculty and staff, parents, and community members support and actively participate in making Cario Middle School a model for educational excellence:

We strive to reach our goal of "preparing resourceful, positive, service-oriented leaders of tomorrow!"

Bryan Coleman, Principal
Robert Lang, SIC Chair

