



KENNEDY MIDDLE SCHOOL

Dr. Ryan Ashley, Principal

Nicole Stansell, Assistant Principal

Sonia Merriweather, Assistant Principal

Ashleigh Whittle, SIC Secretary

MISSION

The mission of Kennedy Middle School is to provide a safe and nurturing environment as we guide, prepare, and motivate students to show academic and social growth towards high school readiness.

COMMUNITY

The Consolidated School District of Aiken County is the sixth largest district in South Carolina. Here, students achieve at high levels in every realm of education. Educating nearly 25,000 students enrolled in 41 schools, Career & Technology Center, Freedman Early Learning Center, Aiken Innovate Online 6-12 Program, and the Center for Innovate Learning, the district has continued its path of excellence to include prestigious honors and noteworthy accomplishments. ACPSD truly has a focus to prepare students for their future, regardless of what that may be.

SCHOOL AND ACCREDITATION

Kennedy Middle School, originally named Kennedy Junior High, is located close to one of the busiest intersections in Aiken County, Pine Log Road and Whiskey. Kennedy was ready for occupancy for the 1958-1959 school year. The building was to be constructed mainly of steel, but a steel strike caused more concrete to be used. The cost of the building was \$750,000 and it was constructed for 475 students and 17 teachers. In the 1960's an additional wing was added. Originally, grades seven through nine were housed at Kennedy; grades seven and eight in 1970; and from 1979-2020, grades six through eight. Beginning with the 2019-2020 school year, Kennedy became a school for only grades seven and eight with the opening of Aiken Intermediate.

In 1995 construction began to completely remodel the school because it had outgrown the current building. After about two years of construction, the new additions and updates were complete in 1997 with the addition of a new wing and complete interior renovation. The school is built around four enclosed courtyards which can serve as outdoor classrooms and provide each grade level with a separate wing. The exploratory classes, cafeteria, and gym are located in a separate building.

The school has been accredited through Cognia for the past 50 years.





Color Wars



Literacy Night



Career Center Field Trip



Hands-on Learning



Experimental Learning & Student Engagement

This year, we are continuing to prioritize Student Engagement by offering experiential learning opportunities outside the classroom through Field Trips. These trips also provide a valuable chance for parents to participate and observe what their students are learning.



Capturing Kids' Hearts is a comprehensive school program designed to enhance the social-emotional wellbeing of students and foster a relationship-driven culture within educational environments. Through experiential training, expert coaching, and personalized support, the program equips K-12 educators to implement transformational processes that strengthen student connectedness and create safe, welcoming environments.

BETA Club

Our Junior Beta club members have worked with various service projects around the school and community. Including a project at Aiken Memory Care, where they regularly visited the residents. The KMS Beta Club was recognized this year as a School of Distinction.

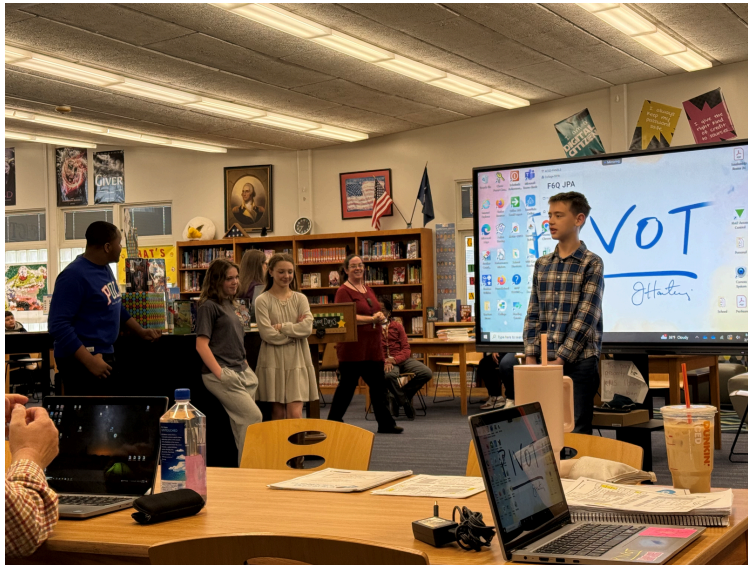


National **BETA**

**SCHOOL OF
DISTINCTION**



Growing Leaders



At Kennedy Middle School, we are growing leaders. There are numerous benefits to student leadership that contribute to both personal development and overall community of the school. The benefits are skill development, confidence, self-esteem, responsibility, accountability, creative thinking, empathy, and collaboration.

1. Skill Development: Students enhance their communication, teamwork, problem-solving, and decision-making skills
2. Confidence and Self-Esteem: Taking on leadership roles boosts students' confidence and self-esteem as they accomplish tasks and lead initiatives
3. Responsibility and Accountability: Leadership roles teach students to manage responsibilities and be accountable for their actions
4. Creative Thinking: Leaders often need to think creatively to solve problems and innovate within their roles
5. Empathy and Collaboration: Student leaders learn to work empathetically and collaboratively with peers, fostering a supportive community
6. Preparation for Future: Leadership experience prepares students for future challenges in higher education and professional environments

SIC Members

ELECTED MEMBERS

Last Name	First Name	Title
Valentine	Dawn	Teacher
Johnson	Ron	Parent
Miller	Lori	Parent (Chair)
Milner	Haley	Parent
Blakenship	Kyle	Parent

APPOINTED MEMBERS

Last Name	First Name	Title
Carter	Lea	Community Member
Pittman	Ciara	Community Member/Parent

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Last Name	First Name	Title
Ashley	Ryan	Principal
Turner	Christa	Parent/PTO Representative

