# SIC Annual Report 2024 - 2025



# **KENNEDY MIDDLE SCHOOL**

Dr. Ryan Ashley, Principal Nicole Stansell, Assistant Principal Sonia Merriweather, Assistant Principal Lea Carter, 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.









## 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.







**Career Center Field Trip** 

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

# **Student Leadership & Service**



Students have the opportunity to earn service hours in various programs such as Student Council, BETA, and Leadworthy classes. We are continuing to create student leadership roles school-wide so every student will find their voice.



💮 www.acpsd.net/kms

803-641-2470

274 E Pine Log Rd. Aiken., SC 20803