

2023-2024 SIC Report to the Parents

Merriwether Middle School

430 Murrah Road
North Augusta, SC 29860
803-279-2511

#WeAreMMS

#MustangPride

#GrowingGreatness

Special Events

- Mustangs on Parade
- Battle of the Books
- Miss MMS Pageant
- Pep Rallies
- School Dances
- Positive Behavior Celebrations
- Field Trips
- Yearbook Signing
- Spirit Weeks
- Veterans Day Program
- Black History Month Program
- Band/Chorus Concerts
- 12 Days of Christmas

The Mustang Way

- Be on time.
- Be respectful.
- Do the right thing.
- Do your absolute best!

The **Student of the Month Program** highlights students that embody the Mustang Way and perform well both academically and behaviorally.

Thirteen students were newly inducted into the **Beta Club**.

Our first **Mock Trial** team competed at the state level.

MMS Distinguished Teacher of Literacy:
Mrs. Elise Kirk

German class now offered for high school credit.

Daily **advisory** meetings focused on strengthening students' math skills

The **Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS)** program provides opportunities to celebrate positive student behavior throughout the school year.

Merriwether Middle School hosted fifteen **German exchange students** for a week. Events included: day trip to Charleston, visiting classes at MMS, visit to Edgefield and Strom Thurmond High School, and a traditional American Thanksgiving meal provided by PTO.

M. Wetzel (8th Grade) won first place in the 21st Annual Nancy Carson Library Teen Ghost Story Writing Contest.

Quarterly **Honor Roll Celebrations** are conducted to celebrate students who make the honor roll each nine weeks.

MMS Teacher of the Year and Top 3 Finalist for ECSD's District Teacher of the Year:
Mr. Matt Herring
(Music/Drama Teacher)

Region Band Participants:
A. Joiner (7th grade)
F. Kyler (7th grade)
J. Miller (8th grade)

Winners of the 3rd Annual Battle of the Books Competition:

Cookie Monsters
K. McNure
E. Fowler
B. Hillary
K. Walker

Read 180 classes provide an adaptive reading focus that is highly structured and individualized. This course aims to decrease the literacy gap through the use of technology, whole group activities, and direct instruction.

Our **yearbook** is entirely designed and created by students.

A. Joiner (7th Grade) won first place in the middle school category of the SC State Book Trailer Contest.

Support Staff of the Year:
Mrs. Shamala Collier
(Bookkeeper)

We had 130 students recognized for **Honor Roll achievement** during the first quarter, 119 students for the second quarter, and 138 students for the third quarter.

Athletics at MMS:

- Football
- Cheerleading
- Basketball
- Soccer
- Volleyball

Multiple successful **Book Fairs** through the Bedford Falls Book Fair Company

Seventh and eighth grade students are eligible to participate in **athletic programs** through our only high school, Strom Thurmond High School, including softball, baseball, swim, tennis, and track.

Student Council

- 22 members, 18 Homeroom representatives
- President: **K. Page** (8th Grade)
- Vice President: **C. Just** (7th Grade)
- Treasurer: **C. Jennings** (8th Grade)
- Secretary: **C. Carter** (6th Grade)
- Sponsored by **Ms. Bagwell** and **Ms. Kirk**
- Sponsored MMS Pageant fundraiser

Guidance Counselor, Mrs. Sharon Corbin, meets with all social studies classes on a monthly basis focusing on topics determined from a survey completed on social-emotional learning through the **ReThink Ed program**.

Twenty-six participants in this year's **Miss Merriwether Pageant**

Following the results of a parent survey and to improve communication between the school and parents, a **weekly email** is sent to all parents on Sunday nights about school events.

MMS Library received a monetary gift from the **South Carolina Council for the Holocaust** to purchase non-fiction titles relating to the Holocaust.

Active and engaged **PTO**

Guidance Counselor Helpers conduct tours for new students and assist with Individualized Graduation Plan Days.

Clubs

- Student Council
- Fellowship of Christian Athletes
- Yearbook Staff
- Honor Choir
- Beta Club
- Student Ambassadors
- Mock Trial
- Sign Language Club

Large FCA program led by students

GEAR Up Program
"GEAR Up is a long-standing, research-based initiative that provides 8th grade students the opportunity to participate in a variety of tailored experiences aimed at increasing academic performance, preparing for post-secondary opportunities, and improving the overall education experience."
--Ms. Amber Harmon,
GEAR Up Coordinator

ProTeam is offered as a Leadership and Teacher Education class for students, similar to middle school teacher cadet.

Musical Opportunities:

- Percussion
- Guitar
- Piano
- Voice
- Band

MEMBERS OF 2023-2024 MMS SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

Carolyn Wright, Parent (Chair)
Shannon Page, Parent
Matt Redding, Parent
Roxanne Hyer, Parent
Antwaun Hillary, Assist. Principal (Ex-officio)
Mindy Clark, Principal (Ex-officio)

Rebecca Hamilton, Parent
Victoria Braddock, Parent/Staff
Nicole Dorsey, Teacher
Matt Herring, Teacher of the Year
Kristen Taylor, School Librarian