

Engaging\*Empowering\*Enriching 2020-2021

**Merriwether Middle School**  
430 Murrah Road  
North Augusta, South Carolina 29860  
803-279-2511

## Covid, Construction, and Change-Oh My!

### JR. BETA CLUB Activities

- Spooky to be Hungry Food Drive
- Pumpkins for Seniors at Assisted Living Home
- Teacher Snack Bar

### Future City Team Awards

- Best Distribution of Power
- Best Protection of the Public
- Best Integrated Energy System
- Best Use of Nuclear Technology
- Seventh Grade Team- 4th Place Overall
- Eighth Grade Team- 5th Place Overall

Merriwether Middle School strives to engage, empower, and enrich the lives of students daily. The 2020-2021 school year has been a year of many changes due to COVID19 and construction around the campus. The faculty, staff, students, and parents have worked together to embrace these changes. Mask wearing and social distancing have become the norm around campus.

Google Classrooms have become an important component of teaching and learning. The teachers at Merriwether Middle School were introduced to Screen Castify and Flipped Learning as supports for teaching students remotely. The Flipped Learning model of instruction allowed teachers to record instruction through Screen Castify so that students could actually watch the lesson at home on their remote days and engage with the teacher during their face-to-face days. This was new to everyone at Merriwether Middle School and this concept and practice will continue to be

a part of teaching and learning beyond this academic year.

In addition to adapting to life with masks, social distancing, and plexiglass, the faculty, staff, students, and parents at Merriwether Middle School have been adapting to changes around campus due to construction. Construction crews have been working hard to renovate the kitchen and cafeteria. We look forward to being able to enjoy the renovations during the 2021-2022 school year. Merriwether Middle School will also have a visual arts performing platform by the beginning of the 2021-2022. The students look forward to having productions on the new stage. We are anticipating being able to use the new media center and the expanded car line loop during the 2021-2022 school year as well.

## Wellness Committee

Beyond academics during the 2020-2021 school year, Merriwether Middle School addressed the social and emotional needs of students, faculty, and staff by forming a Wellness Committee. The Wellness Committee was comprised of faculty and staff members. The Wellness Committee met twice each month to discuss students, teacher needs, data, and updated COVID protocols. One of the largest areas of need identified was finding ways to help teachers and students emotionally. Merriwether Middle School decided to address the students' needs through advisory times and virtual pep rallies. We also acknowledged students by highlighting a student from each of the three cohorts for Student of the Month. Teachers' emotional needs were addressed through Wellness Wednesdays. Each Wednesday at Merriwether Middle School we acknowledged teacher dedication and we had a food truck, sweet treats, or a fun activity for teachers. Since this was so successful, we will continue Wellness Wednesdays for years to come.



Principal—Mindy Clark  
430 Murrah Road  
North Augusta, SC 29860  
803-279-2511

Scan here to check out our  
webpage.



### Administration

\*Mindy Clark, Principal  
\*Derek Wrenn, Assistant Principal

### School Counselor

\*Tracy Maroney

### SIC President

\*Tiffany Williams



### School Nurse

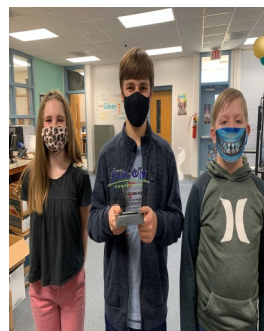
\*Sarah Tew

### School Resource Officer

\*Colin Bailey

### Teacher of the Year

\*Rebekah Trull



## Celebrations at Merriwether Middle School

Despite this unique school year, our Mustangs have been very busy. We did not let the pandemic cancel our celebrations. The Merriwether Middle School Girls' Basketball and Soccer teams went undefeated and won the Region Title. Our Mustangs celebrated African American History Month and Read Across America. During Read Across America Day, the students enjoyed a school-wide read aloud of The Unteachables. Members of the faculty and staff of Merriwether Middle School each read aloud to the students throughout the day through recordings. Multicultural celebrations around Merriwether Middle School included display boards of different countries where students took a gallery walk visiting different countries.

Career Day at Merriwether Middle School is always fun! This year the students participated in a Career Day escape room. Students were placed in groups and competed against each other in an effort to escape from the room before any other group. Students were also encouraged to wear collegiate attire or career attire for the college or career of their choosing.

The students, faculty, and staff at Merriwether Middle School also raised money for an elementary age student in our district who is awaiting a heart transplant. Through the fundraiser Hearts for Lamere, we were able to extend over \$10,000 to Lamere and his family to help pay for medical expenses.

Through the guidance office at Merriwether Middle School, the students are held to high standards when it comes to how they treat others. OLWEUS is a bullying prevention program adopted and implemented by the Edgefield County School District. Mrs. Tracy Maroney, our MMS school counselor, trained the faculty and staff, as well as a student OLWEUS leadership team on the components of OLWEUS. We look forward to continuing to celebrate positive behaviors.