

## *From the Principal's desk....*

Dear Williams' Family:

The Williams Middle School faculty and staff have been involved in various activities to improve student learning. Teachers have participated in both district and on site staff development activities.

Twenty-two students were recognized at Francis Marion University for meeting the criteria to be named South Carolina Junior Scholars. Students qualified by making a score of 55 or above (80 is the highest score possible) on either math, verbal or writing portion of the PSAT.

The Tenth Annual School Wide Showcase was held in February. It provided all students an opportunity to display their work, present a project, or participate in a performance. The Wax Museum continues to be the highlight of the evening.

The Southern Regional Education Board sponsors an improvement initiative, and since joining the Making Middle Grades Work (MMGW) initiative, Williams Middle School continues to refine its programs and improve learning. The goal of the program is to ensure that middle school students are prepared for high school courses. An important component of the initiative is "The Power of the I", which helps to reduce failures, ensure success, and teach responsibility.

Williams Middle school participated in the Sand Hills Regional Science Fair which was held at Francis Marion University.

Williams Middle School continues to seek additional and better ways to improve academic achievement. We are striving for excellence, and we will achieve it. We ask that you assist us in this task.

Leon A. McCray, Jr.  
Principal

## Academic Initiatives

### Project Lead The Way

Project Lead The Way is providing science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) programs. It has provided high-quality professional development so that teachers can help students develop the skills needed to succeed in the global economy. Courses offered under PLTW are Design and Modeling, Medical Detectives and Automation and Robotics.

### Study Island

Williams Middle School is using Study Island software, which gives students assignments in English, Math, Social Studies and Science based on their individual performance levels on the MAP test (Measure of Academic Progress). Study Island is an interactive, colorful and motivating program that students enjoy while receiving instruction based on individual skill levels. MAP scores are used to assess students' progress, guide instruction and make subject choices for the students' ninth grade year.

### *Something To Brag About..*

Williams Middle School continues to offer incentives and rewards for students who exceed expectations and/or show improvement. CSX Transportation also sponsors a cook-out to reward students who have not had any discipline referrals. Our goal is to implement as much positive reinforcement as possible so that all students will strive to improve their academic performance and decrease discipline referrals.

### 2016 Sandhill Regional Science Fair Winners

**Sarah McCown**

**Margret Parham**

### US Stockholm Junior Water Prize

**Hong-Ming Tan**

Gerontology/Medicine  
**1st-Anish Jona**

Microbiology/Zoology  
**1st-Isabella Ouyang**  
**2nd Cecilia Calozzo**  
**3rd Savannah King**

Earth and Space  
**1st-Hong-Ming Tan**

Physics  
**1st Rebecca Liu**  
**2nd Evan Reid**

## 2016

### JUNIOR SCHOLARS

<b>Carson Cawthon</b>	<b>Rene Chinery</b>
<b>Rosanna Ervin</b>	<b>Thomas Faile</b>
<b>Alexis Hinson</b>	<b>Kirk Johnson</b>
<b>Savannah King</b>	<b>Rebecca Liu</b>
<b>Sarah McCown</b>	<b>Blaise Nettles</b>
<b>Isabella Ouyang</b>	<b>Madelyn Parrott</b>
<b>Erica Pearson</b>	<b>Daniel Rampey</b>
<b>Jaruss Rowland</b>	<b>Navkaran Singh</b>
<b>Grayce Strickland</b>	<b>Qingyi Tan</b>
<b>Houston Taylor</b>	<b>Ashley Terry</b>
<b>Patrick Wang</b>	<b>Mary Watts</b>

## 2016

### DUKE TIP SCHOLARS

<b>Connor Fraley</b>
<b>Jaycie Gard</b>
<b>Sarah Mount</b>
<b>Ashley O'Connor</b>
<b>Sophia Watson</b>

Williams Middle School's  
Varsity Softball Players Voted  
Region VII 3A 2nd Team All-Region Honors

Pitcher-Peyton McLeod  
Honorable Mention 1st Base-J'Niya Garris  
Honorable Mention 3rd Base-Amiya McCall

Faculty Honors and Awards

Williams Middle School Teacher of the Year  
Mr. Lonner Lee

Williams Middle School Support Person of the Year  
Ms. Anieta Black

2014-2015 School and Student Honors

WMS Academic Challenge Team  
Pee Dee Champions

MESAS Middle/Elementary School  
Academy of Science  
Mary Watts

Spelling Bee Champion  
(School and Pee Dee Region)  
Rebecca Liu

Geography Bee Champion  
Alexis Hinson

Math Counts Team  
Regional Winners

Youth Art Month Competition  
Blaise Nettles

**Faculty and School News**

**SHOWCASE** is held in February of each year to display student work. Parents and community members are invited.

**"Tiger Tones"** is an all-year chorus class that does not require an audition. Students learn the basic elements of choral music and music composition, develop their choral skills and study music history. Performances during the year include: Veteran's Day Assembly, Williams' PTO Meetings, "Music at the Mall", and "Junior All City Concert".

Students in the **"Phat Pheet"** dance class learn about the many styles of dance, as well as choreographic techniques. Auditions for **"Phat Pheet"** are held in the spring for rising 8th grade students. Performances for the year include: "Performing Arts Center" Opening Weekend, "Pecan Festival", Williams SHOWCASE, Williams PTO Meetings and "Music at the Mall".

**Positive Attitude for Student Success** is an initiative begun four years ago to help boost attendance and success on state test

Each year the **School Improvement Council** of Williams Middle School prepares an annual report for the parents and community highlighting the progress made during the previous year. We are pleased to summarize these exciting accomplishments as well as look ahead to the goals for the coming school year and beyond. Under the leadership of William Ervin, the SIC has continued its partnership with the National Network to Partnership Schools. More information about these implementations are available upon request from the school's front desk.

**Our Mission**

It is the mission of Williams Middle School to establish a strong foundation for lifelong learning by nurturing, challenging, and guiding the social and emotional development of every child.



*Williams Middle School*

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*Mr. Leon A. McCray, Jr., Principal  
Mr. Michael Woodham, Assistant Principal  
Mrs. Carrie Ann Brigman, Assistant Principal  
Mr. William Ervin SIC Chairperson*