



Dr. Ronald E. McNair School of Digital Communication and Leadership

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SIC Report to the Parents 2024-2025

Dr. Ronald E. McNair School of Digital Communication and Leadership strives to develop students' leadership skills and expose them to career choices. Our school serves approximately 261 students in grades 7-8. This year was a wonderful academic and athletic year for our school.

The school's football team went undefeated during the regular season and played in the championship game. The girls' and boys' basketball teams each won the regular season championship and the Big South Atlantic Conference tournament championship. Shaziah Epps won the MVP award for the girls, and Terrance Williams won the boys' MVP award. The school hosted its first-ever athletic awards day banquet to recognize the outstanding accomplishments of our athletes. The girls' and boys' track teams won the regional championship, too.

During Dr. Ronald E. McNair's 5K run, several students were recognized in their age groups. Tyler Fulton was the overall race winner, while Keosha Smith, Kelsey Dotts, Mahongy Graham, and Jayier Anderson received trophies.

This school year, our students competed and were successful in district and state-level competitions. Ayden Lee was recognized as a South Carolina Junior Scholar for his exceptional scores on the PSAT test. During the National History Day competition, Wynter Bryant won first place with an individual performance, while Kamile Fulmore and Javonia Duffie won the group performance. Adrian Culick and Ava Knight both won with their individual exhibit, while Rahgen McClam and Destinee Gamble won the group exhibit. All these students will move on to the state-level competition in May.

Our 8th graders participated in the ARISS Operation Space Talk this school year. Students were taught lessons on flying a drone, developing a rover, and deciphering codes. Students competed against several schools at Citadel University in various STEM activities. DREM won the meteorite challenge, where they had to drive a drone



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through multiple obstacles, and the bridge crossing challenge. The culminating event was the opportunity to speak with an astronaut in orbit.

Our art classes hosted Jim McDowell, and they learned to make his “ugly pots” and work with pottery. Belinda Hernandez was selected to represent DREM in this year’s Artfields competition.

Staff member Amanda Cullars-White was awarded a \$1000 Santee Electric Cooperative Bright Ideas Grant for the second straight year. Calvin Dodd won the Outreach Project grant for our Gentlemen’s Club and presented at the state’s history conference. Mary Brayboy was recognized as the “Teacher of the Year,” and Erica Speller was awarded the “Support Staff of the Year.”

DREM underwent several renovation projects, including opening of the new Paxton-Patterson career lab. This lab allows students to learn about various careers and complete performance tasks to demonstrate their knowledge. On November 14, a showcase event was held for several individuals from across the state. The gym has been renovated, and a ribbon-cutting ceremony was held.

Dr. Ronald E. McNair School of Digital Communication and Leadership continues to promote student leadership. We use the Leader in Me program to teach students character education and promote social well-being. The school developed its first-ever Lighthouse Team, which assisted at many events throughout the school year.

We are a proud Title I School and incorporate the PBIS (Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports) program for our students. We strive to educate the whole child daily. At Dr. Ronald E. McNair School of Digital Communication and Leadership, our mission is to value all students and empower them to become college—or career-ready.

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