

SEVIER MIDDLE SCHOOL

Focused. Challenged. Prepared.

School Improvement Council Annual Report 2014

Dear Parents and Sevier Community:

The School Improvement Council of Sevier Middle School is proud to report this year's highlights and accomplishments.

Sevier keeps a sharp focus on exemplary practice, advocacy for the best in each student, and attention to results. We hope you enjoy this Falcon's eye view of our school.

Robin Broumas, SIC Chair
Karen M. Kapp, Principal

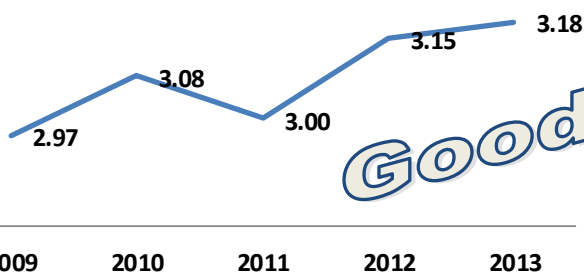


Be A Falcon —

A fierce fighter with speed and courage. In swift and graceful flight, this powerful hunter maneuvers with ease and evident enjoyment. Falcons have keen eyesight — far sharper than man. This majestic bird is known for its alertness, regal carriage, and noble tradition.

Raise the academic challenge and performance of each student

State Report Card Absolute Index - Trend



2013 STATE REPORT CARD RATINGS:

Absolute - **GOOD**
Improvement - **AVERAGE**

2014 END OF COURSE (EOC) Pass Rate:

English I - **98.8%** • Algebra I - **98.4%**

2013 Palmetto Silver Award **5 of last 6 years**

2013 NCLB Federal Accountability Waiver (AYP):
89.4, "B"

Enrichment Meets the Need & the Interest

All students this year participated in month-long seminars that met each Friday morning. Teachers and community volunteers worked together to provide:

- preview and re-teaching of content and skills
- small group support or extra time to reach goals
- academic advancement
- special interest or academic competition

Experiences included:

Youth in Government, Technological Design, Chess, Math Olympics, Dance, Speech and Debate, Virtual Chemistry, Leaders in History, Tennis, Distance Running, Paleontology, ELA Power Skills, Modern Day Masters, Boys to Men, Short-Hand Notes, and Anti-Bullying.

Thank you to the many community partners who enriched this program for students.



Sevier Middle School Mission Statement

We provide a safe, high-quality learning environment where all students become competent, self-reliant, curious, and creative citizens who pursue personal excellence and contribute meaningfully to their community.

Focused on Academic Excellence

Raise the academic challenge and performance of each student

Sevier is Becoming a STEAM-focused School

Our school-wide focus on STEAM begins August, 2014 -- STEAM is an educational design that incorporates the practices of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics, strategically linked with the Arts and Humanities. Learning at Sevier will engage students in meaningful challenges, investigations, and projects that advance critical thinking, collaboration, creativity, and communication.

What makes it STEAM?

- *Rigorous Curriculum is the Foundation* (What students must know and be able to do)
- *Project-Based Learning (PBL) is the Vehicle* (How we take them there)
- STEAM is the *Focus of Instruction* (Integrated content learning through the "lens" and practices of Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Math)

What will it look like?

With increasing frequency, teachers will implement instruction that centers around a *driving question* that students must answer through a structured process of *project-based learning*. Teachers will collaborate to deliver instruction that crosses content areas and supports student engagement as they work together to learn significant content and solve real-world problems.

Benefits of STEAM

Student engagement

Connections across Subject Areas

Social competence

Competent, confident learners and innovators

Clear sense of purpose

Lasting learning of content and skills

Exposure to STEAM careers



DID YOU KNOW? 44 Sevier Faculty completed STEAM-ALIVE training in 2014!

Expanding Student Opportunity

The 2013-2014 school year brought expanded course opportunity in the arts and technology. Sevier will continue to refine a well-rounded academic and related arts program next school year.

- Gateway to Technology
 - Design and Model
 - Robotics and Automation
 - Adding next — Green Architecture and Energy and the Environment
- Musical Theatre
- Percussion
- STEM Careers
- Computer Applications and Keyboarding for high school credit
- Graphics Arts and Design



Commitment to the Needs of Young Adolescents

Provide a school environment supportive of learning

Congratulations SC PSAT Junior Scholars!

BRYSON BARGAR
HALEY BENNETT
CHRISTIAN BUHLMAN
GARRETT CLARK
MITCHELL DILL
KLOIE HART
BENJAMIN KEITH
NHU LE
SHAWN POTTER
CAEDMON STORM
REBEKAH TAYLOR

Respect, Integrity, and Responsibility

Students at Sevier are encouraged to develop strong character. From patriotism to empathy, we reinforce the standards that make our country great. At each reporting period, we honor students for acts of respect, integrity, and responsibility.

We provide opportunities for students to exercise choice, develop their talents, broaden their interests, and meet personal goals through:

- Academic Competition
- Student Character Activities & Celebrations
- Performance of Student Talent and Interests
- Athletics and Intramurals
- Leadership Development and Service
- Career Exploration



Eight is Great! Our Falcon Robots stood out from the crowd in their first year of competition. In several regional qualifying tournaments against mostly high school teams, our students used strategy, simplicity, perseverance, and creativity to reach the top of their class.

Our 6th grade Girls Robotics team was the top middle school and surpassed 17 high school teams to reach number 8 in the State!



Student Awards & Accomplishments

PTA Reflections: Zoie Poole, "Time for a Change" (Literature) – 1st Place • Daniel Whiteman, "Around the Bend" (Photography) – 1st Place

GCSD Middle School Juried Art Show winners: Grace Brackett, 1st place, Design/Mixed Media • Kerry Castaneda, 2nd place, Painting • Victoria Chappell, 1st place, Drawing • Ahmed El Tarabily, 2nd place, Drawing

Honorable Mention: Mary Hadley • Nydravis McBee • McKayla Cavanagh • Tori Chappell • Wilson Davis

Greenville Drive Reading Challenge: 353 students (54%) participated by reading 5 books in 5 weeks.

Top Media Center Patrons: Angela White (144 books checked out, none late/missing) • John Cavanagh • Katy Tower • Alex Waldrop

Perfect Attendance, 3 years: Issac Juarez • Ashley Castillo

Carowinds Festival of Music: Orchestra—Excellent • Chorus—Excellent

Symphonia: David Calixto-Moreno • Caroline Bechtold • Emily Plumblee

Spring Sing: Caitlyn Chantron • Andraya Nichols • Corrine Vicario • Rose Chappell • Naomi Cladovan • Abby Smart • Shyla Ruff • Caitlin Garrison • Hailey McCoy • Karson Bryant • Courtney Owens • Tori Thoennes • Becca Williams • Makenzie McCray • Madison Gabrel • Hailey Huston • Bryce Stambaugh • Jordan Hendrix • Sal Baulo • Skyler Wolf • Nick McAbee • Sevan Terpack • Eric Dietz • Caleb Seger

Middle School Girls Leadership Conference, Washington, DC: Rachel Broumas

Youth In Government: Rachel Broumas • Jonathan Grabowski • Madison Lord • Caedmon Storm • Courtney Weber • Nykia Williams • Caitlyn Chantron • Madeline Shaw

National Geography Bee: Daniel Harrington

Sevier Athletics: Every team made the tournament; Softball was Regional Champion, and finished 3rd overall for the County

ACE Awards: Kassie Bridwell • Raymond Moyer

Robotics Competition: Mathew Stevens • John Cavanagh • Collin Kelly • Dalton Price • Thomas Vernon • Carter Bechtold • Griffin Waldron • Edward Dusenbury • Raymond Moyer • Robert Harris • TJ Green • Sevan Terpack • Brandon Segovia • Noah Grashuis • Lydia Flackett • Sara Hammond • Anastasia Belliard • Grace Brackett

Discovery Flight: 6th Grader, Gabby Harrison - (45 minutes of ground instruction and a 45-minute flight) – Greenville Downtown Airport

Commitment to the Needs of Young Adolescents

Improve public understanding and support of public schools

Make an Impact through Your Involvement and Influence

Sevier Middle School is **seeking help for the STEAM initiative:**

- Mentors: — to develop real-world challenges in unit or project design
— to support student projects and provide feedback during investigations and product development
- Adult audience and judges: for video conferencing or face to face presentations
- Exposure to real-world applications: — at your place of business or ours
— to examine and trouble-shoot products
- Support for expanding technology need.
- Participation on the STEAM Advisory Group, to form in August

For more, contact Jami Crisman, School Counselor and Career Development Facilitator



Be a Part of the Vibrant Experience at Sevier!

Numerous events are available to enjoy with your children, and partnerships with teachers during Enrichment and other activities are needed. THANK YOU to those who support us in many ways:

Project Mentors	Classroom Speakers	Event Coordinators	Book Fair Help
Student clubs	PTA Box Tops	Spring Fling	Fly Card Exchange
Veterans Day	Fundraising	Hospitality	Field Trips
Volunteer Coordinator	Dances	Front Office	Solicit Support

For more information, please contact Rita Kirven (PTA) or Jami Crisman, Counselor & Career Development Facilitator.

Sevier Middle School Counseling Advisory Council

Through the input of the advisory council, our Counseling department aligns the activities that meet program goals and provide quality service to students.

Members are: Paula Church; Gray Carter; Garrett Clark; Beverly Blair; Amber Jaquins; Jan Willis; Cathy Furtick; Darcy Storm; Tomiko Long; Kelsey Marshall; ShaeAnn Cavanagh; Jeannie Hall; Jay Grady; Christine Plumier; Tiffany Holtzclaw; Lindy Markevich; and Jamie Crisman

Sevier PTA

PTA provides volunteers and raises dollars to support student academic incentives, teacher grants and appreciation, family activities, and technology purchases. All families are encouraged to join and participate in the many events provided for our students.

President, Tasha Darnell
Vice-President, Rita Kirven

Secretary, Robin Broumas
Treasurer, Georgia LuQuire

School Improvement Council

School Improvement Council meets the second Friday on each month, from 1:30 - 2:30. This year, we focused on raising awareness about legislative matters and the development of our STEAM focus. We welcome new members, and all are invited to participate.

Robin Broumas, Chair, Tasha Darnell, Trip Edwards, James Groome, Bonnie Holmes, Rita Kirven, Danielle LaTourette, Tomiko Long, Corie Misko, Helen Schiller, Angie Stone, Pam Tyree, Bert Watts, and Karen Kapp, Principal

STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

2013-14 Teacher of the Year:

Avis Bowman

National Board Certified Teachers:

Ginger Barbare, Anne Bolin,
Cheryl Cruell, Brian Falls,
and Marilyn Murphy

100% Faculty PTA Membership:

Staff contributes over \$6,000
annually to the United Way

PTA Volunteer of the Year:

Kelly Betsill

Outstanding Science Teacher:

Ginger Barbare

SCPTA Outstanding

Support Staff Member:

Chris Greggs

State PTA Awards:

Membership Campaign, Goals Award



Sevier Facts 2013-2014

Enrollment: 656

Average Student Attendance: 96.2

8th graders taking HS Credit: 39%

Average Class Size: 26:1



Sevier Middle School

1000 Piedmont Park Road • Greenville, South Carolina 29609
Phone (864) 355-8200 • Fax (864) 355-8255
www.greenville.k12.sc.us/sevier

