

We are BR

Blue Ridge Middle School provides a variety of extracurricular activities & highly competitive athletic programs:

Vex Robotics Volleyball Drama Program

Girls and Boys Basketball Softball Baseball

Girls and Boys Soccer Debate Kindness Club

Football Wrestling Cheerleading

Track Cross Country Tennis Beta Club

Student Council Red Ribbon

Extended Day Program Chess Club

SIC Members 2020-2021

Karen Bullard—Principal
Jay Grady—Assistant Principal
Andrew Marshall—Community Member
Jim Barbare—Community Member
Beverly Willbanks—Community Member
Karyn Bigger—Teacher
Morgan Raines—Teacher
Charlie Kendrick—Teacher
Stephanie Howard—Parent
Jimmy Vereen—Parent
Ben Ludwick—Parent



Rock Your School Week

Blue Ridge Middle School is a sixth, seventh, and eighth grade school located in the northwestern corner of South Carolina. As part of the Greenville County School District, Blue Ridge Middle has the largest geographical attendance area, currently serving 946 students in a traditional and virtual setting. BRMS has 93 employees, which include 49 full-time teachers, 4 administrators and 4.5 school counselors, plus support staff.

BRMS also offers Gifted and Talented courses for our students in the Challenge Program through Language Arts and advanced Math placement. Blue Ridge Middle School provides opportunities for students to take courses that offer high school credit Carnegie Units:

English 1 Honors, Algebra 1 Honors, Art 1

Personal Finance, Computer Science Discoveries

Fundamentals of Computing, Graphic Design

Sports Marketing and Entertainment

We also offer a wide variety of Related Arts classes to help ignite an interest of learning in non-traditional classroom settings.

Band	Strings	PE
GTT	Creative Writing	Health
Art	Chorus	Yearbook
Skill Building	Service Learning	Release Time

"I love how this school gives you a voice. It gives you the power to speak out when you think something is wrong. Some schools don't give their children chances to change what they think should be changed." – 6th grader's response to a Social and Emotional assessment activity

School Improvement Council Report to the Community 2020 - 2021



Blue Ridge Middle School

Where positive attitudes and understanding hearts make a great school community!



A View From the "Ridge"

2020 – 2021 BRMS School Improvement Council

The 2020 school began as no school year has before. The global Corona Virus Pandemic created obstacles for teaching, learning, and improving schools. All aspects of daily living within Blue Ridge Middle School has changed including our 2020-2021 School Improvement Council. Under the leadership of Dr. Andrew Marshall, Council President, and Karen Bullard, Principal, the BRMS SIC added 6 new members and moved to a virtual meeting format. During these adaptations and changes, we did not deter from our goals.

BRMS SIC is firmly committed to three goals:

1. Raising Academic Performance of Each Student.
2. Ensuring a Safe, Responsible and Respectful School Environment.
3. Engaging Community and Stake Holders in the School Environment.

We spent our time and efforts this year trying to meet the non-traditional needs of a non-traditional school year. Along with many other things, we have provided water bottles to maintain student hydration because students are unable to use a shared water fountain. We have provided food and kind notes to teachers to foster an encouraging environment, and we have slowly restarted our mentoring program to support struggling learners. We have also fostered partnerships with Greenville Water System, the Lions Club, and Greenville County Council.



Students Working in "Pods"



Traditional Responsibilities of a School Improvement Council

The School Improvement Council (SIC) serves as an advisory committee to the school's principal and faculty. SIC plays a key role in the education of our state's children, bringing together parents, educators and community stakeholders to work collectively to improve their local schools.

BRMS Mentor Program

During the 2019-2020 school year BRMS was able to provide 60 mentors for students who needed a positive role model or a trusted adult in their life. Because of Covid 19 response policies, we had to disband the mentoring program at the beginning of the 2020 – 2021 school year. As restrictions lightened, we have been able begin to reinstate the program using previously trained mentors. As of April 2021, we have 10 mentors working with students in the building and we are setting dates for training new mentors to begin in the fall of 2021. These mentors range from professionals who take their lunch to meet with students to college aged students who spend time talking with mentees to encourage and motivate.

Blue Ridge Tigers, Hear Us ROAR!

Respect
Organization
Attitude
Responsibility



Socially Distant and Masked Bus Holding

BRMS Response to Going Virtual in 2019-2020

When school buildings closed down and the world of virtual learning began in March 2020, we spent the remaining months of the 2019-2020 school year trying to provide a quality education for students while navigating an unknown world. As a result, some students struggled and some students thrived. Some students created bad study habits while some students discovered how they learn best. As students returned to the building in August, it began to become evident in grades that the gap between academic success and failure was wide. By the end of the first semester, it was obvious district wide that the gap needed to be addressed quickly. Using funding from the CARES Act, we were able to create an afterschool program to assist struggling students. We also dedicated a specific time during the school day for students to do acceleration work or make up missing and incomplete assignments. As the year-end gets closer, we are proud to report that the gap between academic success and failure is narrowing and moving closer to the successful side.