



Riverside Middle School

Learning Today. Leading Tomorrow.

Report to the Community 2015-2016



Our diversity is our strength at Riverside Middle School. We've brought together many different backgrounds, talents, and ways of thinking to create one of the finest middle school environments

Located in the foothills of the Piedmont in Greer, South Carolina, Riverside Middle School opened its classrooms to students in the fall of 1999. The school contains 137,000 square feet of space that accommodates our current enrollment of 1,176 students. There are 50 classrooms (100% of which are equipped with state-of-the-art Promethean Boards), 14 labs, classrooms for fine arts and vocational education, along with a cafeteria for special performances and assemblies. Our physical education and sports facilities include a gymnasium, two softball fields, a baseball field and batting cage, a football/soccer field, a track, four paved basketball courts, and four tennis courts.

The vision for our school is that every student will be provided diverse opportunities to experience

success academically, socially, emotionally, and physically, and for them to be encouraged to take responsibility to become active learners. Ultimately our vision is for our students to experience success in future educational endeavors and to be productive members of society.

In reaching that vision, many accomplishments (see side bar and page 5) have been realized, among them, RMS being named winner of the **National PTSA School Excellence**. RMS students' academic achievement has been well documented by a Good or Excellent rating every year (including the pilot year) on the State School Report Card. Students participate and excel in local, state and national competitions that represent all aspects of school life including

RIVERSIDE MIDDLE SCHOOL
615 Hammett Bridge Rd.
Greer, SC 29650
864.355.7900

www.greenville.k12.sc.us/riverms

AWARD WINNING MIDDLE SCHOOL

- "A" Federal Accountability Rating
- "Excellent/Excellent" Rating on School Report Card 4 years in a row
- National PTSA School of Excellence
- Palmetto Gold Award
- Palmetto's Finest Award Recipient
- Red Carpet School

academics, the arts and athletics.

Though always proud to discuss our successes, the faculty, staff, parents and students of Riverside Middle School realize that excellence is the *vision* and not the *destination*. Working together, we continue to identify and set goals that must be attained in order to continue to provide the best possible



Riverside Middle School, in cooperation with the home and community, will provide opportunities which prepare students intellectually, socially, emotionally and physically to become productive and responsible members of society.

OUR MISSION



Riverside Middle School:

Learning Today. Leading Tomorrow.

Report to Parents 2015-2016

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Riverside Middle School! I am excited and honored to be part of your family's journey through middle school. The faculty and staff of Riverside Middle School strive to provide the highest quality education possible to our students and over the years, have developed an extraordinary reputation for success, as individuals and as a school-community.

We work to incorporate research-based practices in teaching and learning, use technology appropriately to enhance the educational experience, and create a balanced middle-school experience that prepares our students to be well-rounded individuals capable of leading in a global society. We are dedicated to preparing students for success through the tenants of the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate and in keeping with the district's Graduation Plus Initiative

Over the past year, we have increased our emphasis on healthy living, school safety, and the deepening of our multi-cultural experiences and ties in the community. Through partnerships with local businesses, the state, and our community, Riverside Middle School is continuing to find new avenues through which to create an exceptional school experience!

Again, I welcome you to our school and invite you to contact our staff at any time if you need assistance. Parents are always welcome at Riverside Middle School.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katherine A. Malone". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Principal

Riverside Middle School

*"...this
is
indeed
an
amazing
place
for
learning."*



Chelsi Bailey

RMS Student Council President 2015-16

"The teachers and staff always make sure students are in an enjoyable, safe environment to make learning fun! RMS makes sure students are growing and learning, socially and academically."

Stacy Hall

RMS Teacher of the Year 2015-16

"Our Royals learn by doing and exhibit leadership by taking initiative and investing in our school and community each and every day!"



Kelle Corvin

PTSA President 2015-16

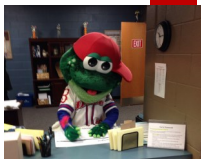
"RMS is the best middle school family in Greenville County! Our students, families, faculty and administration all work together to make it a true community school. As a parent, you feel secure that your child is in a safe environment, getting academically prepared."

Cindy Bush

RMS Assistant Principal

"RMS is second to none! . . . Engaged students with ideas to share, supportive stakeholders, innovative teachers with a vision for our children's future."





ACADEMIC

- Accelerated Math Classes
- Gifted and Talented Language Arts
- High School Credit Courses including English 1 Honors, Algebra 1 Honors, Geometry Honors, Desktop Publishing, French 1 and Spanish 1
- "Bridging the Gap"

- Academic Assistance Program/Skills Class
- Gateway to Technology courses in Design, Automation & Robotics
- Before-school Extra-Help Computer Lab
- Related Arts Electives

- Special Education Classes
- Promethean Boards, which allow for interactive learning
- Multiple Computer Labs and Google Chromebook Carts
- Six-period day
- Media Center with 12,000+ volumes, one full-time certified librarian, one full-time library clerk

ENRICHMENT

- Beta Club
- Character Education Program
- Cultural & Performing Arts
 - Art
 - Band
 - Chorus
 - Drama
 - Guitar
 - Jazz Ensemble
 - Orchestra
 - Strings
- Running Club

- Greenville Remembers
- Interscholastic Sports
- Intramural Sports
- Model United Nations
- Peer Mediation
- PTSA Reflections Art Contest
- A/B Honor Roll program
- Service Learning
- LevelUp -

- MakersSpace
- Mock Trial
- Student Council
- Yearbook Staff
- Class field trips
 - 6th: US National Whitewater Center
 - 7th: Dollywood, Festival of Nations
 - 8th: Washington, DC
- Level Up - MakersSpace

ATHLETICS

- Baseball
- Boys Basketball
- Girls Basketball
- Boys Soccer
- Girls Soccer
- Softball
- Volleyball

- High School Sports
 - ♦ C/D Team Football
 - ♦ Cheerleading
 - ♦ Cross Country/Track
 - ♦ Golf



- Highest level of academic rigor in all classes
- Ten High School credit classes at RMS
- Virtual Lab for HS credit
- Career speakers & field trips

HOME/SCHOOL CONNECTION

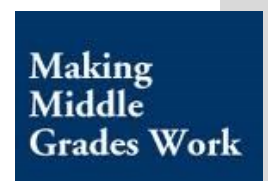
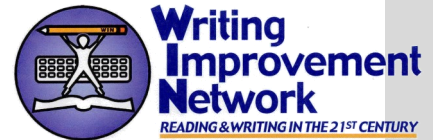
- Active School Improvement Committee (SIC)
- Active PTSA
- Rising Sixth Graders Tour & Orientation
- Back-to-School Orientation
- Open House
- Curriculum Night
- Breakfasts with Moms & Dads
- Social Media Presence: Facebook/Twitter
- Community Service projects and events
- Fine Arts Performances
- Student Agendas provided by PTSA
- Parent Portal
- Classroom phones & voice mail for communication
- Faculty websites
- Faculty email
- Red Carpet School Award for creating a family-friendly school atmosphere
- Weekly School Messenger
- Schools to Watch

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

- Award-winning PTSA Organization
- SC PTA Award Winning Communication Tools
 - RMS eBlast
 - PTSA website www.rmsptsa.com
- Community Service projects
- iMove 5K Fun Run
- Fundraising campaigns for technology, materials, supplies and providing teacher support
- Talent Show
- Ice Cream Sundae
- Lunchroom Friends
- Red Ribbon Week
- Reflections Art Contest
- Family Fiction Fright Night
- Community Fest
- Royal Pride Donation Campaign
- School Store
- Volunteer tutors
- Volunteer opportunities
- Coffee with the Counselors

ACHIEVEMENTS

- National PTSA School of Excellence
- "A" Federal Accountability Rating
- Excellent/Excellent State School Report Card Rating
- Palmetto's Finest Award 2010
- Exemplary Writing School 1999-2011
- Palmetto Gold and Silver Awards
- National PTA Parent Involvement Award
- S.C. PTA Outstanding Secondary School Award
- National PTA Honor Unit
- National Beta Club Convention Winner
- PTSA Reflections State Winners
- Project Citizen State Champion
- United Way Campaign Award
- SC Letters about Literature Award
- Carl Sandburg Poetry Award
- Inez Tenenbaum Essay Winner
- 465 Gifted & Talented Students
- 7 National Board Certified Teachers
- Safe Routes to Schools—Silver Partner
- Nationally Accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools



DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

MATH

- Offered **broad range** of math courses to meet the needs of students at **every achievement level**, ranging from **inclusion** and **skills** classes to **grade-level** and **accelerated** courses, including **Algebra I** and **Geometry**
- **Highest** PASS scores of any middle school in Greenville County, based on Spring 2014 PASS scores
- **Offered Seven sections** of **honors high school credit math classes** (five Algebra 1 and two Geometry)
- **100% pass rate** on the Algebra 1 **End of Course Examination** since 2003

ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS

- Offered **broad range** of ELA courses to meet the needs of students at **every achievement level**, ranging from **inclusion** and **skills** classes to **grade-level** and **accelerated** courses, including **Gifted and Talented** classes in every grade and **English I Honors** for eighth-grade students who excel in language arts
- **Consistently ranked among the top schools** in the district, based on PASS scores in both ELA (reading and research) and Writing
- English I Honors students posted **exceptional scores** on the state's **End of Course Examination**.
- **Designated four times** as **Exemplary Writing School**
- **Students awarded** for achievements in writing through **local, state, and national competitions** including **South Carolina Young Writers' Conference**, **Civitan Club's Essay** contest, **Letters about Literature** contest (sponsored by the **Library of Congress** and the **SC State Library's Center for the Book**), **NCTE's Promising Young Writers** program, **Inez Tenenbaum Essay Writing Contest** and the **Carl Sandburg Poetry Writing Contest**
- City of Greer **Black History Month Essay Contest Winners**

SCIENCE

- **Achievement beyond mere participation** is stressed
- Computer-Based Laboratory (**CBL**) activities and projects
- **Research projects** with class presentations and debates
- Engineers from Fluor visited during "**Engineering Week**" to discuss career options with students and present a hands-on construction activities
- **Dissection Labs**: 8th graders - cow or sheep eyes; 7th graders - frogs
- **Virtual field trips**
- **Roper Mountain Science Center field trips**
- **Fossil Dig** and Geologic Time/Pangaea project
- Student-driven **Recycling Program**
- **Soil and Conservation essay contest winners**



*Achievement
beyond
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SOCIAL STUDIES

- Highest 2014 PASS scores of any Greenville County Middle School
- PASS scores approximately **12% higher** than the district average
- **Award-winning** Model United Nations
- **Model UN** Festival of Nations
- **Greenville Remembers**
- **Art in History**
- **Geography Bee**

BAND

- Nine students participated in **Riverside High School Marching Band**
- Numerous students selected by audition for **All-State Band, Region All-State Band** and **Greenville All-County Band**
- 7th & 8th Grade Bands - **Superior Rating (perfect score)** - State Concert Band Festival.
- 8th Grade Band - **Superior Rating (perfect score)** - State Concert Band Festival
- Awarded seventh **Outstanding Performance Award**, May 2012; **only 10%** of middle school band programs across the state receive this award.

CHORUS/GUITAR

- **Spring Sing** chorus participation
- **Only middle school** in Greenville County that offers beginner guitar courses to grades 6, 7 and 8
- Two-time recipient of the **Art Innovation Curriculum Grant** which funded purchase of guitars
- **Community service** performances
- **Local musicians as guest instructors**

STRINGS/ORCHESTRA

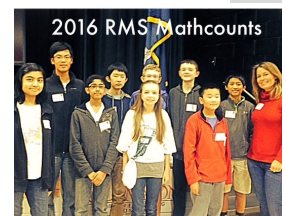
- **Superior Rating** - Concert Festival for 7th, 8th, and Full **Orchestra**; Orlando Concert Festival for 7th, 8th, and Full Orchestra.
- Ten students participated in **Region Orchestra**
- Numerous students participated in extra curricular orchestras including **Carolina Youth Symphony** and **Greenville County Youth Orchestra**
- **All students** participated in **Artist-In-Residence Program** with nationally acclaimed **Electric Violinist, Mark Wood**

DRAMA

- **RMS Drama program** is **unique** in that **students** present totally **student-centric productions**; **students write their own plays, design their costumes and make-up, and critique fellow actors** during rehearsals
- Home of **Drama Mafia** and **Jr. Drama Mafia** - "Killing You with Comedy"
- Drama students have attended **SC Governor's School for Theatre, Fine Arts Center of Greenville County** and **Governor's School Summer Program**
- Students have performed with **Greer Children's Theatre, South Carolina Children's Theatre** and **Greenville Little Theatre**

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

- **PE curriculum** includes **archery** and **lacrosse**
- **Comprehensive health education curriculum**
- Fall and Spring **dodge ball tournaments**; **intramural basketball grade level tournaments**



CAMPUS FEATURES

- 137,000 square feet of space
- 22-camera security system
- Fifty classrooms
- Nine science labs
- Five computer labs
- Media Center (12,000+ books)
- Classrooms for fine arts and vocational education
- Cafetorium (seats 364 for dining and 444 for assemblies)
- 20.5% free and reduced lunch
- Gymnasium (seats 350)
- Baseball field
- Batting cage
- Two softball fields
- Football/soccer field
- Lacrosse Field
- Track
- Four paved basketball courts
- Four tennis courts
- Attractive school and campus with a functional and flexible design achieved through the skillful use of windows, open areas, color and arrangement of a landscaped courtyard, drives, sidewalks, walkways, and athletic fields

RMS: FAST FACTS

ESTABLISHED

August 1999

ENROLLMENT

1,180 Students

GRADES

6-8

ATTENDANCE RATE

97.5%

STUDENT:TEACHER RATIO

21:1

SCHOOL MASCOT

Riverside Royals

SCHOOL COLORS

Blue & Silver



Wired Minds
TUTORING

**Want Better Grades?
We can help!**

- Tutoring for ALL Subjects
- Academic Summer Camps
- Group Academic Workshops
- After School Programs
- SAT/PSAT Boot Camps

Call for a Tour & Consultation

ACROSS FROM
RIVERSIDE HIGH SCHOOL

1271 South Suber Road Greer 244-2420
www.wiredmindstutoring.com

RIVERSIDE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Kate Malone,
Principal

Debbie Goulart,
Assistant Principal - 8th Grade

Andrew Batman
Assistant Principal - 7th Grade

Cindy Bush
Assistant Principal - 6th Grade

Anthony Bennett,
SIC Chair

Kelle Corvin,
PTSA President 2014-2015

**For more information
or to schedule a tour
of RMS, please contact
the Main Office at
864.355.7900**