

# A.R. RUCKER MIDDLE SCHOOL

Built in 2002



## TEACHING STAFF

Student/Teacher Ratio: **21.0:1**  
 Advanced Degrees: **65.0%**  
 National Board Certified: **1**  
 Attendance Rate: **94.9%**



## SPECIAL POPULATIONS

English Language Learners: **9%**  
 Free/Reduced Lunch: **74%**  
 Learners with Disabilities: **16%**  
 Gifted and Talented: **15%**



## DEMOGRAPHICS

White: **28%**; African-American: **54%**;  
 Hispanic: **14%**; Multi-Ethnic: **3.5%**;  
 Asian: **0.5%**; Indian/Alaskan Native: **0%**

## QUICK FACTS 2018–2019

Grades: 6-8

Enrollment: 555

Female: 48%

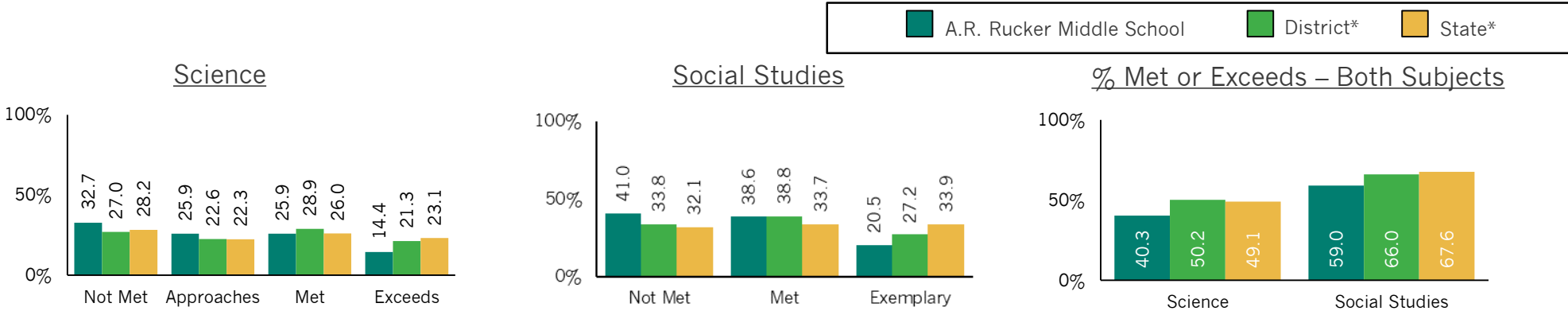
Male: 52%

Capacity: 746

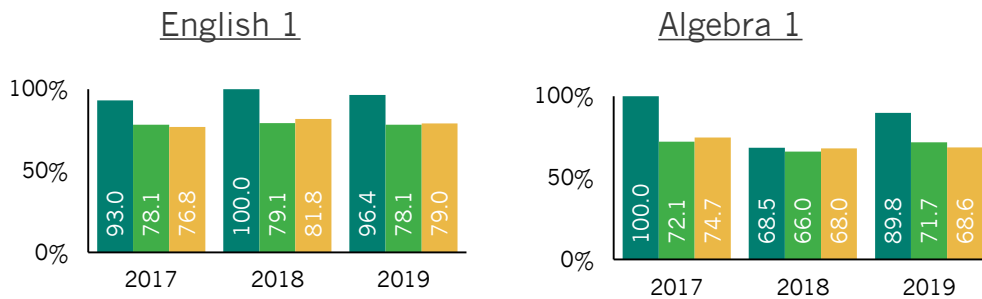
Classrooms: 41

Square Feet: 120,000

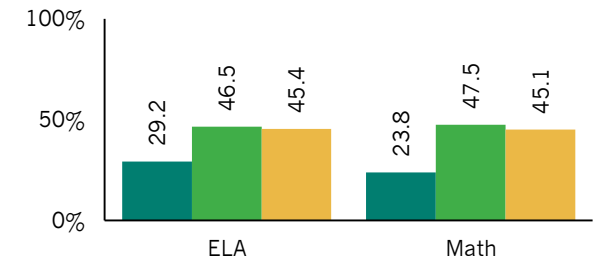
## SOUTH CAROLINA PALMETTO ASSESSMENT OF STATE STANDARDS (2019)



## END-OF-COURSE (EOC) TESTS (% passing)



## SC READY (2019) (% met or exceeds)



\*District- and state-level scores are for all grades.

# A.R. RUCKER MIDDLE SCHOOL

A.R. Rucker Middle School is working to develop students in all facets of their lives to ensure that they will have productive futures. To best reach this goal, we are using the four domains of the Schools to Watch Program (Academic Excellence, Developmental Responsiveness, Social Equity, and Organizational Structures and Processes) as the driving force for our improvement efforts. A.R. Rucker supports the students and staff by using systemic approaches for instruction, discipline, professional development, and community involvement and partnerships. Students are also provided a variety of opportunities to be involved in athletics, robotics, after school programs, and the arts to best assist in educating the whole child.

Throughout the 2019-2020 school year, A. R. Rucker Middle School focused on the theme, “Champions of Change.” As a faculty, we looked closely at what it means to be a true champion of change and how we as a whole could be change agents for our students, our school, and our community. We have worked hard to really get to know the students and to build meaningful relationships that foster student success.

Together we created goals for the school year for ourselves and our students. We employed systemic approaches to best meet students where they are and move them forward academically and socially. We have created four main Hubs (Curriculum and Instruction, Climate and Outreach, Professional Development, and Data) that help provide support to teachers and staff to best meet the needs of our students. Teachers are using the workshop model to deliver instruction and really looking at how Google Classroom can best be used to differentiate instruction. Students are participating in a school-wide literacy block and learning how to pick books they are interested in and really talk about what they are reading with the help of their teachers using book clubs as a vehicle for classroom discussions. A. R. Rucker Middle School has five teachers participating in the District’s STEAM initiative with Discovery Education. These teacher leaders participate in professional development and lead the faculty in learning innovative ways to engage students in their own learning. They have used their classrooms as learning lab sites to model instructional strategies and best practices for the teachers to learn from and take back to their students.

In an effort to be true champions of change, students, parents, community members, and the staff have worked collaboratively to really help educate the whole child. Students are using their assigned chrome books daily to work independently and collaboratively. The media specialist and the technology coach are working closely with the teachers to help plan engaging lessons that allow teachers to customize activities to best suit the needs of their students. The School Improvement Council (SIC) and the Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) meet regularly to look at what is currently going on within the school and what we as a group can do to make A.R. Rucker a better learning institution for the community that we serve.

Students are provided with a variety of opportunities to participate in the fine arts, athletics, enrichment programs, robotics, and academic challenge. Our school has a band, a chorus, and a step team that practice and perform for the student body and the community. We host two afterschool programs that provide students with academic support and opportunities for enrichment beyond the school day. Our students also have the opportunity to participate in football, girls and boys basketball, volleyball, and cheerleading. All of our athletes have seen success on the field/court this school year. Our robotics team and our academic challenge team represent our school well at the different competitions held within and outside of the school district. All of these students work collaboratively with their coaches to promote integrity and good character as they represent A.R. Rucker Middle School.

Our successes serve as a driving force in our commitment to be being true champions of change for continuous improvement. We continue to instill the motto, “Respect-Achieve-Motivate-Serve,” in our faculty and students each day as a means of supporting our mission statement to prepare students to become productive, global citizens and life-long learners by providing a quality education. A. R. Rucker Middle School’s student body and faculty are true Champions of Change!