

School Improvement Council

Guy Smith, Principal

Darlene Jackson, Assistant Principal

Bruce Bridges, Assistant Principal

Tony Signorino, SIC Chairman/
Community member

Tommy Huynh, SIC Vice-Chair/Parent

Deidre Foote, SIC Secretary/Teacher

Debra Adams, WKMS Teacher of the year

Kenneth Brazell, Teacher

Zachary Claspill, Student

Christie Collins, Parent

Kimberly Hubbard, Student

Natalie Reynolds, Community member

Jeffrey Rose, Parent

Bonita Shropshire, Parent



Purpose of the Report

South Carolina Act 135 of 1993 requires each of the state's local School Improvement Councils (SICs) to publish and distribute a Report to the Parents by April 30th of each year highlighting the progress the school is making in achieving the goals and objectives of its five-year School Improvement Plan and the SIC's annual goals. This Report is unique to each school and is developed by the SIC with input of the principal to share the challenges and successes of the school, students, parents, and teachers for the current school year.

White Knoll Middle School

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White Knoll Middle School

Report to the Parents

2014



The mission of White Knoll Middle School, in partnership with home and community, is to guide each student in developing skills to be independent, productive, and socially responsible citizens in the globally competitive 21st century. Therefore, we support the concept of a high performing culture that is based on results, rigor, relationships, and relevance to the real world.

White Knoll Middle School graduates will be self-directed, collaborative, creative and caring individuals who welcome the challenge of meeting rigorous standards in their subsequent academic endeavors and are prepared for success in the globally competitive 21st century.

WKMS—Where Kids Meet Success

Greetings

We are happy to report that the 2013-2014 school year has been another challenging and productive year at White Knoll Middle School. Students, staff, parents, and the community all pulled together for the success of our students.

While we are still working to meet our performance goals in some areas, we are confident that our focus on standards based instruction, infusion of technology, and addressing each student's learning needs will yield excellent results.

In our effort to improve school/home relations we have worked to increase communication personally and electronically. We are also working to focus on a school culture of welcoming parents, reaching out to parents and community, and dedicating ourselves to problem-solving. Due to our efforts, our most recent survey results showed that both parents and teachers had a higher degree of satisfaction with the school's physical environment, home/school relations, and learning environment

As we look towards the 2014-15 school year our focus will remain on student achievement, leadership development, communication, and positive school climate. We will continue to develop and deliver quality professional development, and we will tackle achievement gaps by working to address each student's needs. Our staff is committed to continuing our tradition of excellence and ensuring that **WKMS** remains the place **Where Kids Meet Success**.



We are proud that...

- Fifteen eighth graders qualified as Junior Scholars.
- Two students qualified as Duke TIP Scholars.
- Our Robotics Team advanced to the State finals at River Bluff High School and took first place in the project research division.
- Our WKMS teacher of the year, Debra Adams, was chosen as one of the five finalists for the District Teacher of the Year.
- Our volleyball, football, basketball, and cheer teams performed extremely well this year.
- Our school counseling department received The American School Counselor Association Recognized ASCA Model Program (RAMP) designation. WKMS is one of only thirty schools in SC to achieve this designation.
- Over 90% of parents attended 8th grade conferences.
- Fifteen WKMS teachers are National Board Certified.
- Our media center was awarded a grant from the Lexington One Foundation to increase digital resources including e-books.
- The White Knoll PTSA has been resurrected, is in good standing with the state and national organization, and is working to support students and teachers at WKMS.
- White Knoll students and staff contributed over \$4000.00 to the Leukemia and Lymphoma society.
- On the 2013 South Carolina Annual School Report Card WKMS received absolute and growth ratings of "Average." For detailed information related to our school you may view the WKMS School Report Card for previous school years online at <http://ed.sc.gov/data/report-cards/>.

Innovative School Programs

- Positive Behavior Interventions and Support (PBIS), Leadership themes, and anti-bully strategies are taught across the curriculum and stressed throughout our school.
- Leadership opportunities are provided for both staff and students. Many teachers are working on advanced degrees and are taking on significant leadership roles at WKMS. Students develop leadership skills in sports, clubs, school organizations, classroom activities, and competitions.
- Students participate in service-learning projects including food drives, Pasta for Pennies, End the "R" Word, and Relay for Life.
- High School credits are offered in Algebra, English, Chinese, French, Latin, and Spanish.
- World language classes include Chinese, French, Latin, and Spanish. Almost all students have a full year of instruction in a world language.
- In collaboration with our district staff, teachers and students are making the transition to the Common Core State Standards.
- In response to a need identified by the School Improvement Council, we have twice weekly after school homework sessions staffed by teachers and a high school tutor.
- Our fine arts program is strong and active. Almost 75% of students are presently involved in a fine arts class. Offerings include Art, Band, Chorus, Dance, Drama, and orchestra. Our fine arts department has begun to explore the process of becoming an

