

## School Improvement Council Members

### Parents

Latoya Covington  
Timothy McNeal  
Marion Moore  
Chanta Zeigler

### Students

Isabella Depperman

### Teachers

Monica Fountain  
Bria Martin

### Community Members

Roger Allen  
David Ford  
Larry Nordone

### Administration

Don Hardie  
Margaret Schilit  
Angela Thom  
Daniel Bailey

WKMS SIC meets the fourth Tuesday of the month via ZOOM. If you wish to attend, simply email Mr. Hardie at [dhardie@lexington1.net](mailto:dhardie@lexington1.net)

### **WKMS Mission**

*The mission of White Knoll Middle School is to cultivate a caring community where ALL learners are extraordinary communicators, collaborators, creators, and critical thinkers.*

### **WKMS Vision**

**Empower each child to design the future.**

## Special School Programs

Through our partnership with Code to the Future, our students are exploring coding in our Computer Science and Gateway to Technology classes. WKMS is one of only two Code to the Future middle schools in the district.

Our AVID program began its first year at WKMS in 2020–2021. The program continues to grow as we continue to maintain AVID School-wide. We currently have 6 sections of the AVID Elective, with 2 classes per grade level. We currently have 80+ students in the AVID Elective and the program continues to grow. AVID interviews took place in May for new candidates and they went fantastic! We will send 6 staff members to AVID training this summer in Tampa to learn the program. This program will then continue into WKMS for our students.

Our Fine Arts department has earned the Arts in the Basic Curriculum (ABC) certification for the third cycle to integrate the Arts in our core classes. Teachers across the school have done training on how to use Arts standards to teach core standards.

### Library Updates

Over the 2023–2024 school year, WKMS Library has added over 2,700 new print and digital titles, as well as, subscription services for students to access reading materials ALL year long (including in the summer). In addition to all the new titles, WKMS library also was awarded over \$7,500 in grants to expand the MakerSpace and implement a new club for the 2024–2025 school year. WKMS hosted two authors in the 23–24 school year, Ashlie Thomas and Frank Baker.

Library book circulation has increased 297.4% since 2021–2022.

# White Knoll Middle School

## 2023–2024 Report to Our Parents



**WKMS is  
SOARING to  
Success!**

116 White Knoll Way  
West Columbia, SC 29170  
803.821.4300

[https://schools.lexington1.net/  
WKMS](https://schools.lexington1.net/WKMS)

[https://www.facebook.com/  
wkmswarhawks](https://www.facebook.com/wkmswarhawks)

Twitter — @WKMSHawks

Instagram —  
@whiteknollmiddlewarhawks

## Greetings

At White Knoll Middle School (WKMS), our vision is to empower EACH child to design the future. To see that vision become reality, we focus on two key priorities: to build relationships with students and parents and to provide excellent instruction and student engagement in all classes — every day. We do this through a heavy focus on growing in Rigor and classroom engagement.

At WKMS we believe that relationships are the foundation of all learning. We believe that a high level of student engagement is critical to learning. All of our teachers have worked to implement an instructional model that incorporates focused direct instruction, individual and collaborative student work, teacher conferencing, small group instruction, and the use of quality digital resources. We celebrate weekly positive referrals for staff and students that have exemplified going above and beyond.

## Athletic Achievements

White Knoll Middle athletics had a lot of wins this year! Our football team was undefeated for the first time in our school's history and we played for the conference championship. Our girls basketball team won the Lex10 North Division championship for the first time in the school's history and competed in the Conference Championship falling short only two points for the win! We had the first competitive cheerleading team for the first time in five years as well as our own Track and Field Team. We remain one of the very few middle schools in the state that offers 7th grade specific athletic teams in volleyball, football, and girls and boys basketball.

The White Knoll Warhawks Dance Company had an amazing second season as they placed third at state championships.

The WKMS Archery team had another great season and has Emory Roberts won states and is preparing to compete at the NASP Eastern national competition in Louisville, KY. The whole team qualified for nationals as well.

## We are proud that...

- We honor our students achievements at our student led "Honor Hawk" every quarter for grades and other achievements..
- Seven of our 8th grade students qualified as Junior Scholars. We would like to congratulate Chance Creer, Morgan Fowler, Matthew Jelich, Alvin Matthew, Euneke McLemore, Ethan Sullivan, and Ginger Hester for scoring 550 or higher in Evidenced-Based Reading and Writing or 530 or higher in Mathematics on the PSAT.
- Six WKMS teachers are National Board Certified Teachers and 65% of our teachers have advanced degrees.
- Our teachers have utilized numerous grant opportunities to purchase resources for their students. If you wish to help we can be found on Donors Choose.
- Our Student Council meets all year and worked on school culture and dances. It was great having student leaders voice their perspectives in improving the school.
- Our Positive Behavior Referrals outnumber our Discipline Referrals. Students and Teachers have written over 1,803 Positive Behavior Referrals this school year.
- Students participated in volleyball, football, basketball, cheer, dance, and archery teams on campus as well as on numerous sports teams at White Knoll High School. Approximately 20% of our students participate in interscholastic athletics and/or the WKHS Marching Band.
- Our teachers incorporate several edutools like Pear Deck, Canva, Jamboard, Classroom Screen, and more into their daily instruction to assist in .

## Building Success

- WKMS offers four World Languages including: Spanish, French, Chinese, and Latin for exploratory and high school credit.
- All ELA classes have large classroom libraries with diverse books that meet the needs of a variety of reading levels and interests.
- Our teachers model themselves as readers by participating in a schoolwide book club, posting book badges outside their doors, recording book talks to drive students' interest in books as well as participating in "First Chapter Friday" by reading aloud the first chapter of their favorite books..
- WKMS offers three electives to students daily to increase consistency and exposure to World Languages, the Arts, STEM and CTE classes.
- Our WKMS teachers are committed to providing students with "best practice" and research-based instruction each day. They participate weekly in Professional Learning Communities to ensure alignment to standards, rigor, and high engagement opportunities are provided for ALL students.
- We offered students academic support in ELA and math two days each week through a Homework Help Center that was held in the morning and the afternoon.
- Through utilization of the Smart Pass digital app, we were able to monitor students movement in the building to improve time spent in instruction.
- We offer a gaming club in the afternoons for those that wish to join.
- Fifteen 8th grade students are participating in our Unified Special Olympics Class and we are continuing to grow our Unified program to include more classes and grade levels this next school year.
- In an effort to help our SPED students grow we meet regularly and focus on math and English scores to make decisions on what to do to help struggling students.