

## School Improvement Council

Guy Smith, Principal  
Darlene Jackson, Assistant Principal  
Bruce Bridges, Assistant Principal  
Keith Jennings, SIC President  
Richard Adams, Teacher  
Jennifer Bundrick, Teacher of the Year  
Christie Collins, Community Member  
Staci Klotz, Parent  
Eric Lewis, Student  
Bridget Mitchell, Parent  
Marlene Neal, Guidance Counselor  
Natalie Reynolds, Community Member  
Sheila Riley, Parent  
Leah Sarantopoulos, Teacher  
Ken Stafford, Community Member  
Brittany Tuten, Student  
Carol Williams, 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.

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## White Knoll Middle School

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# White Knoll Middle School

## Report to the Parents

2013



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 global 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 2012–2013 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, our students are showing strong improvements on PASS and MAP. As a result, on our most recent Annual School Report Card, White Knoll Middle School received a grade of “Excellent.” We were also recently named a Palmetto Gold Award winner for general performance for the third year in a row.

We are proud of our facility. While on the 2011–2012 parent survey there was a significant percentage of students and parents dissatisfied with our school’s physical environment, WKMS had a major renovation during the summer of 2012. The renovation included a secure entrance, paint, carpet, lighting, windows, and updates to the learning commons, cafeteria, and STEM lab. We are excited about our wonderful, up-to-date facility.

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.

As we look towards the 2013–2014 school year our focus will remain on student achievement, leadership development, and school climate. We welcome the challenge of fully implementing the Common Core State Standards, improving utilization of personal mobile computing devices, and continuing our implementation of world language in the core curriculum. 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...

- WKMS was again named a Palmetto Gold Award winner for general performance. This is the third year in a row for this award.
- Our school received a grade of “Excellent” on the Annual School Report Card.
- Our school received a federal accountability grade of “A” this year.
- Twenty-five eighth graders qualified as Junior Scholars.
- Two students qualified as Duke TIP Scholars.
- The Girl’s Basketball team made it to the second round of the PAC playoffs.
- Over 90% of parents attended 8<sup>th</sup> grade conferences.
- Fourteen WKMS teachers are National Board Certified.
- Twelve teachers presented at the District Instructional Fair.
- White Knoll Middle School received a Merit Award for increased giving to United Way of the Midlands.
- White Knoll students and staff contributed over \$4,000.00 to the Leukemia and Lymphoma society, ranking as one of the top 10 contributors in the state.
- Our Robotics Team advanced to the State finals at White Knoll High School.
- Our school was renovated during the summer of 2012. The renovation included paint, carpet windows, upgrades to our Learning Commons, cafeteria and STEM classroom, and a secure entrance.
- Our cafeteria seating was upgraded for a more collaborative and inviting atmosphere.

## Innovative School Programs

- Students participate in service-learning projects including a food drive, Pasta for Pennies, Special Olympics Fan Club, End the “R” Word, and The Pulsera Project.
- High School credits are offered in Algebra I, English I, Latin I, Spanish I, and Chinese I.
- World language classes including Chinese, French, Latin, and Spanish were added to our core curriculum this year. All students have a full year of instruction in a world language.
- Our media center was transformed into a Learning Commons with an emphasis on collaboration, technology support, and facilitation of learning.
- As part of our district Personal Mobile Computing initiative our students were issued iPads for instructional use this year.
- WKMS added Drama to our course offerings for 2012–2013.
- To increase civic education iCivics was added to our exploratory class offerings.

