

School Improvement Council Members

Parents

Crystal Baker
Nicole Donaghy
Marion Moore
Kelley Summer
Chanta Zeigler

Students

Autumn Moore

Teachers

Laura Flowers
Mark Hodowanec (SIC Chair)
Bonnie Slyce

Community Members

Joe Pitts
Jon Purvis
Janet Riddle
Jay Webb

Administration

Don Hardie
Lakisha Cook
Margaret Schilit

WKMS SIC meets the last Tuesday of the month via ZOOM. If you wish to attend, simply email Mr. Hardie at 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 new AVID program is growing by leaps and bounds as it selected 60 students as AVID scholars for the next school year.

Our AVID program began its first year at WKMS in 2020–2021 and is off to a great start in developing future leaders. Students in this program will leave high school well-prepared for college and beyond.

Our Fine Arts department has earned the Arts in the Basic Curriculum (ABC) grant for the third cycle to integrate the Arts in our core classes.

Athletic Achievements

Boys Basketball won back to back division championships as well as the 2020–2021 Lex 10 Conference Championship, and our Girls Basketball had one of their best seasons in many years.

The football team completed back to back winning seasons for the first time in 15 years, they also won their second straight playoff game.

The Volleyball team finished their 2020 season with a winning 7-5 record and with their longest win streak in recent history of 5 games. The ladies finished their season in round two of the playoffs.

The WKMS Archery team has participated in numerous local and state-level competitions. We are currently preparing to compete at the NASP National competition in May.

White Knoll Middle School

2020–2021 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://www.facebook.com/wkmswarhawks>

Twitter — @WKMSHawks

Greetings

At White Knoll Middle School, our vision is to empower EACH child to design the future. To see that vision become reality, we focus on two key priorities. These priorities are to build relationships with students and parents (with a focus on Capturing Kids' Hearts) and to provide excellent instruction and student engagement in all classes — every day.

At WKMS we believe that relationships are the foundation of all learning. We continue to “capture kids’ hearts” by getting to know each other, building social contracts, celebrating together, and affirming each other. We have also added Advocacy Time to develop good social/emotional habits during this time of immense stress.

We also 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, and the use of quality digital resources.

As the COVID-19 pandemic continued into the 2020–2021 school year, tremendous flexibility was required by everyone. Central Services made many adjustments to ensure the safety of students, educators, and the community. We started later than normal, utilizing a hybrid model for face-to-face instruction, and we opened our first virtual academy in the district. Over 313 of our students participated in this instructional model. By monitoring the spread of the virus in the community, we were able to open in November for four days of face-to-face instruction. In April 2021, the students returned to a five-day schedule.

We will meet this challenge as we have others in the past, empowering EACH child to design the future, because we are ONE.

We are proud that...

- **Over a quarter** of our students achieved “Honor Hawk” status by making all A’s or all A’s and B’s.
- Three of our 8th grade students qualified as Junior Scholars.
- Thirteen WKMS teachers are National Board Certified Teachers.
- Our teachers have utilized numerous grant opportunities to purchase resources for their students. So far this year our teachers have gotten over \$7,500 donated through Donors Choose.
- Our PTSA was not able to visit the school due to COVID protocol, but assisted in funding teacher grants and teacher appreciation. If you wish to join our PTSA, please email Mr. Hardie.
- Our Student Council consisted of virtual and face-to-face students this year. They met monthly to discuss ideas for improving student morale and our school. They were key in creating a talent show virtually and were the ones behind our monthly learning of different cultures.
- Our completed partnership with the Dynamic Learning Project has led to our school being served by a Google Certified Coach, with 12 teachers earning Level 2 Google Educator Certification, and four teachers earning Level 1 Google Educator Certification.
- Students participated in volleyball, football, basketball, cheer, and archery teams on campus and on numerous sports teams at White Knoll High School. Approximately 20% of our students participate in interscholastic athletics and/or the WKHS Marching Band.

Innovative School Programs

- WKMS offers a diverse offering of World Languages. Our students have the opportunity to learn French, Spanish, Chinese, and Latin for exploratory and high school credit.
- Through our district’s support for literacy and digital literacy coaches, our teachers have access to extremely high quality coaching and support.
- During the summer and fall of 2020, ten teachers participated in a two-day professional development training in order to implement our AVID program that provides support for all students to reach their maximum potential by instilling positive work habits and focus on college and career readiness.
- Many teachers are working on advanced degrees, certifications, and are taking on significant leadership roles at WKMS.
- All ELA classes have large classroom libraries with diverse books that meet the needs of a variety of readers levels and interests.
- Our teachers model themselves as readers by participating in a schoolwide book club, posting book badges outside their doors, and recording book talks to drive students’ interest in books.
- In an effort to provide choice to our virtual students, many teachers at WKMS taught both face-to-face classes and virtual classes throughout the day.
- Next year, WKMS will offer three electives to students to increase access to World Languages and Academic Connections.
- Next year, WKMS will bring content-based mastery learning to the classroom and blend it with our workshop model.