

School Improvement Council Members

- Lacy Thompson, Chair/Parent
- Mark Ridley, Vice chair/Parent
- Denise Liddle, Secretary/Teacher
- Tracey Hagerty, Teacher
- Brian Hewitt, Staff
- Darlene Jackson, Assistant Principal
- Penny Montgomery, Parent
- Jon Purvis, Community Member
- Janet Riddle, Community Member
- Addie Sabina, Teacher
- Margaret Schilit, Assistant Principal
- Tony Signorino, Community Member
- Guy Smith, Principal
- Kelley Sumner, Parent
- Angela Thom, Teacher
- Elizabeth Tutherow, Parent
- Keith Wilder, Community Member

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 each year highlighting the progress the school is making in achieving the goals and objectives of its five-year School Improvement Plan and the SICs 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.

WKMS Vision
Empower each child to design the future.

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

White Knoll Middle School

2018-2019 Report to Our Parents



WKMS is SOARING to Success!

Guy Smith, Principal
Darlene Jackson, Assistant Principal
Margaret Schilit, Assistant Principal

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Greetings

At White Knoll Middle School, our vision is to empower EACH child to design the future. To see that vision become reality, we have established three key priorities. These are to continue to improve school climate with a focus on Capturing Kids' Hearts and creating a Culture of Kindness, to provide excellent instruction in all classes with a focus on student engagement, and to exhibit professionalism in all our actions and interactions.

At WKMS we believe that relationships are the foundation of all learning. We are working to "capture kids' hearts" by getting to know each other, building social contracts, celebrating together, and affirming each other. We also have worked together to build a culture of kindness throughout our building through the use of a kindness curriculum in our extended homeroom "SOARING" time. In addition, we welcome all opportunities to work together with our parents and community.

We also believe that a high level of student engagement is critical to learning. Towards that end, 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. We are fortunate to have eager students, skilled teachers, and quality instructional coaches working together to grow as a community of learners.

Finally, across the curriculum and throughout the school day, we strive to teach and model professionalism. We are proud of our students and staff, and we are fortunate to work with awesome parents in such a great community.

Together we are working to accomplish our school and district mission of cultivating a caring community where ALL learners are extraordinary communicators, collaborators, creators, and critical thinkers.

We are proud that...

- We are one of 100 schools nationwide participating in the Dynamic Learning Project, a partnership with Digital Promise, Google for Education, and EdTech Team.
- Our Fine Arts program has worked to earn recognition as an Arts in Basic Curriculum Site.
- Nine of our 8th grade students qualified as Junior Scholars and five 7th graders qualified as Duke TIP Scholars.
- Approximately one third of our students achieved "Honor Hawk" status by making all A's or all A's and B's. Students are recognized at student-led "Honor Hawk" awards programs and also at "Super Hawk" reward activities.
- Ten WKMS teachers are National Board Certified Teachers.
- WKMS hosted several state level events including a VEX Robotics Qualifier event, the SC Speech and Theatre Association Middle School Festival, and the SC Music Educators' Association Solo and Ensemble Festival.
- Our staff and students continue to be involved in numerous service projects including Pasta for Pennies, Relay for Life, a food drive for Mission Lexington, and Hoops for Heart.
- Students participated in volleyball, football, basketball, and cheer teams on campus and on numerous sports teams at White Knoll High School. Approximately 20% of our students participate in interscholastic athletics.
- Our WKMS student-led book club works to promote reading through service projects and peer support for reading.
- Our PTSA is active and supports students and staff throughout the year in academics, athletics, and the arts.
- Our Student Council has taken on significant leadership roles throughout the school.

Innovative 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 the first Code to the Future middle school in Lexington One.
- Through our continuing partnership in the Dynamic Learning Project, and our district's support for literacy and digital literacy coaches, our teachers have access to extremely high quality coaching and support.
- During the summer of 2018 our entire teaching staff was trained in the principles of Capturing Kids' Hearts. Implementation of these principles is positively impacting our school culture every day.
- Leadership opportunities are provided for both staff and students. Students develop leadership in classroom activities, competitions, sports, and school organizations. Many teachers are working on advanced degrees and are taking on significant leadership roles at WKMS.
- Our core values are
Success for all
On time and on task
Academically engaged
Relationships, responsibility and respect