

White Knoll Middle School

Report to the Parents

2015



The mission of White Knoll Middle School is to prepare our students for success at high school and to instill habits of scholarship which will serve them well in high school, college, career, and life.

The mission of Lexington County School District One — where caring people, academics, the arts, and athletics connect — is to prepare 21st century graduates while serving as the center for community learning.

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.

School Improvement Council

Melisa O'Connor, Chair/Parent
Shiloh Guffey, Vice-Chair/Parent
Tiffany Shull, Secretary/Teacher
Guy Smith, Principal
Darlene Jackson, Assistant Principal
Bruce Bridges, Assistant Principal
Jennifer Cammann, Teacher
Pazlan Campbell, Student
Joan Conger, WKMS Teacher of the year
Deidre Foote, Teacher
Tommy Huynh, Parent
Mihaela Livingston, Teacher
Jennifer Lyon, Parent Ambassador
Terrence McLean, Parent
Jon Purvis, Community Member
Natalie Reynolds, Community Member
Patricia Sabina, Parent
Tony Signorino, Community Member
Sharon Small, Community Member
Tammy Wise, Staff Member



White Knoll Middle School

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We are SOARING TO SUCCESS at WKMS!

Greetings

We are happy to report that the 2014-2015 school year has been another exciting and productive year at White Knoll Middle School. Students, staff, parents, district leadership, 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 excellent teaching, blended learning, and goal-setting will help students achieve their potential.

As we complete our third year of personal mobile computing and integration of world languages into the core curriculum, we are truly preparing our students for success at high school as they look to become graduates who are accomplished in 21st century skills.

Looking to the future, 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. Together we are **SOARING TO SUCCESS AT WKMS!**



We are proud that...

- On the 2014 **South Carolina Annual School Report Card** WKMS received absolute and growth ratings of **“GOOD.”** For detailed information related to our school you may view the WKMS School Report Card online at <http://ed.sc.gov/data/report-cards/2014/middle/c/m3201053.pdf>
- Fourteen 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 research division.
- Our WKMS teacher of the year is Joan Conger. Mrs. Conger teaches 6th grade math.
- Fifteen WKMS teachers are National Board Certified.
- We have new furnishings for our classrooms and Learning Commons which will help to facilitate our blended learning initiative.
- Our staff and students continue to be involved in service projects including Pasta for Pennies, Relay for Life, and food drives.
- Our volleyball, football, basketball, and cheer teams performed extremely well this year. Approximately 20% of our students participate in interscholastic athletics on campus and at White Knoll High School.
- Our girls' basketball team won the PAC Conference championship.
- Over 90% of parents attended 8th grade conferences.
- The White Knoll PTSA is in good standing with the state and national organization and is working to support students and teachers at WKMS.

Innovative School Programs

- **In collaboration with other Lexington 1 middle schools, WKMS has embarked on a blended learning initiative. Students are actively engaged in class through interaction with digital content, collaborative work, and personalized teacher-led instruction. Our goal is to develop true 21st century classrooms that meet the needs of all students.**
- **WKMS has focused on “Soaring to Success” this year through use of student and faculty data notebooks. Students meet regularly in small homeroom groups to set goals, track progress, and plan for the future. We have worked to make “every room a data room” at WKMS.**
- Leadership opportunities are provided for both staff and students. Students develop leadership skills in sports, clubs, school organizations, classroom activities, and competitions. Many teachers are working on advanced degrees and are taking on significant leadership roles at WKMS.
- High School credits are offered in Algebra, English, Chinese, French, Latin, and Spanish.
- As part of our core curriculum, students learn a world language, selecting from Chinese, French, Latin, and Spanish.
- 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 applied to become an Arts in Basic Curriculum site.

