

Pelion Middle School

2024-2025

SIC Report to the Parents

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Principal: Jessica L. Keisler

Assistant Principal: Tomian Geddings

Assistant Principal: Dr. Benji Ricard

Assistant Principal: Joi H. Walden

Assistant Principal: Brandy Wood

Enrollment Summary (Total Number of Students)	Statistics (Staff and Students)
6th Grade: 187 7th Grade: 165 8th Grade: 154 Total Student Enrollment: 506	Certified Employees: 52 Support Staff: 27 National Board Certified Educators: 2 Teachers in 1st or 2nd Year of Teaching: 5

Clubs, Sports, Organizations, and Extracurricular Activities

<i>Archery</i> <i>District Honors Art</i> <i>Fellowship of Christian Athletes</i> <i>Future Farmers of America</i> <i>LOCC</i> <i>Pep Squad</i> <i>Robotics</i>	<i>Football</i> <i>Volleyball</i> <i>Girls and Boys Basketball</i> <i>Cheerleading</i> <i>Wrestling</i> <i>Baseball</i> <i>Boys Soccer</i> <i>***Golf, Softball, Girls Soccer,</i> <i>Girls Tennis, Track and Marching Band</i> <i>are all available through</i> <i>Pelion High School</i>
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Goals

Accelerate student academic growth.

Learning Supports

We employ a continuum of supports for Response-to-Intervention (RTI) and special education. Based on student need, this could include push-in services in English Language Arts and/or math or additional support during an exploratory.

Structured Learning Time

As part of our ongoing commitment to student growth, this year we implemented a weekly 30-minute Structured Learning Time. This dedicated period directly addressed the Lexington One Graduate Profile competencies, ensuring students develop crucial skills for future success. During this time, students had opportunities to retest and receive targeted support in areas where they need extra help.

Professional Learning Communities

Our school has focused this year on developing Professional Learning Communities (PLCs), a collaborative approach that directly benefits student learning. Through PLCs, our teachers work together regularly to analyze student data, share effective teaching strategies, and develop targeted interventions to address individual learning needs. This collaborative environment ensures a consistent and high-quality educational experience across all classrooms. By continuously learning and refining their practice, our educators are better equipped to meet the diverse needs of our students, leading to increased student achievement and a more enriching learning environment for everyone.

Targeted After School Program

To proactively support students in danger of not passing their grade level this year, our school implemented an after-school program focused on targeted academic support. This provided crucial intervention and reinforcement in key subject areas, allowing students to catch up and master essential skills. By addressing learning gaps during the school year, we were able to mitigate the need for summer school and help ensure students can advance to the next grade on time with their peers.

Math Tutoring

This year, we were able to extend our student support offerings to include math tutoring on Tuesdays and Thursdays free of charge to our families. Students were able to receive small group, personalized support by a certified math teacher.

Provide students experiences outside of the classroom.

Field Trips

All grade levels were able to go on field trips again this school year. Sixth grade students visited the Augusta Canal where they were able to take a boat tour of the canal and learn about the history and heritage of the Augusta Canal, specifically investigating the local impacts and environmental impact of the Industrial Revolution. Sixth graders were also able to visit White Knoll High School to see a play performed by their advanced drama students. Seventh graders visited Roper Mountain where they were able to explore physical and chemical changes in matter. Eighth grade students visited Historic Camden and the Revolutionary War Visitor Center as well as the South Carolina State Museum to take a close look at South Carolina History. Eighth graders also were able to visit Pelion High School and the Lexington Technology Center to explore career and technology education courses and programs they can pursue in high school. Select 8th graders were also able to attend the MEBA Showcase to learn more about potential career paths. Our FFA members visited the State House to learn about current laws impacting agriculture and farmers. Our orchestra students had the opportunity to take a trip to see the USC Symphony Orchestra.

Clubs

This year we were again able to offer all students the opportunity to participate in clubs during the school day. Students met with their clubs monthly. The clubs were sponsored by teachers and students were able to select the clubs that most interested them. This was a great way for students and teachers to connect and form positive relationships.

Accomplishments

Our school counseling department is a Recognized ASCA Model Program (RAMP). We are one of only eight RAMP certified programs in South Carolina, and one of only three middle schools in the state.
Pelion Middle Students showed a 11.8% increase in students meeting the typical growth and a 6.7% increase in students meeting their stretch growth on iReady Reading.
Pelion Middle Students showed a 6.9% increase in students meeting the typical growth on iReady Math.
Pelion Middle Archery placed 1st in state in IBO.
Karlee Kneece won first place in both Bullseye and IBO categories in the state competition. Karlee scored an impressive 295 out of 300 to win the Bullseye State Championship.
Eighteen students were selected for District Honors Orchestra, two students were selected for Region Orchestra, and three students were accepted to Tri-DAC.
Eighth grade orchestra received an Excellent rating at the SCMEA Concert Performance Assessment. They received a Superior rating in sight reading.
Four students were selected for District Honors Band, two students were selected for Region Band, and one student was selected as an alternate for All State.
Four band students scored Superior and eight scored Excellent at Solo and Ensemble.
One student was selected for District Honors Chorus.
Pelion Middle had 33 students selected to be featured at the South Carolina State Fair Student Art Exhibition. Four students won specific awards.
Four Pelion Middle Art students were selected as <i>ArtFields Jr. 2025 Competition Artists</i> .
Our Visual Arts Department participated in the annual Peanut Party Art Exhibition. Students from Pelion Middle stood out in the community for their artistic ability and creativity.
Holley Matthews (8th Grade ELA) and Jen May (8th Grade Science) received their National Board Certification.
PHS girls cross country won their 18th consecutive region title, which included 6 of our middle school athletes.
PHS boys cross country won their 7th consecutive region title, which included 2 of our middle school boys.
Girls basketball finished 4th in our conference division, which earned them a spot in the play-offs.

Middle School boys Soccer finished undefeated against other middle school teams with 9 wins, 2 ties, and 0 losses.

School Improvement Council (SIC)

Amanda Bass - Chair

Angela Arthur, teacher

Wayne Bruner, teacher & 7th grade lead

Heather Carter, parent

Andrew Chavarria, 2025 Pelion Middle Teacher of the Year

Jessica Keisler, principal

Kimberly Kneece, parent

Jen May, teacher & 8th grade lead

Miranda Montgomery, parent

Faith O'Neal-Roberts, community partner

John Rebolji, community partner

Linda Rosemond, teacher & 6th grade lead

Brandy Wood, assistant principal