

## Faculty and Staff Honors

- Nineteen members of the professional staff have earned National Board Certification.
- Twenty-four teachers have received endorsements for teaching students identified as gifted and talented.
- Sixty-three percent of PHMS teachers have advanced degrees.
- Anne Peterson, Special Education teacher, was named PHMS Teacher of the Year and a top five finalist for Lexington School District One.
- Derrick Cantrell was named Support Staff Person of the Year.
- Rene Horton, English Language Arts teacher, received the 2011 Reid H. Montgomery Advisor of the Year award from the SC Scholastic Press Association for the yearbook.
- Hannah Polk, Band teacher, was selected as the 2012 SC Region 2 Junior Symphonic Band conductor.
- Jan Steele, German teacher, is one of 20 German teachers nationwide selected to participate in a special summer seminar in Germany (AATG-KEFKO).
- Joanna Alford, Art teacher, had a lesson published in a national art educators' magazine called *Arts and Activities*.
- Sabrina Williams, ELA teacher, serves as the Lead National Board Teacher for Lexington One.
- Dot Hardin, Math teacher, serves as the president of South Carolina Teachers of Mathematics.
- Steve Woodyard, Social Studies teacher, received the 2011 National Citizenship Education Teacher Award from the VFW Post 8738.
- Kevin Darlington, P.E. Teacher, was selected as the 2011 South Carolina Small Soccer Coach of the Year by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America.
- Angelica Greiner was named chairperson for the South Carolina School Counseling Association's Partnership and Alliances committee.
- Martha Cartin, Special Education teacher, received a grant for the Special Olympics SC Project UNIFY program.
- Jason Mills, Assistant Principal, served on the committee that helped the district be named Risk Control District of the Year by the SC School Boards Insurance Trust.
- Laura Shaleuly, Guidance counselor, joined the board for Joy in the Mourning Center for Life Losses this past year.
- Dr. Cathy Cooper-Ely, Guidance Director, received a license as a Licensed Professional Counselor Supervisor (LPC-S) and joined the board of the SC Play Therapy Association.
- Susan Cafferty, Orchestra teacher, chaired the 2011 SCMEA Midlands Orchestra Concert Festival.

## Awards, Activities and Recognition

- PHMS Guidance Department met the criteria to become a Recognized ASCA Model Program by the American School Counselor Association.
- PHMS received an incentive award based on participation in the 2011 Lexington Employee Assistance Plan (LEAP).
- PHMS was recognized for having the highest participation of middle schools in the 2011 United Way campaign.
- PHMS was recognized as a top fundraising team for the 2011 Lexington Relay for Life.
- PHMS became conference champion in Girls' Basketball.
- PHMS Cheerleading Team received 1<sup>st</sup> place at the Debbie Rogers Cheer Competition.
- PHMS organized the first Miss PHMS Pageant.
- The PHMS Honor Band earned straight Superior ratings at the 2012 SC Concert Festival.
- Four students on the 8th Grade Band earned a chair in the 2012 SC Region 2 Honor Band Clinic.
- The PHMS band program had 21 students earn a chair in the 2012 Tri-DAC Summer Music Camp.
- The PHMS Honor Band was invited to perform at the 2012 Orlando Fest Music Competition in Orlando, FL.
- The PHMS band program will have 32 students performing in the 2012 Solo and Ensemble Music Festival the first week in May.
- PHMS Musical Theatre students performed *Beauty and the Beast*.
- Ten Musical Theatre students took 1<sup>st</sup> place statewide in the middle school division at the SC Theatre and Speech competition festival.
- Fifteen PHMS dance students collaborated with USC Dance Education Students to choreograph "We Will Remember--A Tribute to the Fallen Heroes of 9/11" that will be featured at the National Dance Education Convention in California.
- Six students made the All Region Orchestra.
- One student made the All State Orchestra.
- One student made the District's Honors Orchestra.
- Eighteen students made the Celebration Orchestra that performed at the SCMEA Conference in Charleston, SC.
- 7th and 8th Grade Orchestra received an Excellent rating at Concert Festival, Superior rating at the Music in the Parks Festival in Williamsburg, VA, and 1st place Middle School Orchestra.
- The RACE Team received 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Middle School Division at the 2011 Regional Competition NASCAR STEM Initiative. *The PHMS Cougar Pride* yearbook received an All-State rating with SC Scholastic Press Association.
- The PHMS Literary Magazine received an Honor rating and 3<sup>rd</sup> place award for Best Magazine Cover from the SC Scholastic Press Association.
- Four students were essay winners in the Sertoma Club National Heritage contest.



# Report to Parents Pleasant Hill Middle School School Improvement Council 2011-2012

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Principal



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*The mission of Pleasant Hill Middle School is to produce successful life-long learners and leaders by cultivating students' confidence, creativity, and intellectual independence.*

### Message from Cindy McMahan School Improvement Council Chairperson

I want to thank you all for your continued support of Pleasant Hill Middle School. Our students and teachers are extremely fortunate to have the parents and community members that we do. As a Red Carpet School, we are continually looking for ways to improve our school environment. This year, the SIC focused on improving the transition between 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade, the climate of our school and our school to home communication. We are proud of the accomplishments as follows:

- Conducted 6th grade parent survey. The SIC analyzed results and identified improvements that could be made based on comments and suggestions from survey responses.
- Members attended SIC training session conducted by Jim Hudson, Associate Director of the South Carolina SIC.
- Continued the use of School Messenger to highlight clubs, teams, fine arts and extracurricular events on a weekly basis (every Sunday afternoon)
- Continued to produce the school calendar to be distributed to all families (this calendar includes events, as well as things to know about our middle school)
- Assisted with our first annual Cougar Carnival. This was a family fun night for our students and their families.

Again, thank you to the committee members, staff, parents and business partners for all your time and hard work to make the completion of these projects possible.

## Initiatives and Strategies

- Cougar Success Institute (CSI) – The school gives students ample opportunity for academic support and intervention through CSI, a program during school hours that ensures students complete missing assignments after in-class opportunities have been exhausted.
- PHMS Ambassador Program – Students were selected to serve as spokespersons, give tours, and provide support to new students and visitors.
- Cougar Movie Time – Students are recognized with a special movie time each nine weeks for making the honor roll.
- National Junior Honor Society – The school received a charter to organize a chapter for the 2012-2013 school year.
- Home Depot Partnership – The Home Depot donated services to remodel the courtyard garden outside the Learning Commons.
- A Making Middle Grades Work (MMGW) school – The school works with the Southern Regional Education Board to explore school improvement through professional development opportunities, high expectations, challenging curricula, engaging activities, providing guidance, and using data to make informed decisions.
- Collaborative Teams – The school is organized into teams and grade-levels to support the students. These teams create a school-within-a-school environment.
- Professional Development—Teachers meet regularly with administrators and coaches in the “Think Tank” to discuss methodologies and data, receive training, chart MAP data, and explore new initiatives.
- Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) – This testing program is used three times a year to determine students’ skill levels in reading and math.
- Extra Help Opportunities – Students can receive extra help through Comprehensive Remediation classes, extra help sessions before, during, and after school, additional time for enrichment and make-up, and/or re-do during the school day.
- Intervention Teams – Teachers work with a coordinator to identify and monitor students with interventions to ensure student success.
- Common Assessments & Planning – Teachers collaborate regularly to develop common assessments and instructional activities.
- School-wide Literacy – Literacy is promoted school-wide through the assistance of a literacy coach. Best practice strategies in all content areas, reading recognition initiatives, and professional development programs are implemented.

## School Statistics

Enrollment	1110
Gifted and Talented Enrollment	34.9%
Student-Teacher Ratio In Core Subjects	23.6 to 1
Opportunities in the Arts	Excellent

## South Carolina School Report Card Ratings

	Absolute Rating	Improvement Rating
2010-2011	Excellent	Excellent
2009-2010	Excellent	Excellent
2008-2009	Excellent	Excellent

<http://ed.sc.gov/data/report-cards/2011/middle/c/m3201061.pdf>

## Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (PASS)

Aligned to the state academics standards, these assessments include English language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies. The table below shows the percentage of PHMS students who scored “Met” or “Exemplary” for the 2010-2011 school year.

PASS % of Students Met or Exemplary	PHMS 2010-2011	District 2010-2011
English	92.1%	88%
Math	92.4%	88%
Science	88.5%	80.1%
Social Studies	88.3%	82.8%
Writing	79.6%	73.2%

## School Improvement Council Members

### 2011 - 2012

Cindy McMahan – Chair	Thomas Rivers – Principal
Teri Kirkland – Vice Chair	Lynne Brace – Secretary/Recorder
Jennifer Adams	Izzy Wise
Kim Blankenbeckler	John Enright
Dina Fautley	Donnie Watts
Shannon Canady	Michelle Saboski
Suzanne Chastain	Mickey Summerall
Andy Charles	David Turner

## School Improvement Council Goals: 2011-2012

- To enhance students’ transition from elementary to middle school.
- To maintain parents’ satisfaction with the school’s physical and learning environment.
- To maintain students’ satisfaction with the school’s physical and learning environment.

