

# 2020-2021 Dutch Fork Middle School Annual Report

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL & SIC CHAIR

### SIC Members

Dr. Mohamad Azhar  
(Chair)

Tifani Moore  
(Vice Chair)

Jessica Finney  
(Secretary)

Barbara Graham

Kim Miller

Douglas Mazyck

Terri Goley

Grace McKlveen

Kelly Brown

Kelly Thacker

Sharisse Lee

Isaiah Dickson

Jack Bauer

Evan DeMasi

Armani Moses

Aamina Azhar

Tara Safriet

Vernon Sava

Dear Parents/Guardians and Stakeholders,

This report is issued by the DFMS School Improvement Council in accordance with South Carolina law to share information on the school's progress in meeting various school goals, the work of the SIC, and other accomplishments throughout the school year.

Because of the support of our parents and the consistent hard work of our teachers and students, we are approaching the end of a successful year during a global pandemic. There have been highs and lows along the way, but all stakeholders have contributed to our efforts to “*outTeach, outLearn, and outPerform.*” Although this year has not looked like those in the past, we continue to enjoy exemplary student achievement and recognition in academics, arts, athletics, and extracurricular activities.

As a part of our planning process, we will continue to review district and school data to make effective instructional decisions for all groups of students as well as the individual child. We will also continue to use data-teams to differentiate instruction for all learners and PBIS to improve our already positive school climate. At DFMS, we understand that many variables are included in providing the very best learning environment for all students and look forward to working with our stakeholders to continue to do whatever is necessary to produce the best educational setting for all students on a daily basis.

Respectfully,

*Mr. Vernon Sava*  
Principal

*Dr. Mohamad Azhar*  
SIC Chair

## Initiatives and Strategies for School

- Continue the improvements towards the social and physical environment of the school.
- Continue the school-wide STEAM focus in 100% of our class rooms.
- Plan and deliver instruction that meets the individual needs of all students.
- Increase opportunities for parent/community involvement.

## Fine Arts Highlights

- ◇ Three band students were accepted to Region Band and one student that was accepted to All-State Band. The band will conduct its first live performance this spring.
- ◇ Ten orchestra students who were selected for All-Region Orchestra.
- ◇ The 7th and 8th grade Honors Chorus participated in a virtual Concert Performance Assessment in April. The first in-person performance will be held this spring.
- ◇ Drama is preparing and rehearsing for the first in-person performance of the year, and will be collaborating with chorus classes.
- ◇ The Dazzlers Dance Team represents a portion of the dance program at DFMS. The team was placed in both the competitions attended this season. The team was awarded a first place trophy and a third place trophy.



***“Shaping the future... Making connections”***

# Instructional Philosophy

The mission of Dutch Fork Middle School is to **S**trategically implement an engaging and challenging curriculum that will integrate **T**echnology while encouraging students to **E**ffectively communicate, critically think, collaborate, and be creative. By partnering with our community, students will be **A**ccountable for their learning as they are **M**entored to be successful contributors to a global society.

## Academic Highlights

**The following achievement data represents students that scored “Met” and “Exceeds” on the SC Ready assessment.**

*\*The data below is from the 2018-2019 school year. The SC Report Card Rating, the SC Ready Assessment, and the EOC (end-of-course) tests were not administered in South Carolina during the 2019-2020 school year due to school closures in the Spring of 2020 as mandated in the Governor’s Executive Order.*

*\*\*Students will be taking the SC Ready Assessment in May of 2021 and the EOC tests in June of 2021. Results will be available in the Fall of 2021.*

### SC REPORT CARD

2018-2019 OVERALL RATING - GOOD (51)

SC READY	DFMS	STATE
SC READY - ELA	56%	41.7%
SC READY - MATH	52%	44.6%

### EOCEP

ALGEBRA - 99.6%

ENGLISH 1 - 100%

# School Highlights

## Clubs, Organizations, and Athletics

- ◇ Both the girls and the boys basketball teams went undefeated in the regular season. They both also won the Palmetto Athletic Conference Basketball Championship tournaments. The girls defeated Chapin while the boys defeated Busbee.
- ◇ MathCounts met virtually this year and competed at the Chapter, State and National level. Four students competed at Chapter, placing 3rd, 12th, 16th and 26th out of 56. One student continue on to the Regional level placing 3rd out of 12, then State level placing 4th out of 44. The student is now eligible to compete at the National level. We also competed in other individual Math competitions such as the AMC 8 and AMC 10/12.
- ◇ The FCA annual service project prepared 49 shoe boxes for Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child. FCA members, faculty and community members donated items that were distributed across the globe to children from birth to age 14 who live in impoverished areas. They also donated 38 blankets to local homeless and transition shelter in our community.
- ◇ Students virtually represented DFMS at the SCASC State Convention this year virtually. The council was awarded the Silver Honor Council Award and Isaiah Dickson, 20-21 StuCo President, was awarded the Terry McCoy Award for Leadership. Student Council worked on a schoolwide initiative to promote unity by believing we are DF Strong. Students partnered with PTSA and purchased the entire student body and staff t-shirts.
- ◇ The Academic Team participated in the Fall and Spring 321 competitions.
- ◇ DFMS Yearbook Club worked hard all year and completed a 120 full color page and hardback yearbook.
- ◇ DFMS Jr. Beta Club completed a service project called Operation Spread the Joy. Club members collected and donated over 250 items for the homeless in the downtown Columbia area. Members also completed individual services hours doing other small projects.
- ◇ DFMS had several Science Fair Winners:
  - 7th Grade: 1st, 2nd & 3rd place winners and 1st, 2nd and 3rd place Honorable Mentions.
  - 8th Grade: 1st, 2nd & 3rd place winners and 1st, 2nd and 3rd place Honorable Mentions.
  - One 7th Grade student won 1st place in the USC Science and Engineering Fair in the Behavioral Science category.
  - One 8th student won 2nd place in Engineering at the USC Science and Engineering Fair and won the USC Sumter Award 1st place.
  - One student place 3rd in Engineering and won the USC Sumter Award 3rd place.
  - One student won Honorable mention in Biology.
  - Two students were recognized by the SC Academy of Science, with one winning the Grand Prize Award.

## 2019-20 Teacher and Support Employees of the Year

### Grace McKlveen and Jocelyn Brown



*“Impacting young lives to embrace their full learning potential feeds the soul with purpose.”*

**Grace McKlveen**  
**2020-2021 Teacher of the Year**

Mrs. McKlveen is a Math teacher at DFMS with 9 years of teaching experience. Mrs. McKlveen’s responsibilities include teaching 8<sup>th</sup> grade Pre-Algebra and Geometry, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Math Department Head, SIC Member, and Faculty Advisory Community Member. She is also a mother to two future Silver Foxes.



**Jocelyn Brown**  
**2020-2021 Support Employee of the Year**

Ms. Brown has been the Cafeteria Manager at DFMS for the past 5 years. When Ms. Brown is not at work, you can find her at the local bookstore or a coffee shop. She also loves relaxing and spending time with her family.

\*\* School District Five of Lexington and Richland Counties does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, or handicap in admission to, treatment in, or employment in its programs and activities. Inquiries should be directed to: Director of Human Resources for Title IX, and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Coordinator, at 476-8198 and the Director of Special Services and 504 Coordinator, at 476-8222 and at 1020 Dutch Fork Rd Ballentine, S.C. 29002. Individuals with disabilities who require assistance or special arrangements to participate in a program or activity sponsored by Dutch Fork Middle School should contact the principal at least 48 hours prior to the program or activity.