

2019-2020 Dutch Fork Middle School Annual Report

SIC Members

Dr. Mohamad Azhar
(Chair)

James Cubie
(Secretary)

John Lukowski

Barbara Graham

Telesia Davis

Tifani Moore

Kim Miller

Douglas Mazyck

Jenny Adams

Jennifer Grogan

Terri Goley

Kelly Thacker

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Benjamin Cannarella

Paris Young

Jack Bauer

Tara Safriet

Vernon Sava

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL & SIC CHAIR

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.

This year has been like no other. We have faced new challenges and along the way learned many new lessons. With the continued support from our parents and community, along with the consistent hard work of our teachers and students, we continue to enjoy exemplary student achievement and local and state 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 good instructional decisions for 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

Dr. Mohamad Azhar

Initiatives and Strategies for School

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

Instructional Philosophy

At Dutch Fork Middle School, learning is focused on the 4C’s: communication, collaboration, critical thinking, and careers. Students use The Design Process in all of their classes to Engage, Plan, Act, and Reflect as a way to solve complex problems or think through a process. At Dutch Fork Middle School STEAM means learning in a way that will prepare students for the future as aligned to our vision of “Shaping the future...Making connections.”

Academic Highlights

The following achievement data represents students that scored “Met” and “Exceeds” in ELA and Math on the 2019 SC Ready assessment, as well as “Meets” and “Exceeds” in Science and Social Studies on the 2019 SC PASS assessment. Due to COVID-19 and State-wide school closures per the Governor’s Executive Order, testing was not held in 2020.

2018-2019 OVERALL RATING - EXCELLENT

Excellent - School performance substantially exceeds the criteria to ensure all students meet the Profile of the SC Graduate

SC READY	DFMS	STATE
SC READY - ELA	58.7%	45.4%
SC READY - MATH	51.8%	45.1%
SC PASS	DFMS	STATE
SC PASS SC PASS - Science	70.4%	49.1%
SC PASS - Social Studies	80.0%	67.6%



“Shaping the future... Making connections”

Fine Arts Highlights

- ◇ The band had seven (7) students who auditioned and were accepted to participate in the Region 2 Honor Band. The bands also had outstanding performances in the Winter and Halloween concerts.
- ◇ The orchestra had twenty-two (22) students selected to participate in the SCMEA Region 3 Orchestra event. Two students were selected to participate in the SCMEA All-State Orchestra event.
- ◇ The chorus had nineteen (19) students selected to participate in the District Honor Choir event. The chorus had an outstanding performance at their Winter concert.

The 8th Grade Honors Chorus performed the national anthem at all home basketball games this year and sang at one JV basketball game at DFHS. The 8th Grade Honors Chorus also participated in the band/orchestra Halloween concert and the drama production of “Our Town”.

The DFMS Show Choir was formed this year as a before/after school club. Twenty-five (25) students participated during the year from chorus, band, orchestra, dance, as well as non-art areas.

- ◇ The Dazzlers Dance Team represents a portion of our dance program at DFMS. This past season, the dance team placed in all 3 competitions they attended. The dance team brought home 2 first place trophies, 2 second place trophies and 2 third place trophies in the team division. Three Dazzlers on the team also competed solos and brought home 1st, 2nd & 3rd place trophies from all competitions.

This team has gone above and beyond to represent Dutch Fork Middle School and even won “Most Spirited” team at the competition.

- ◇ The Fine Arts Department held the very first “Fine Arts Feature” in which our Visual Arts programs and Theater programs were highlighted with supporting performances by student dancers, singers, and musicians.
- ◇ Spanish had 2 students that were selected as award winners in the Bilingualism Matters Student Poster Contest. This contest, sponsored by the Center for Bilingualism Matters Center at USC, included students across multiple districts who created posters to celebrate the importance of being bilingual. The theme of the contest was “What Bilingualism Means to Me”.

** 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.

School Highlights

Clubs, Organizations, and Athletics

- ◇ Both the girls and the boys basketball teams won the inaugural Lexington County Middle School Christmas Basketball Tournament. The girls basketball team made it to the conference semifinals and the boys played in the conference championship but lost.
- ◇ In addition to participation in C-Team sports, we had many DFMS students who found success participating in high school sports such as: Cross Country, JV basketball, Lacrosse, Swimming, Tennis, JV and Varsity Cheerleading, Baseball, and Track.
- ◇ The FCA prepared forty-nine (49) shoe boxes for Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child. This is FCA's annual service project. 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.
- ◇ DFMS Academic Team placed 1st in the state during the Fall 321 Competition.
- ◇ DFMS Yearbook Club worked hard all year and completed a 120 full color page and hardback yearbook.
- ◇ The Mock Trial team finished 1st in their regional competition and placed 7th in the state competition.
- ◇ DFMS Jr. Beta Club had several community service projects this year. These include:
 - Lowman Home - planted 500 plus flowers.
 - Presbyterian Home - played bingo with residents and gave out prizes.
 - Operation Spread the Joy – donated 400 plus items for homeless in downtown Columbia.
 - Clean of Heart - donated 384 items for Columbia residents in subsidized living.
 - Animal Mission - donated 122 items to a local animal shelter.
- ◇ The Math Counts Club had seven (7) students that attended the Chapter Competition at Hammond School. Four students placed in the top 20. The top 16 competed in a countdown round where we had one student place 2nd and one placed 4th. Out of 10 schools, we placed 3rd.
- ◇ Bow Ties Group participated in a Unified Basketball Tournament.
- ◇ DFMS had several District-Level Science Fair Winners:
 - 7th Grade-1st, 2nd & 3rd place winners and 1st, 2nd & 3rd place Honorable Mentions.
 - 8th Grade-1st, 2nd & 3rd place winners and 1st, 2nd & 3rd place Honorable Mentions.
 - DFMS also had a student place 2nd for Physical Science/Chemistry in the District Fair.
- ◇ DFMS Student earned numerous awards at this year's SC Region II Science and Engineering Fair held March 22 at the University of South Carolina Booker T. Washington Auditorium.
 - 1st Place - Biological Sciences Awards Junior Division
 - 2nd Place - Central South Carolina Top Three 7th Grade Projects
 - 1st Place - USC School of Medicine: Medicine and Health Research Development Awards Junior Division

2019-20 Teacher and Support Employees of the Year

Terri Goley and Barbara Dowling



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

Terri Goley

2019-2020 Teacher of the Year

Mrs. Goley is a Language Arts teacher at DFMS with 19 years of teaching experience. Mrs. Goley’s responsibilities include teaching CP & Honors 7th grade LA, Team Leader-71, Junior Beta Sponsor, SIC Member, Faculty Advisory Community Member and Teacher Mentor. She is also a mother to a sophomore at Chapin High and junior at USC.



Barbara Dowling

2019-2020 Support Employee of the Year

Ms. Dowling has been a custodian at DFMS for 10 years. She enjoys getting to meet the staff one on one every morning. She also enjoys spending time with her family, walking and watching TV.

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.