

The faculty and staff are pleased to announce that Johnakin has improved its state's absolute and improvement ratings from below average to average. Although this is a huge accomplishment, the faculty and staff understand that we will continue to maintain rigorous instruction, high expectations, and collaboration to ensure our students continued academic success. Each year the expectations rise to a higher level.



Sixteen coats and five hoodies were presented as part of the Marion Rotary Club's community project. Ms. Sweeney and Mrs. Dozier thanked the members for their generosity in helping some of our students stay warm during the winter months.

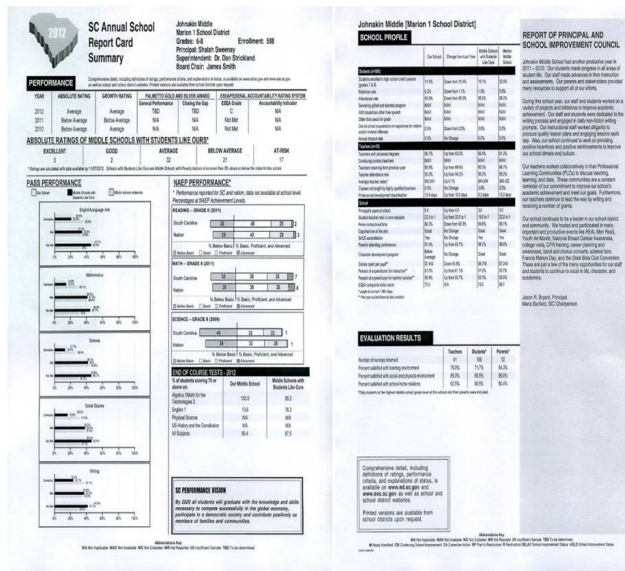


Johnakin Middle School has had another great year. We have seen our students grow in a variety of ways as we prepare each young person for high school and beyond. The hard work of our students, staff, and parents has enabled our school to move closer to reaching all of our goals. With the focus on collaboration, data, and relationships, we continue to look for innovative methods and new approaches to teaching, learning, and our daily work. Through our endeavors, it is clear that we are educating the "whole" child, while always looking to do a better job every day. Our motto, PUSH- Proceed Until Success Happens, exemplifies our commitment to keep improving and teaching for more awards and positive recognitions.

As we come to the end of this school year, take time to reflect on the school year. If you have any concerns or input, please let me know. I am always looking for ways to improve our school and help our students reach their goals.

It's great to be a Fox Cub!

Shalah S. Sweeney, Principal



| Year | Absolute Rating | Growth Rating |
|------|-----------------|---------------|
| 2012 | Average | Average |
| 2011 | Below Average | Below Average |
| 2010 | Below Average | Average |
| 2009 | Below Average | Average |
| 2008 | At-Risk | Below Average |

2012-2013 School Improvement Council

- Mavia Barfield, Chairperson and Parent
- Pamela Beaty, Teacher
- Malinda Blue, Parent
- Myron Davis, Teacher
- Fred Gause, Community Member
- Lt. Thomas Graves, School Resource Officer
- Barbara Moore, Teacher
- Randy Johnson, Parent Coordinator
- Mable McClister, Guidance Counselor
- Sharonda Sampson, Teacher
- Shalah S. Sweeney, Principal
- Anne Stackhouse, Parent
- Debbie Woodberry, Parent

Johnakin Middle School



Annual Report to the Parents

2012-2013

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Marion County School District

Shalah S. Sweeney, Principal

Melanie Dozier, Assistant Principal

Nathaniel Gilchrist, Assistant Principal

PUSH

Proceed Until Success Happens

Mission Statement

The mission of Johnakin middle School is to create and maintain an environment that ensures that every member of the school community reaches a high level of academic achievement as defined by school, local, state, and national standards and goals. We commit to providing a comprehensive system of support to assure student progress.



Six eighth grade students were identified as South Carolina Junior Scholars at the Third Quarter Awards Day. They are Nicholas Akers, Dawson Brown, Jordan Bryant, Jessica Clapper, Samantha Querubin, and Olivia Vyge.

JMS hosted REAL (Read, Excel, Achieve, and Lead) Men Read, an exciting reading initiative that was designed to deepen literacy and instill a love of reading in students through mentors who are willing to share a grade appropriate book with a group of students. Program goals are to: demonstrate that real men do in fact read and value education; encourage and improve student literacy skills; provide mentoring opportunities for men; and demonstrate the importance of student achievement and community partnerships.



JMS Students Share and Serve!

There is a hardworking, disabled lady in our county who cares for neglected and injured animals. She cares for horses, llamas, a donkey, several dogs and cats, a pot-bellied hog, and lots of chickens and birds! We found out that the wheel barrow she was using to haul hay was in bad shape: the bucket was rusted through and the wheel bearing was worn out. So, 7 Industrial Technology students worked over 14 hours to repair, rebuild, and repaint her old wheel barrow so that it is almost as good as brand new! These students really expressed the Christmas spirit through their good work.



JMS participated in Caps for Kids day by wearing caps to school. The national organization provides caps to those who have lost their hair to chemotherapy. The caps are autographed by a celebrity of the recipient's choice.



Activities, Awards and Opportunities

- ◆ The School Store is open each Thursday during lunch.
- ◆ Dress for Success (every 4th Friday) was implemented for staff and students.
- ◆ JMS Chorus Teacher Ronny Rogers received a \$1400 grant for 11 Fendor acoustic guitars.
- ◆ The Guidance Department hosted Career Family Night for 8th grade.
- ◆ An Arts in Education Week proclamation from the Marion City Council was presented to Principal Sweeney and Art Teacher Linda Wiegert.
- ◆ Marion Boys and Girls Club held a mini field day with JMS students.
- ◆ Students, staff, and teachers are recognized monthly with Students of the Month, Staff Spotlight, and Teacher Feature.
- ◆ The JMS Competitive Cheer Squad had a successful season.
- ◆ Art students participated in Old Towne Marion Scarecrow Contest with two students winning the scariest scarecrow award.
- ◆ Students used RAPSTARS to "purchase" items off the ice cream truck during extra recess for showing good behavior.
- ◆ Three JMS students earned \$\$ for winning Writing Club entries sponsored by the first annual Countywide Minority Children's Club.
- ◆ The Choice Bus visited JMS students to reinforce keeping students in school and out of prison.
- ◆ Coach Michael Stienbar's students participated in Hoops for Heart raising \$658 for the American Heart Association.
- ◆ Students participate in the Inspiring Careers-Honoring History Poetry and Poster Contest.
- ◆ In conjunction with the November Presidential Election, students participated in MyVoiceMyElection.org by voting online for President, the House of Representatives and 7 issues.
- ◆ Veterans Day was celebrated with a moving program featuring Social Studies Teacher Annette Dorman's son, daughter in law and daughter who are all veterans.
- ◆ Math students in Mrs. Kim Edwards' classes researched how Hurricane Sandy financially affected families and discovered that many families were not able to rebuild their lives without financial help from others.
- ◆ Coach Michael Stienbar took his PE students to the local golf course teaching them the fundamentals of golf.
- ◆ JMS celebrated Red Ribbon Week, the oldest and largest drug prevention campaign in the country
- ◆ Assistant Principal Melanie Dozier was named the 2012 Outstanding Alumni of the Year by Coastal Carolina University and was later commended by the Attendance Area One Board.
- ◆ Staff members are recognized for perfect attendance each quarter.
- ◆ JMS participated in Box Tops for Education.
- ◆ The Student Council sponsored a coat drive for those in need.
- ◆ 8th Grade Social Studies students visited Charles Towne Landing in conjunction with the Social Studies Curriculum.
- ◆ Over 100 students participated in the JMS Spelling Bee. Kai George went on to represent JMS in the Regional Spelling Bee at Francis Marion University.

- ◆ 3 Band students were selected to audition for the All Eastern District Band and Marcellino Rivero was selected to participate!
- ◆ JMS Students received many awards at the 2012 Swamp Fox Booster Club Fall Athletic Program.
- ◆ Speech Therapist Ann Doran won an iPad for a non-verbal student opening up a whole new world with an app that gives him a VOICE.
- ◆ 8th grader Tristan Loggie received a perfect PASS score and was honored by the Attendance Area One Board.
- ◆ The Beta Club students attended the State Convention with over 3300 other students.
- ◆ The Father/Daughter Luncheon was held Valentines Day.
- ◆ 8th Grader Tyler Pearson won the JMS Geographic Bee and a chance to win a \$25000 College Scholarship.
- ◆ 1st Semester Awards Day was held for each grade.
- ◆ Art Students participated in the Palmetto Pride "Litter Trash-es Everybody" art contest.
- ◆ Skating Parties were held for students with increased MAP scores.
- ◆ African-American History Month was celebrated with a program, "Rooted in the Past, Growing Toward the Future."
- ◆ Mrs. Amy Sanders in the Guidance Department was awarded a \$4400 HEAP (Higher Education Awareness Program) to take students to visit college campuses and sponsor events to promote higher education.
- ◆ 15 Coastal Carolina education major students spent a day shadowing teachers to get a first-hand view of what teachers do each day.
- ◆ Local historian Mrs. Bartlene McMillan shared her vast knowledge about General Francis Marion, our county's namesake with 8th grade Social Studies students.
- ◆ JMS held its annual science fair with 15 going on to the Sandhills Regional Science Fair at FMU. One student, Jared Yeager, went on to the State competition winning first place!
- ◆ 8th Grade Social Studies teacher Wallace Foxworth was named JMS Honor Roll Teacher for 2013-2014.
- ◆ Art students participated in the county-wide art show with Naquan Battle placing 2nd overall and Denisha Pope and Jazmyn McCall receiving honorable mention.
- ◆ 8th Grade students visited the South Carolina State Museum in Columbia.
- ◆ The Reaching Individual Students of Excellence (RISE) mentoring program spoke to students about following their own career path and setting goals for the future.
- ◆ The 3rd Quarter Awards Day was held for each grade level with many receiving honors.
- ◆ JMS has participated in the American Cancer Society Relay for Life program raising money all through the year with fundraisers under the leadership of staff member Wanda Leggett, a cancer survivor.