

During the 2020-2021 school year, McCormick Elementary School assisted students in developing the World Class Skills of Creativity, Critical Thinking, Collaboration, and Communication. Our instructional focus centered on implementing the Fountas & Pinnell Classroom for literacy with an emphasis on writing, continuing development of process skills in Eureka math, and improving our technological skills for improved communication. Due to the current pandemic, we implemented a new curriculum to support Social Emotional Learning. We began the year with Morning Meetings and adopted a curriculum through Suite 360.

We continued our STEP (Supporting Teacher Effectiveness Project) meetings weekly by grade level to encourage collaboration by reviewing data to design, implement, and adjust instruction as needed based on student achievement. We took baseline data in a challenge area and developed the promising practice and used the student outcomes to make informed next steps.

Our ILT (Instructional Leadership Team) grew more proficient in identifying our specific instructional problem based on data and staff feedback. In the weekly meetings, we developed shared responsibility by taking ownership of areas of concern and utilizing resources to improve student performance.

Our SIC (School Improvement Council) chose to focus on improving the social and emotional health of our students and families for the 20-21 school year. The SIC sponsored a community lab that assisted parents and students with technological disadvantages. This helped strengthen our partnership with parents, all while supporting academics. We also developed a new partnership with the Clemson Extension Service (Marion County) to provide nutrition lessons during our students' related arts period. Students received virtual interaction to develop their good health and implement better eating habits.

We worked diligently to build a stronger school culture by emphasizing our commitment to PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention Supports). The team used discipline data to provide events that celebrate good decision making skills. These efforts are centered around TEAM (Treat others respectfully, Exemplify positivity, Act responsible, and Maintain safety). We celebrated with popcorn parties, and prize drawings.

We look forward to the future of MES with great expectations. Our community and stakeholders have shown great support for our young people and with that commitment, we will continue to build a better environment for learning and growing.

At McCormick Elementary School, we are TEAMing with pride! Go Mustangs!

Thomas M. Drew, Principal
Jaime Barrineau, SIC Chairperson