

2019-2020 School Improvement Council

First Name	Last Name	Service Role
Rick	Bagby	Chairperson
Lori	Brierre	
Gisele	Butler	
Margaret	Campbell	Vice Chair
George	Chandler	
Amanda	Dougherty	Secretary
Mark	Dougherty	
Faith	Dover	
Michelle	Duvall	
Meredith	Evans	Teacher of the Year
Stan	Glenn	
Carey	Gully	
Michael	Hamilton	Assistant Principal
Shana	Hawk	
Amanda	Lindsey	
Darrell	McDowell	Principal
Cassie	Moore	7th Grade Teacher
Dana	Moore	
Kristin	Plummer	
Theresa	Skelton	
Trixie	Summerville	

CATTITUDE

- 100% Effort in all things
- Identify and Maximize Student Talents
- Set Goals, Accomplish Them, and Set More
- Be Well-Rounded : Academics, Arts, Athletics, Behavioral / Social, Service



Ten eighth graders were named as South Carolina Junior Scholars based on their PSAT scores indicating high academic achievement and promise.



For the second year in a row, two 7th graders spearheaded and coordinated a donation drive to benefit Safe Harbor, an organization which combats domestic violence and operates several safe shelters in the Upstate. This year's drive resulted in over 750 items (paper products, toiletries, cleaning products, etc.) being donated to this worthy cause.



Seneca Middle School

2019-2020 School Summary Report



Mission Statement

The mission of Seneca Middle School is to develop responsible, competent, and productive life long learners by providing challenging and meaningful educational experiences in cooperation with the home, community and business.

Vision Statement

Seneca Middle School will produce students who can communicate effectively, solve problems competently, think creatively, act responsibly, and recognize and respect individual differences.

Students will be technologically literate and globally minded. This will be accomplished through a variety of learning experiences, teaching strategies, and technology, all supported by ongoing staff development, continuous improvement of facilities and resources, parental involvement, and collaboration with community

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From Principal Dr. Darrell McDowell



Dear Parents:

The School Summary Report for Seneca Middle School has been prepared to be presented to all school and district stakeholders: Seneca Middle School students and their parents/guardians, as well as the School District of Oconee County Board of Trustees. The report reviews the improvements made last year, displays the test scores for all grades, and describes the activities planned for this school year.

ACT 135 and AdvancEd requires schools to develop a comprehensive five-year plan, which conveys how the school plans to provide appropriate academic services to all students. Each year the plan is reviewed and revised.

If you have questions about the information summarized here, please call Dr. Darrell McDowell, Principal, at 886-4455. You may also email Dr. McDowell at dmcdowell@g.oconee.k12.sc.us.

Our Leadership Team consists of...

- Assistant Principals Shea Martin and Michael Hamilton, Principal Dr. Darrell McDowell
- School Counselors Ginger Smith and Christi Roberts
- Student Interventionist Elise Grant
- School Resource Officer Scott McMahan

We Bobcats Are...

- 846 students, 67 certified staff, and 50 support staff strong
- 294 6th graders, 294 7th graders, and 259 8th graders, 53% male and 47% female
- 58% Caucasian, 24% African American, 8% Hispanic, <1% Asian, 8% Other

Bobcat Curricular Targets for 2019-20

Seneca Middle School will continue to review, revise, and improve the School Improvement Plan. For the 2019-2020 school year, we have implemented the following:

Technology in the Classroom — for the second year in a row, each student has been assigned a personal chromebook for use both in the classroom and at home to facilitate and augment daily instruction and homework. Each classroom is also outfitted with additional technology such as interactive panels which teachers may use to enhance learning.

CATS Café – we will continue to implement an “extra help” session into our daily schedule for students to make up any work or redo work that is not satisfactory (0 – 69). Students in CATS Café come to the front of the lunch line, pick up a “to go” lunch, and then eat and do their work for the entire 40-minute lunch and recess period.

Advisement Period (Cat Class) - in keeping with the full implementation of Making Middle Grades Work, we have employed a 20-minute, literacy-rich, daily advisement period. This advisement period includes Student Selected Reading (SSR), character education lessons themed by month, i.e., *Honesty* in September, *Respect* in October, etc., character development readings, and a social-emotional learning (SEL) program called Second Steps.



High School Credit Offerings

Seneca Middle School offers the following courses for high school credit, or Carnegie Units, to qualifying students: Algebra I Honors, English 1 Honors, Spanish 1, Computer Applications (.5 unit), and Keyboarding (.5 unit)



ROARing News from Seneca Middle School

Carnegie Unit Opportunities

Over 98% of our 7th and 8th grade students are taking courses that offer at least a .5 high school credit.

End Of Course Success

All students take the End of Course test in Algebra I Honors and English. Seneca Middle School continues to be at the forefront of highest average scores as well as the total number of students tested in the district.

Music Program Accolades

The coronavirus shutdown cancelled several music competitions and events our music programs typically excel at. Nevertheless, the events that took place prior to the shutdown saw our students perform in their usual outstanding fashion. Our band program saw 13 students make the Oconee All County Band with 5 earning 1st chair in their section. Five students participated with the high school marching band. Our chorus program saw 37 students selected to the Oconee All-County Middle School Chorus. Six of our choral students were selected for the 2019 SC All-State Honor Choir. Our orchestra program saw 21 students named to All-County Orchestra with 4 of the 5 sections lead by SMS students as 1st chair. Honors Orchestra received Excellent Rating at the SCMEA Orchestra Concert Performance Assessment.

Geography Bee

The SMS Geography Bee winner qualified by written examination to compete in the state-level Geography Bee.

FFA

Our Future Farmers of America group sent 8 students to the National Convention in Indianapolis.

Girls Cross County

Fourteen SMS Lady Cats joined their 4 HS cross country teammates to win the state championship for the second year in a row.