

2018-2019 School Improvement Council

Last Name	First Name	Service Status
Bagby	Rick	Elected, Chair-person
Barnes	Kristi	Elected
Chandler	George	Elected
Brock	Kevin	Elected
Duvall	Michelle	Elected
Glenn	Stan	Elected
Butler	Gisele	Elected
Pitts	Blake	Elected
Romero	Tabita	Elected
Halbig	Ed	Appointed
Hawk	Shana	Appointed
Plummer	Kristin	Appointed
Robinson	Denise	Appointed
Rosemond	Delane	Appointed
Summerville	Trixie	Appointed
McDowell	Darrell	Ex-officio, Principal
Smith	Melanie	Ex-officio, Teacher of the Year

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



Following a rigorous and very competitive application process, six Seneca Middle School eighth grade students were accepted to one of several South Carolina Governor's School of the Arts and Humanities Summer Programs. Each student will spend a week at the school in Greenville this June where they will participate in intensive work in their area of art. The six attendees and their area of art are: Luke Bleuel—Violin, Bella Winkler—Viola, Brandon Nixon—Cello, Kendall Willis—Creative Writing, Ruby "Sam" Prosser—Clarinet, and Keagan Hendrix—Creative Writing (not pictured).



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



Seneca Middle School

2018-2019 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

Dr. Darrell McDowell, Principal
Seneca Middle School
810 West South Fourth St.
Seneca, South Carolina 29678

864-886-4455
864-886-4452 (fax)

sms.oconee.k12.sc.us

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 Jesus de Luna Soto

We Bobcats Are...

- 856 students, 67 certified staff, and 50 support staff strong
- 303 6th graders, 264 7th graders, and 289 8th graders, 49% male and 51% female
- 62% Caucasian, 20% African American, 10% Hispanic, 1% Asian, 7% Other

Bobcat Curricular Targets for 2018-19

Seneca Middle School will continue to review, revise, and improve the School Improvement Plan. For the 2018-2019 school year, we have implemented the following:

Leveled Courses in all core content areas

In order to assist teachers in differentiating instruction and to provide more targeted instruction to the needs of our students, we have created grade level and advanced sections in all grades of math, English Language Arts, science, and social studies.

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. M, W, and F are dedicated to Student Selected Reading (SSR). Tuesdays are dedicated to character education lessons themed by month, i.e., *Honesty* in September, *Respect* in October, etc. Thursdays are devoted to bibliotherapy: teachers read aloud from grade level books that are based on character development.



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, Discovering Computer Science part 1(.5 unit), and Discovering Computer Science part 2(.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

Our band program saw 22 students make the Oconee All County Band, 5 students make the SCBDA Region 1 Honor Band, and 1 student make the SCBDA All State Band. Nine students participated with the high school marching band. Band received Superior with Distinction at SCBDA Concert Performance Assessment. Many students participated in Solo & Ensemble, with 9 groups earning Superior and 11 groups earning Excellent ratings. Our chorus program saw 38 students selected to the Oconee All-County Middle School Chorus. 27 of our choral students were selected for the 2018 SC All-State Honor Choir (2nd highest number in the state only trailing a magnet school for the arts). One student was selected for the National Middle School/Junior High Honor Choir. Honors Chorus received rating of Superior with Distinction at the SCMEA State Concert Performance Assessment. They also received the 2nd highest overall score in the state in the advanced division (highest division) again trailing only a magnet school for the arts. Honors Chorus received a Superior Rating and placed first in their division the Festivals of Music in Washington, DC. They were also the second highest scoring choirs of all choirs including high schools at this event. While in Washington, they also sang patriotic music at the World War II, Lincoln and Jefferson Memorials. Our orchestra program saw 18 students named to All-County Orchestra, 4 students named to All-Region Orchestra (including one named 1st chair violin), and 1 student named to All-State Orchestra. This student scored 2nd overall and was named assistant concertmaster. Honors Orchestra received Superior Rating at the SCMEA Orchestra Concert Performance Assessment and achieved the highest point total of all middle school orchestras. 12 students received Superior Ratings and 7 earned Excellent Ratings at Solo and Ensemble.