

## School Achievements

Pickens Middle is now a certified “Green Steps” school because of its involvement in South Carolina’s **Resource Conservation Challenge**.

Ms. Louise Hope, our Community Education teacher, has spent countless hours to help our school earn this designation.

Chase Crenshaw received \$50 for his 2<sup>nd</sup> place win in the 2014 Solicitor’s Anti-Drug Calendar poster contest.

Thomas McCoy-Bruce was named to the All-County Band in January.

All-County Orchestra members this year were Owen Watterson, Sarah Braudrick, Ciera Bodden, Hannah Hickey, Jaymee Morgan, Abby Nicholson, Katie & Cassie Dorr, and Andrew Key

Tyler Jackson (8<sup>th</sup> grade) won first place in the middle school division at the Pickens County Youth Arts competition in March.

Our boys’ glider team (sponsored by Dr. Alan Weekes) won first place in the county at Liberty High School’s competition in April. Team members were Erik Roach, Jonathan Jones, Brandon Moore, and Wesley Patterson.

Seven students were named Reading All-Stars by the Greenville Drive. This year’s top readers were Nikki King, Sarah Greer, Gabriel Dillingham, Cody Barwick, Noelle Williams, Chris Garcia, and Justin Kay.

The Festival Honor Band received straight SUPERIOR ratings in the sight-reading evaluation and straight EXCELLENT ratings in the concert evaluation. They received an overall rating of EXCELLENT!

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## Pickens Middle SIC Members

*Chair: Mr. Don Lundquist,  
Community/Former Parent*

*David Owens, Community*

*Frances Wannamaker, Community/Retired  
Teacher*

*Melissa Gilstrap-Crowe, Parent*

*John Jordan, Sr, Parent*

*Jan Spivey, Teacher*

*Al Hiott, Teacher*

*Ansley Trotter, Student*

*Bethany Walker, Student*

*Principal: Mr. Jeff Duncan  
jeffduncan@pickens.k12.sc.us*

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### Purpose of the Report

*“This Report is issued by the Pickens Middle School Improvement Council in accordance with South Carolina law to share information on the school’s progress in meeting various goals and objectives, the work of the SIC, and other accomplishments during the school year.”*

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## Pickens Middle School

### Annual School Improvement Council “Report to the Parents” 2013-14



140 Torch Lane  
Pickens, South Carolina 29671  
(864) 397-4100  
<http://pms.pickens.k12.sc.us>

*“From SPARKS of knowledge grow  
FLAMES of success.”*

## SIC Annual Goals

Identify areas of needs on the school campus regarding academic programs.

Provide information to the general public in regards to what is occurring on the Pickens Middle School campus.

Identify incentive programs that could support the academic programs of the school.

Meet regularly to stay informed of the changing educational landscape of the South Carolina and understand new changes related to the potential adoption of the Common Core State Standards

Be active and informed in order to assist the general public in understanding what educational trends are transpiring in South Carolina and the School District of Pickens County

## Student Achievement

Nearly 75% of our 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders were enrolled in high school credit courses last year. We intend to increase that number to 100% by next school year.

Pickens Middle received a score of 84.4 (B) on the ESEA federal accountability rating system for progress on our statewide assessments. This rating means that we **exceeded** the state's expectations for progress.

We have a student attendance rate of 95.8%.

100% of our teachers are highly qualified in their subject area.

Students passing Algebra I End-of-Course exam: 94.9%

Students passing English I End-of-Course exam: 97.5%

Our character development program was rated EXCELLENT on our 2013 S.C. School Report Card.

Our "Absolute" rating on our S.C. School Report Card for 2013 was **Average**.

For more information, you may view Pickens Middle's "S.C. School Report Card" for the previous school year online at [www.ed.sc.gov](http://www.ed.sc.gov).

## Additional Information

Our school currently serves 739 students from five feeder elementary schools; 55% of our students receive free or reduced lunch.

We offer a variety of classes and accommodations for our students with special academic and physical needs. Our main goal is to maximize the potential of *every* student, and we hope to achieve this with high expectations for academics and behavior.

We were fortunate to move into the new Pickens Middle (the renovated former Pickens High) in August 2013. Our new school has over 150,000 square feet, doubling our space and offering us a fine arts wing, a significantly larger cafeteria and gym, and plenty of room for growth in the future.

This transition included a new team of administrators with a renewed vision for the individual and collective success of our students. This success, however, can only come with the support of our parents. If you would like to get more involved at Pickens Middle, please contact the main office at 397-4100 and we will find opportunities for you to volunteer in our school.

We appreciate the opportunity to serve you and your children each day.