

What is SIC?

In South Carolina, a School Improvement Council is an advisory council to the principal and school on issues related to school improvement. By law, every K-12 public school in South Carolina must have an SIC that is made up of parent, teacher, student (grades 9-12), and community member representatives. The principal is an ex-officio member of every SIC. A SIC may create additional ex-officio positions such as the school's Teacher of the Year, PTA or PTO President, past SIC Chair, or a representative of the school's Title I Advisory Committee.

E.L. WRIGHT Middle School

School Improvement Council Report to the Parents 2024-2025

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SIC Membership

Elected

Chair - Anthony Bracy
Vice Chair - Chris Crimminger
Secretary - Stacy Cruz
Rania Jamison, Parent
Ms. Davis, Parent
Wendy Willingham, TLC
Monterria Farr, Teacher
Camille Sadava, Teacher

Appointed

Clair Van Den Berg, Community
Member
Brian Myers, Community
Member

Ex-Officio

Scott Floyd, Ex-Officio
Bryan Ashley, Ex-Officio



Wolf Pack Unity: Celebrating our Wins
and Supporting our Growth

ELW Guiding Principles:
Leadership, Exploration,
Determination



Accolades

- 23 Junior Scholars, 114 students tested, PSAT
 - Previous year - 10 Junior Scholars, 85 students tested
- LAW (Leadership Academy at Wright) awarded The National Merit Award of Excellence by Magnet Schools of America
- Reduction in Student Discipline Incidents and Actions
 - 1st Semester Data compared to previous school year
 - 41% reduction in Office Referrals
 - 21% reduction in OSS
 - 55% reduction in Ref. for Expulsions
- ELW Orchestra earned a Superior with Distinction CPA rating by the SC Music Educators Association
- ELW Band earned an Excellent rating by the SC Music Educators Association
- ELW Football earned Runner-up in the Richland Two Football Championship
- ELW Teacher of the Year - Jonnetta Jones
- H&R Block Rookie Teacher of the Month - Terrance Williams
- 41 Students, 12 teachers, and 12 support staff persons recognized as P.A.C.K. Wolves of the Week
- 10 teachers celebrated as ELW Tireless Teacher of the Month
- 4 classified staff members celebrated as ELW Stellar Support Staff of the Month
- 4 administrators celebrated as ELW Awesome Administrators of the Month



April's Tireless Teacher

Ms. Demetrice King

Ms. King is being recognized for her lifelong dedication in providing our students with the necessary math skills to be successful not only in Middle School but High School as well.

P.A.C.K. *Wolf of the Week*



JEKAI BROWN

6th Grade



MCKENZIE MORALES-MATHEWS

7th Grade



GRACE AMERHEIM

8th Grade



BETTY TILLMON

Certified Staff



REGINALD FAULKS

Classified Staff

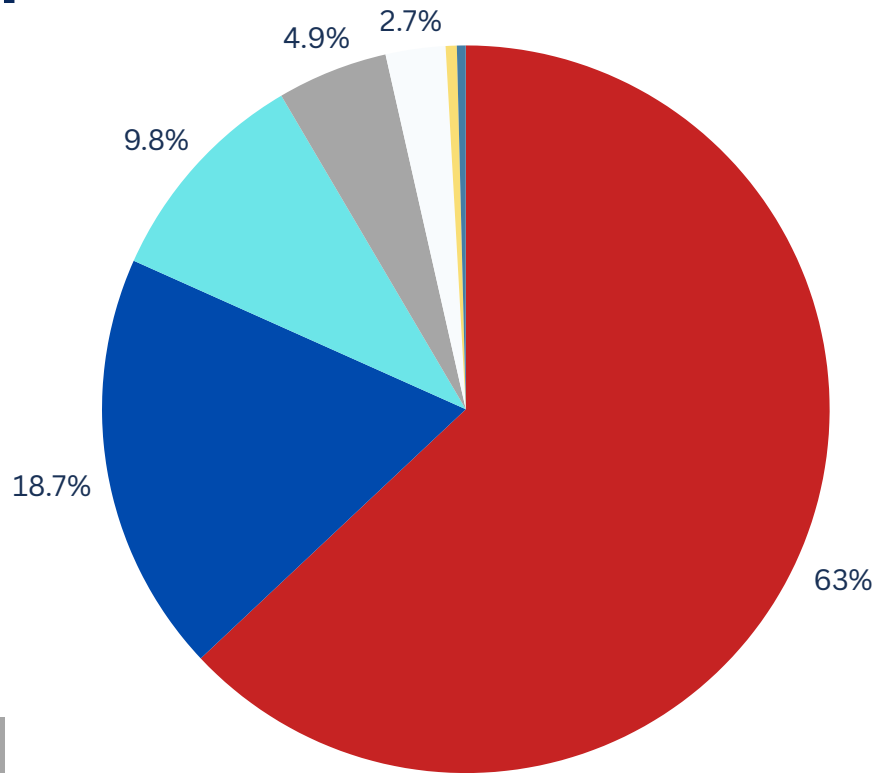


School Information

E. L. Wright Middle School serves Richland School District Two for grades 6-8 who live in Columbia, SC. Columbia is the capital city of South Carolina with approximately 143,000 residents. Our student enrollment is 1,028 and we have 104 professionals on staff. ELWMS is accredited by Cognia - SC Department of Education.

Demographics

1028 students enrolled
68% Pupils in Poverty



- Black or African American: 64%
- Hispanic/Latino: 19%
- White: 10%
- Two or More Races: 5%
- Asian: 2.7%
- American Indian or Alaska Native: .5 %
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander: .4 %

ELW 24-25 SIC Progress

The 2024-2025 school year at E.L. Wright Middle School has been marked by a variety of initiatives and improvements aimed at enhancing the educational experience for our students, fostering a stronger connection with the community, and creating a positive school environment. The School Improvement Council (SIC) is pleased to report on the progress we have made in key areas of focus this year, as well as our continued efforts to ensure academic and behavioral success for all students.



Focus Areas for Improvement

Improved Communication Between School and Community

One of the key areas of focus for the 2024-2025 school year was improving and increasing communication between the school and the broader community, including parents. The School Improvement Council recognized the importance of keeping parents informed and engaged in their child's education. To that end, we have implemented several strategies, including:

- Regular newsletters and updates via email, social media, and the school website.
- Increased use of parent-teacher conferences and family engagement events to provide an opportunity for direct communication between parents and staff.
- Enhanced digital communication tools for parents to track student progress and school activities.
- P.A.C.K. News weekly episodes for students and staff produced and performed by students!
-

These efforts have been designed to ensure that parents are not only informed but also actively involved in their child's academic and personal growth.

Celebrating Our Wins and Supporting Our Growth

This year, the school embraced the theme “Wolf Pack Unity; Celebrating Our Wins and Supporting Our Growth.” This theme reflects our belief that recognizing student achievements—big and small—creates an environment of positivity and motivation. It is also essential to acknowledge areas of growth and provide the necessary support for students to continue to improve. Key actions under this theme included:

- School-wide assemblies, pep rallies and spirit weeks to highlight academic, athletic, and extracurricular successes.
- A new Wolf Mascot for building school pride in athletics and academics
- A focus on creating a growth mindset culture, where students are encouraged to view challenges as opportunities for learning.
- Peer mentoring programs to support students' social-emotional development and academic growth.



By fostering a culture of celebration and growth, we aim to motivate all students to reach their highest potential.

Improvement in School Safety

Ensuring a safe learning environment for all students is a priority at E.L. Wright Middle School. This year, significant efforts were made to improve school safety, including:

- Increased presence of staff during transitions and at key areas of the school to monitor student movement and prevent any safety concerns.
- Implementation of a new visitor check-in system to ensure that all visitors are properly vetted before entering the school.
- Regular safety drills to ensure that students and staff are well-prepared for emergency situations.
- Safer pathways for students due to the completion of school building construction.

These measures, along with an emphasis on fostering positive relationships between students and staff, have contributed to an environment where students feel secure and supported.

Decrease in Student Discipline and Suspensions

One of the most significant areas of improvement this year has been a noticeable decrease in student discipline issues and suspensions. This positive trend reflects our proactive approach to behavioral management and intervention. Key actions that contributed to this decrease include:

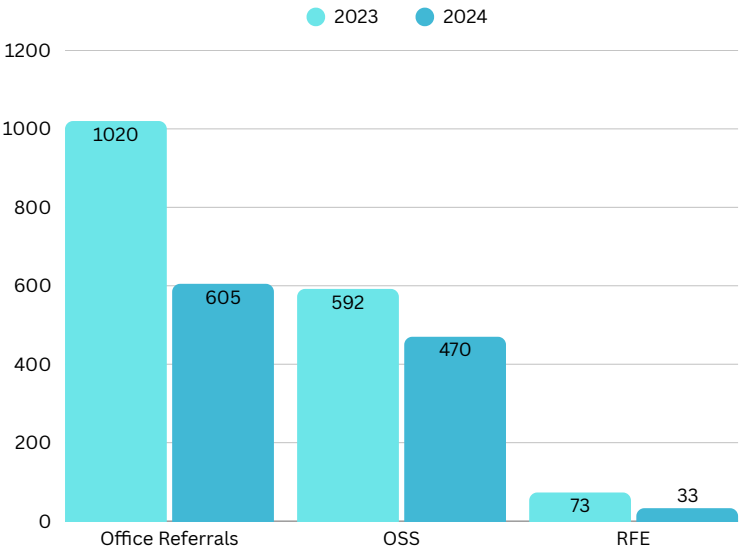
- The establishment of clear and consistent expectations for student behavior, emphasizing the importance of respect, responsibility, and accountability.
- A focus on restorative practices, where students are given opportunities to repair harm caused by their actions and to learn from their mistakes.
- The introduction of additional counseling services to support students' social-emotional needs and to address behavioral challenges early.

These efforts have contributed to a more positive school climate and a reduction in disciplinary issues, allowing students to focus more on learning and growth.

Comparison of 1st Semester

Percent Change (Incidents)

- Office Referrals-
 - 41% Reduction
- Out of School Suspensions-
 - 21% Reduction
- Referral For Expulsion-
 - 55% Reduction



Emphasis on P.A.C.K. Expectations

Our school-wide expectations for student behavior, known as P.A.C.K. (Prepared, Accountable, Cooperative, and Kind), have been central to creating a positive and productive learning environment.

Throughout the year, we have focused on reinforcing these values both in and out of the classroom. Key activities and initiatives to support the P.A.C.K. expectations include:

- Regular recognition of students who demonstrate the P.A.C.K. values, through awards, announcements, incentives and P.A.C.K. Parties for students with no discipline.
- Integration of these expectations into classroom lessons, school-wide initiatives, and extracurricular activities.
- Student leadership opportunities that promote these values through peer support, mentoring, and community service projects.

By consistently reinforcing P.A.C.K. expectations, we have created a culture of respect and cooperation, which has had a positive impact on both student behavior and academic performance.



Added Operational Structures Focused on Safety and Order

In addition to improving school safety and discipline, E.L. Wright Middle School has implemented new operational structures to ensure that safety and order are maintained throughout the school day. These structures include:

- More structured hallways and classroom transitions, ensuring that students move through the building in an orderly and efficient manner.
- Regular pop-up safety screenings
- Staggered and guided student transitions for arrival, between classes and during dismissal
- Clear guidelines for student behavior during lunch, recess, and other unstructured times to prevent conflicts and maintain a calm, respectful environment.
- Enhanced collaboration between staff members to monitor and address any issues related to safety and behavior quickly and effectively.
- These operational changes have helped create a more organized and secure environment, allowing both students and teachers to focus on teaching and learning.



6th Grade Town
Hall Meeting to
review data with
students.

Conclusion

The 2024-2025 school year at E.L. Wright Middle School has been a year of growth, celebration, and positive change. Through our focused efforts on communication, school safety, student behavior, and the reinforcement of our P.A.C.K. expectations, we have created a more supportive and thriving school community. While we celebrate the progress we have made, we remain committed to continuous improvement, ensuring that our students have the tools and support they need to succeed. The School Improvement Council looks forward to working together with parents, teachers, and the community to continue building a school environment that fosters academic excellence, emotional well-being, and personal growth.