



SPRINGFIELD MIDDLE SCHOOL

A Year in Review 2018-2019

This report, entitled "A Year In Review," was developed by the staff at Springfield Middle School in conjunction with our School Improvement Council. We are including goals for improvement, progress related to our goal, major events, honors, awards and challenges for our school. Our hope is that we keep our community informed about the challenges and successes of our school, students, parents and teachers for the current school year.



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GOALS FOR THE 2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR

1. We will prepare each student to have a chromebook for the 2019 - 2020 school year. Our goal is to provide instructional practices that will actively engage students, increase rigor, and provide opportunities for life applications.
 - A. The district technology department provided monthly training to our teachers related to best practices for the use of chromebooks as an instructional tool.
 - B. Our school technology committee met to discuss procedures and rules for student technology use in the classroom and our school. The committee also developed practices related to using the chromebooks as instructional tools in the classroom.
2. Teachers and administrators will participate in district-wide STEAM professional development.
 - A. STEAM Leaders presented information at staff meetings. STEAM strategies were taught that can be used by teachers in all classrooms.
 - B. Administrators were trained by a STEAM leader from Discovery Education on four days during the school year.
 - C. Teachers and administrators were engaged in technology training and strategies related to our one-to-one initiative with Discovery Education.
3. We will meet the social, emotional, and academic needs of all subgroups so that all students can be successful academically.
 - A. We utilized a report from PowerSchool or Enrich to identify daily those students who are falling below the threshold in attendance, grades, and discipline referrals.
 - B. We began an academic and mentoring program for our Hispanic population in their neighborhoods.
 - C. We discussed strategies with our staff to keep all students out of our In-School Suspension room and in the classroom.

Members of Springfield Middle School Improvement Council

- Thomas Stenhouse
SIC Chairperson/Parent
- Keith Griffin
Principal
- Christy Matkovich
Assistant Principal
- Jim Wilke
Assistant Principal
- Melissa Hampton
PTO President/Parent
- Theresa Fugazzi-Riga
Athletic Booster Club/ Parent
- Charity Revell
Student Body President
- Marcus Jackson
Student Body Vice-President
- Logan Hudak
Teacher
- Matthew Savage
Teacher
- Steven Ruth
Community Member/Parent
- Tara Miller
Parent
- Jamie Kissel
Parent
- Katherine Mills
Parent
- Astian Robinson
Parent
- Stephanie Couch
Parent
- Jamie Wosje
Parent

MAJOR EVENTS, HONORS, GROUPS AND AWARDS

SPRINGFIELD MIDDLE SCHOOL HAD AND IS CONTINUING TO HAVE A VERY SUCCESSFUL YEAR. MAJOR EVENTS, HONORS AND AWARDS ARE LISTED BELOW:

School Honors

- After applying and receiving a school visit from Schools to Watch, we received our re-designation from the National Forum on Middle Grades Reform (NFMGR). We had a school-wide STW celebration assembly and presented to the SC State Middle School Conference in March. We will present at the National Conference in June in Washington, DC.
- The Fort Mill School District and Springfield Middle School are nationally accredited by AdvancEd.
- Continued to be a Partner School with Winthrop University's NetSCOPE program. We help train future teachers through Winthrop internship.
- We had eight monthly Meet Me Mondays- This is a Career Speaker Series for eighth graders. Job shadowing for 8th grade was on November 9th.
- Seventh grade participated in district-wide career fair on April 5th.
- 8th graders job shadowed on November 3rd.
- Sixth grade students participated in STEAM Career Speaker Day on January 25th.

Fine Arts/Culture

- One All-State Band Member, 14 All Region Band Members (Two were selected as first chair for their instrument), 14 York County Band Honor Members (two were named best at their instrument).
- 53 students performed as a part of our 8th grade band at the 2019 Concert Performance Assessment. The group received an Excellent Rating while playing very difficult music.
- 8th grade band trip to Orlando- Participated in the Disney Performing Arts program at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida and received an award for their performance.
- Seventh grade band will perform in Carowinds Festival of Music on May 9th.
- Our honors choir (SOL) has 45 members this year. They had a show choir performance at Universal Studios in Orlando, performed for SMS during many assemblies for our student body, such as the Black History and Hispanic Heritage Assemblies.
- African American History program on February 22nd. Guest speaker was Mr. Darrell Grisby.
- Our culture club sponsored an assembly for many different cultures for our student body.

Student Achievement

- 20 eighth graders designated as Junior Scholars.
- 11 students qualified for the Duke TIP program
- A seventh grader qualified for the state geography bee.
- Our school is leading the way for Do The Right Thing nominations for the Town of Fort Mill.
- Fifteen students took part in Springfield Middle School's competitive robotics program. The students competed against other middle schools in our district. As of the this report, the Springfield Middle School team is undefeated and district champions.

Great work by all of our students!

Service

- The SMS Beta Clubs devoted many hours of community service and also solicited numerous donations from students and staff to give to charities.
- 8th Grade Beta Club service projects included a food drive in the fall.
- Both Beta Clubs and Student Council worked jointly to raise money for St. Jude in December, the school wide Haiti - penny - war, the Haiti school-wide "schooling-fish" fund raiser, and the school wide fundraiser in the fall to help raise money for hurricane victims in the Carolinas.
- 7th Grade Beta Club donated to our 8th grade to help fund the Charleston field trip and the Friday Club read to elementary students.
- Our school raised over \$8000 for Hope for Haiti. This will be matched by a donor. All funds will help build a new kindergarten classroom that was destroyed during a hurricane.

Athletics

- Our teams won one division or conference championship this school year and our athletes were champions of effort, desire, attitude, and sportsmanship. We congratulate them on a wonderful year in sports and competition.
- Our football team won the regular season conference championship.
- Our boys' track team won the conference track meet and therefore were conference champions.
- The dance team participated in the Fort Mill High School Dance Competition, the FMHS Winter Dance Concert, and the FM Christmas Parade.
- Our cheer squad was involve in many activities and in the FM Christmas parade.

Congratulation to all of our sports teams!

OUR CHALLENGES

CHALLENGES ARE AREAS OR CONCERNS THAT WE ARE WORKING TO RESOLVE SO THEY DO NOT BECOME PROBLEMS. WE LOOK AT THESE CHALLENGES AS HURDLES THAT WE MUST CROSS IN ORDER TO CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN THE INTEGRITY OF OUR INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM.

Growth will always be a major challenge for our school district. York County is among the fastest growing regions in the United States. We know that the quality of life in the Fort Mill/Tega Cay area and the school system will continue to attract people to our area. Presently, we have fewer students than ever in our school, but we could get students from other school attendance areas when those schools have a frozen enrollment in the future. This will cause us to grow rapidly.

Staffing needs are a huge concern. Teaming at the middle school level is important. The certification of teachers dictates how teams are configured. When we do not have a number of teachers on a grade level that is a multiple of four, we can have problems with certification. It does help that we have a number of teachers with multiple certifications in subject areas. The pool for available teachers is getting smaller each year.

We continue to have the most diverse group of students among the district's middle schools. We strive to find ways to meet the needs of our students. This is a challenge that we plan to meet. We want to provide our teachers with strategies and information about how best to meet the needs of our student body and the community.

Providing STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Math) activities in the classroom is a challenge that we are striving to accomplish through our partnership with Discovery Education. There is a FMSD four year plan and we are presently in the second year. Coaching and mentoring are provided by Discovery Education. We are in the process of providing each student with an innovative, personalized, and rigorous education that empowers all of our students to achieve their greatest success. Next school year, students will have their own personal chrome books during the school day. We currently have over 475 devices that are shared by our 630 students this past year. In this era of technology, it is imperative for all our students to have access to the technology required.

Inquiry-based instruction is a challenge. It is about activating a student's curiosity and triggering inquiry. This is not easy. It takes enthusiasm and creativity for teachers to develop an inquiry-based learning activity. We continue to look at ways to increase inquiry-based instruction in our classrooms through training and staff development.

The use of data and technology to improve instruction is an area we would like to improve. We need to be able to share data across the district so that we can analyze it at the school level and compare within the district, state, and nation. This will give us the ability to modify instruction based on what is yielding the best results. All teams of teachers are using a program called All In Learning. This program allows teachers to compare common assessments and it helps them grade faster. This results in more data discussion in our Professional Learning Communities.

Parent and community involvement is critical to our overall success. For example, we need to increase parent/guardian participation in our school surveys. During a recent eighth grade parent survey, we received only 50% parent participation. Our challenge is to help our parents and the community feel a part of our learning environment. We strive to hear as many outside voices and opinions as possible to continue to improve our school. We are communicating with parents through teacher, school, and principal email plus our monthly newsletter, website, phone calls, and our school sign. We are always open to suggestions for other ways of communicating with our students, parents, and community.