

2021-2022

Dutch Fork Middle School

Annual Report

SIC Members

Jessica Finney
(Chair)

Zee Williams
(Vice-Chair)

Kadenia Javis
(Secretary)

Yolanda Ross

Melissa Gary

Scott Johnson

Kelly Brown

Sharisse Lee

Kelly Thacker

Laura Atkinson

Grace McKlveen

Evan DeMasi

Armani Moses

Tara Safriet

Vernon Sava

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL & SIC CHAIR

Dear Parents/Guardians and Stakeholders,

This report is issued by the DFMS School Improvement Council in accordance with South Carolina law to share information on the school's progress in meeting various school goals, the work of the SIC, and other accomplishments throughout the school year.

Because of the support of our parents and the consistent hard work of our teachers and students, we continue to enjoy exemplary student achievement and local and state recognition in academics, arts, athletics, and extracurricular activities.

As a part of our planning process, we will continue to review district and school data to make good instructional decisions for groups of students as well as the individual child.

This year the DFMS SIC has been working on an "Anti-bullying" campaign alongside students in Multimedia and Drama classes, as well as with our Jr. Beta Club. This work of this campaign will be displayed throughout the month of May.

At DFMS, we understand that many variables are included in providing the very best learning environment for all students and look forward to working with our stakeholders to continue to do whatever is necessary to produce the best educational setting for all students on a daily basis.

Respectfully,

Mr. Vernon Sava

Jessica Finney

Initiatives and Strategies for School

- Continue the improvements towards the social and physical environment of the school.
- Expand the school-wide STEAM focus in 100% of our classrooms.
- Plan and deliver instruction that meets the individual needs of all students.
- Increase opportunities for parent and community involvement.

Fine Arts Highlights

- ◇ The 8th grade band received a score of Superior at our State Concert Performance Assessment. Five band students were chosen to participate in our Region 2 Honor Band. Both the 7th and 8th grade bands will be performing for judges at the Carowinds Festival of Music on May 5th.
- ◇ The Fine Arts Department will hold their Second Annual “Fine Arts Feature” in which our Visual Arts program will be highlighted with supporting performances by students, dancers, singers and musicians.
- ◇ Orchestra had 6 students that participated in Region Orchestra and 3 students that participated in All-State Orchestra.
- ◇ The 8th Grade Honors Chorus performed the National Anthem at all the home basketball games this year. They also sang the National Anthem for a USC Baseball game. 7th Grade Honors Chorus received an overall Excellent Rating at CPA. 8th Grade Honors received a Superior Rating at CPA. We attend the Solo/Ensemble Festival and received 5 Superior and 4 Excellent Ratings.
- ◇ The Dazzlers Dance Team represents a portion of our dance program at DFMS. This past season, the dance team placed in all the competitions they attended. The dance team competed at 2 competitions in the Jazz/Hip Hop Style. They brought home a 1st and 2nd place trophies.
- ◇ 8th Grade Honors Drama hosted the 1st Annual Costume Contest. Students were able to dress up, walk the runway, and even win prizes. They also performed “The Alibis” during STEAM Night. All members were responsible for the lighting, sound, costumes, and set design. 2nd period Drama students are working with Mrs. Dupree’s Multimedia class to put together the DFMS Anti-Bullying Campaign. They are writing and acting out original scripts that will serve as PSAs for DFMS.



“Shaping the future... Making connections”

Instructional Philosophy

The mission of Dutch Fork Middle School is to **S**trategically implement an engaging and challenging curriculum that will integrate **T**echnology while encouraging students to **E**ffectively communicate, critically think, collaborate, and be creative. By partnering with our community, students will be **A**ccountable for their learning as they are **M**entored to be successful contributors to a global society.

Academic Highlights

The following achievement data represents the percentage of students that scored “Met” and “Exceeds” on the SC Ready assessment, as well percentage of students that “Passed” the End of Course Exam in Algebra I.

2020-2021

	DFMS	STATE
SC READY - ELA	55.6%	42.2%
SC READY - MATH	43.3%	30.6%
End-of-Course Exam (EOC) — Algebra I	94.0%	N/A

School Highlights

Clubs, Organizations, and Athletics

- ◇ Both the C-Team Girls and Boys basketball teams made it to the PAC Championship games. The girls played Irmo, but lost in a very competitive game. The boys also played Irmo and won the Conference Championship for the second year in a row.
- ◇ The C-Team Football team finished 2nd in the Conference.
- ◇ C-Team Volleyball made it to the Semi Finals.
- ◇ C-Team Wrestling won the Conference Championship.
- ◇ In addition to participation in C-Team sports, we had many DFMS students who found success participating in high school sports such as: Cross Country, JV basketball, Lacrosse, Swimming, Tennis, JV and Varsity Cheerleading, Baseball, and Track.
- ◇ The Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) had a great year with our fall service project of filling shoeboxes for 29 children (as Part of Samaritan's Purse/Operation Christmas Child) highlighting our first semester. The club has also had student-led and guest speakers to share, held an egg hunt, fundraising nights at Freddie's, and hosted fellowship days once a month during our meeting time. Students have also worked on supporting Dutch Fork sports teams as a spring service project. The club has three teacher sponsors and is open to both 7th and 8th graders.
- ◇ DFMS Jr. Beta Club has 165 members. They have completed over 1000 hours of service so far this year, and we are still counting. Over the course of the year, we have served our school community by helping out with litter pick up, custodial duties after school, donating their time to help with adaptive dance classes, fundraised for the school PBIS store, and providing staff valentines. We have also served the community by providing lasagnas to Lasagna Love, donating items for Homeward Bound Pet Rescue. Making holiday cards for local nursing homes, creating a Little Free Library, and bringing in canned goods for various community shelters. In addition to the Beta Club sponsored events, our members have helped out their local churches and neighbors in a variety of ways. From babysitting to raking leaves, they are always looking for ways to serve others.
- ◇ Six students took the AMC 8 test and competed at the Chapter Level for MathCounts. We had a 7th grader place 3rd in that competition and advance to the SC State MathCounts competition.
- ◇ DFMS had several Science Fair Winners:
7th Grade-1st, 2nd & 3rd place winners and 1st, 2nd & 3rd place Honorable Mentions.
8th Grade-1st, 2nd & 3rd place winners and 1st, 2nd & 3rd place Honorable Mentions.
DFMS also had two students place in the District Fair.

2021-2022 Teacher and Support Employees of the Year

Keri Meredith and Celeste Creel



“Impacting young lives to embrace their full learning potential feeds the soul with purpose.”

Keri Meredith
2021-2022 Teacher of the Year

Mrs. Meredith is a graduate of Chapin High School and Clemson University. She is one of our Special Education teachers. She loves spending time with her family, especially her husband and two year old son. In her spare time, she likes to snowboard, ride on her boat and just being outdoors.



Celeste Creel
2021-2022 Support Employee of the Year

Mrs. Creel has been the Guidance Assistant at DFMS for 3 years. She enjoys spending time with her family, going to the beach and cheering for the Gamecocks.

** School District Five of Lexington and Richland Counties does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, or handicap in admission to, treatment in, or employment in its programs and activities. Inquiries should be directed to: Director of Human Resources for Title IX, and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Coordinator, at 476-8198 and the Director of Special Services and 504 Coordinator, at 476-8222 and at 1020 Dutch Fork Rd Ballentine, S.C. 29002. Individuals with disabilities who require assistance or special arrangements to participate in a program or activity sponsored by Dutch Fork Middle School should contact the principal at least 48 hours prior to the program or activity.