

Bluffton Middle School
School Improvement Council
Report to the Parents
April 2017



Ms. Pat Freda, Principal
Dr. Beth Bournias, Assistant Principal
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BLUFFTON MIDDLE SCHOOL VISION AND MISSION STATEMENT

VISION STATEMENT

We envision the Bluffton Middle School community working together to challenge every student to perform at an internationally competitive level in a learning environment that is safe, nurturing, and engaging.

MISSION STATEMENT

Bluffton Middle School seeks to promote a tradition of academic excellence through exploration and discovery, technology awareness, and rigorous student-centered learning. Teachers, as facilitators, inspire intellectual curiosity in an environment where students develop the ability to think, be responsible, respectful, and honest to achieve their role as effective citizens in our global society.

CORE BELIEFS

The vision and mission of Bluffton Middle School makes it imperative to implement the following objectives:

1. To provide a safe environment.
2. To provide academic excellence by incorporating researched-based effective practices and rigorous programs.
3. Through high expectations, develop in each student the ability to think, be responsible, respectful, and honest in order to positively impact academic achievement.
4. To encourage stewardship of the environment.
5. To stimulate each student's creativity and problem solving ability.
6. To encourage students to respect the attitudes, values, and culture of others as well as their own.
7. To provide students with experiences that promotes meaningful relationships, and the development of social problem-solving skills.
8. To develop a positive self-image and self-efficacy in students by providing them with individual acceptance, encouragement, and recognition when appropriate.

SCHOOL RENEWAL PLAN GOALS

GOAL 1: Purpose and Direction: Bluffton Middle School maintains and communicates a purpose and direction for continuous improvement that commits to high expectations for learning as well as shared values and beliefs about teaching and learning.

GOAL 2: Governance and Leadership: Bluffton Middle School operates under governance and leadership that promotes and supports student performance and system effectiveness.

GOAL 3: Teaching and Assessing for Student Learning: Bluffton Middle School's curriculum, instructional design and assessment practices guide and ensure teacher effectiveness and student learning across all grades and courses.

GOAL 4: Resources and Support Systems: Bluffton Middle School has resources and provides services that support its purpose and direction to ensure success for all students.

GOAL 5: Documenting & Using Results for Continuous Improvement: Bluffton Middle School implements a comprehensive assessment system that generates a range of data about student learning and system effectiveness and uses the results to guide continuous improvement.

THE MUSTANG PATH

The Mustang PATH provides a model for proper behavior that is based on the BLMS mascot, the Mustang. The Mustang Path includes four core behaviors essential to a student's development as a citizen. The four aspects of the Mustang Path are the following:

ResPonsibility
Academic Excellence
Respect
Honesty

OUR PLEDGE AGAINST BULLYING

The S.A.B.E. PLEDGE (STUDENTS AGAINST BULLYING EVERYWHERE)

As a commitment to having a safe school community, students and parents are asked to sign the Students Against Bullying Everywhere (SABE) pledge. As a school bonded together we work toward making our school environment "bully resistant" for all. Our pledge:

I pledge to help end bullying everywhere. I pledge to ask for help if I am ever faced with a situation where I feel taken advantage of or bullied. I pledge not to be a bully at home, at school, or in the community. I also pledge that if I see any type of bullying I will report it and/or try to help the people that are involved. I have read the pledge and understand it. This is my personal commitment to making my school and community a safe place.

POSITIVE BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTIONS & SUPPORTS (PBIS)

PBIS is an approach for assisting school personnel in adopting and organizing evidence-based behavioral interventions. The approach enhances academic and social behavior for all students. PBIS is not a packaged curriculum or scripted intervention. PBIS is a prevention-oriented way for school personnel to (a) organize evidence-based practices, (b) improve their implementation of those practices, and (c) maximize academic and social behavior outcomes for all students. At BLMS, effective classroom management and preventive school-wide discipline are essential for supporting teaching and learning. PBIS emphasizes that effective classroom management and school-wide discipline must be integrated and working together with effective academic instruction in a positive and safe school climate to maximize success for all students.



2017 DICK AND TUNKY RILEY AWARD FOR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL EXCELLENCE

As one of the ten finalists in the Dick and Tunky Riley Award for School Improvement Council Excellence in the 2015-2016, the newly reconfigured Bluffton Middle School SIC decided to reapply for the 2016-2017 school year. This decision was supported by the positive movement initiated by the SIC committee's efforts last year to increase student awareness, close the achievement gap, and increase parental involvement at Bluffton Middle School. Bluffton Middle School's School Improvement Council was one of five finalists at the State Level and received a Certificate of Recognition for Honor Roll status.

Building Enrollment & Capacity					
Capacity		16-17 Enrollment		% Capacity Usage	
1034		774		75%	
2016-2017 Demographics					
% White	% Hispanic or Latino	% Black or African American	% Asian	% Other	% Subsidized Meals
33.7%	48%	13.2%	.5%	4%	62.2%

REPORT CARD RATING

Bluffton Middle School's ESEA accountability rating remains a B indicating performance exceeds the state's expectations. Our School Report Card reflected an absolute rating of Good with a growth rating of Average.

STUDENT PERFORMANCE DATA

Students scored above district and state averages in 6th grade 2016 PASS Social Studies and Science and above the district and state averages in 7th grade 2016 PASS Science as well as the state average in 2016 PASS Social Studies. 6th and 7th grade students scored above the district and state averages in ELA and Math on the 2016 SC Ready assessment.

SC Ready – ELA Performance			
% Approaches / Meets / Exceeds			
2016-2017	State	District	BLMS
Grade 6	79.6%	81.0%	83.1%
Grade 7	76.2%	78.0%	81.2%

SC Ready – Math Performance			
% Approaches / Meets / Exceeds			
2016-2017	State	District	BLMS
Grade 6	74.2%	74.3%	79.4%
Grade 7	73.4%	76.9%	79.2%

SC PASS – Science Performance			
% Met and Above			
2016-2017	State	District	BLMS
Grade 6	62.1%	61.3%	65.5%
Grade 7	70.6%	72.1%	72.4%

SC PASS – Social Studies Performance			
% Met and Above			
2016-2017	State	District	BLMS
Grade 6	76.3%	75.1%	79.2%
Grade 7	68.4%	70.4%	68.7%

For more information, please visit our website at blms.beaufortschools.net
or contact our main office at 843-707-0700.

SCHOOL SPONSORED STUDENT ACTIVITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES

73 Duke Tip Student Candidates	Latino Town Hall	Rising 6 th Grade Transition Orientation
Advanced Studies Program	Like us on Facebook	River of Words
After School Tutoring Program	Live Morning News Show	Robotics Club
Art Club	March Madness Book Battle	Rubrics Cube Club
Athletics Teams	Math Assist	School Volunteers
6 th , 7 th and 8 th grade Awards Ceremonies	Mentor Program "Real Champions"	Scholastic Book Fair
Back Pack Buddies Fundraiser	Mustang of the Month	School Store
Black History Month Trivia Competition	Mustang Camp	Second Breakfast Food Carts
Bus Driver Breakfast	Mustang Messenger Newsletter	Student Council
Career Day	Mustang Pantry	Science Fair
Chess Club	Mustangs Run the Nation	South Carolina Junior Scholar Banquet
Choice School Fair	National Geographic Bee	Special Olympics
College Colors Day	National Junior Honor Society	Spirit Days
Countdown to Kindness by NJHS & Student Council	National Run at School Day	Sports Banquet
Dell Device 1 to 1 Student Initiative	Naviance	Summer Reading Program
District Student of the Month	Night of the Arts	Summer School
ESOL Parent Nights	Organizational Support Groups	String & Band Performances
Family Challenge	Open House	Student Dances
Fellowship of Christian Athletes	Outdoor Nature Trail "Mustang PATH"	Summer ESOL Enrichment Program
Follow us on Twitter	PATH time - RTI	System 44
Fundraising for Rogue Rescue	PBIS Incentive Days	Talent Show
Student Health Screening	Pink Out day – Cancer Research	Thanksgiving Luncheon
Heroes on Horseback	Pizza with the Principal	Vaccination Clinic for students
Honors Choir	Preventive Worksite Screening for staff	Veterans Day Assembly
Hour of Code	PTO Cookie Dough and Save Around Coupon Book Fundraisers	Vex Team Competitions
IXL	"Purple Up Day" – Month of the Military Child	Week in Review Videos
JROTC	Read 180	Yearbook

2016-2017 MUSTANG HIGHLIGHTS

- BLMS students meeting criteria submitted applications for the Bluffton Middle School Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society. The Induction Ceremony will be held on Wednesday, May 3.
- 1 to 1 Dell Device implementation for all students and teachers. Teachers and students continue to use devices as a tool to enhance learning in the classroom.
- 50 band students received an “Excellent” rating at the State Concert Performance Assessment and a “Superior” rating at the District Concert Performance Assessment
- 10 band students participated in District All-County Honors Band
- The BLMS Robotics team qualified for Create National Robotics Championship in Omaha, Nebraska.
- Band students participated in Solo and Ensemble contest with several “Excellent” ratings
- National Geographic Bee contestant qualified to compete at the state level.
- The school band performed at Six Flags Amusement Park in Atlanta, Georgia.
- BLMS Robotics competed at the SC VEX State Championship in Columbia, South Carolina.
- 5 Duke Tip Finalists – 5 received State Recognition
- Approximately 100 students participated in the BLMS Science Fair. Of those students, 39 went on to compete in the Sea Island Regional Science with three students placing in their categories, including a first place winner in the category of Physics. An additional five students received Honorable Mention in their categories.
- The BLMS Student Council sponsored service projects raising funds for Rogue Rescue Pet Sanctuary.
- 8 students contributed art and poetry in the district 2016 “River of Words” publication.
- BLMS teacher a recipient of Foundation for Educational Excellence grant
- “Rewards for Excellence Award” for our school newsletter, School of Choice pamphlet and School Webpage for our focus on school communication
- 164 BLMS student athletes participated in the first year of BLMS Mustang sports teams
- 6th grader field trip to Carowinds and 7th grade Kayaking trip. Mustang TV broadcast students visited WSAV television station in Savannah, Georgia.
- BLMS Ladies Tea sponsored by the Student Council and Mustang Leadership League
- BLMS School Improvement Council was one of five finalists for the 2017 Riley Award.
- 24 8th grade students qualified for SC Junior Scholars
- BLMS Chorus performed at the South Carolina Music Educators Association Choral Clinics and received Performance Awards.
- BLMS Chorus and Orchestra both participated in Beaufort All County events.
- 3 student winners in the “Nike Design your own Shoes” advertisement campaign

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

The Council meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. in the Media Center. Minutes are published and posted on the school website under the SIC link. The 2016-2017 members are as follows:

Pat Freda	Principal	843-707-0776	pat.freda@beaufort.k12.sc.us
Kathy Toney	Chairperson	843-815-6500	kathytony82@yahoo.com
Jennifer Banks	Vice Chairperson	843-384-8418	willisbanks@aol.com
Jackie Cofall	Secretary	843-683-4249	jacoline72@hotmail.com
Donna Floyd	Teacher	843-707-0722	donna.floyd@beaufort.k12.sc.us
Gina Jacobs	Teacher	843-707-0795	gina.jacobs@beaufort.k12.sc.us
Brenda Hunt	Parent	843-441-3087	Brenda.hunt@beaufort.k12.sc.us
Stephanie Sutay	Parent	843-384-3723	sutays@gmail.com
Nancy Klink	Community Member	843-681-8366	reknmk@hargray.com
Dr. Beth Bournias	Assistant Principal	843-707-0774	beth.bournias@beaufort.k12.sc.us
Steven Schidrich	Assistant Principal	843-707-0988	steven.schidrich@beaufort.k12.sc.us
Steven Jeffcoat	Community Member	843-540-5721	Swjbuild4u@aol.com
David Johnson	Community Member	843-263-5928	windtreedave@hargray.com

Generally, our SIC needs to annually elect two parents to serve a two-year term. Elections for 2017-2018 SIC members will be in the fall of 2017.

**Congratulations
Bluffton Middle School Mustangs
for a great 7th year!**