



**Timberwolves**  
Teamwork. Responsibility. Ambition, Integrity. Leadership

## Banks Trail Middle School

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# Banks Trail Middle School

*Together, Building a Tradition of Excellence.*



**With a motto of, “Together, Building a Tradition of Excellence,”** Banks Trail Middle School believes diversity is our strength. We've brought together many different backgrounds, talents, and ways of thinking to create one of the finest middle school environments imaginable.

Located in the Piedmont in Fort Mill, South Carolina, Banks Trail Middle School opened its classrooms to students in the fall of 2011. The school contains 126,000 square feet of space that accommodates our current enrollment of 750 students. There are 30 classrooms (100% of which are equipped with state-of-the-art Smart Boards), nine science labs, classrooms for fine arts and vocational education, and a gymnasium for special performances and assemblies. Our physical education and sports facilities include a gymnasium, a football/soccer stadium, a baseball field and batting cage, and four paved basketball courts.

It is our desire to create a school environment that will be enriched with academic, extracurricular, and community-based opportunities that equip all Banks Trail students

for their journey into high school and beyond. It is our responsibility to ensure that students have the knowledge, skills, and understanding to compete locally, nationally, and globally in all aspects of their lives. We sincerely believe middle school is a time when students are establishing the foundation for their successes in life through academic and social development and individual and societal awareness. We firmly believe these variables are cultivated by: classroom lessons that are rigorous, relevant, and engaging; extracurricular activities that enhance student learning and self-development; and community involvement, interaction, and service that make relevant connections to practical and educational experiences

In striving for that vision, our school has realized many

accomplishments (see page 5). BTMS students’ academic achievements have been well documented by an Excellent rating every year in both absolute and growth ratings on the State School Report Card. Students participate and excel in local, regional, and state competitions that represent all aspects of school life including academics, the arts, and athletics.

Though always proud to discuss our successes; the faculty, parents and students of Banks Trail Middle School realize that excellence is the *vision* and not the *destination*.

Working together, we continue to identify and set goals that must be attained in order to continue providing the best possible educational community.





## Banks Trail Middle School

*Teamwork, Responsibility, Ambition, Integrity, Leadership*

### Report to Parents 2017-2018

Dear Parents,

It is hard to believe that the end of the 2017-2018 school year has arrived. It was without a doubt another great year at The Trail! My initial impressions that I had of BTMS have been strengthened and solidified — this indeed is a place where “Together We Build a Tradition of Excellence.”

I am excited and honored to be part of your family’s journey through middle school. The faculty and staff of Banks Trail Middle School strive to provide the highest quality education possible to our students and over the years have developed an extraordinary reputation for success, as individuals and as a school community.

I have experienced first-hand why BTMS continues to lead the way in Fort Mill. The cooperation between parents, community members, staff, and students is the key to our success. As we look forward to the 2018-2019 school year, we will continue to improve in an effort to offer our students an even more exceptional learning environment.

Dr. William Pollard once said, "The arrogance of success is to think that what we did yesterday is good enough for tomorrow." I am extremely grateful for your tremendous support this year, and I look forward to working together to educate our children. I welcome your input as we strive to move BTMS forward. If you have ideas or suggestions, feel free to stop by the school or contact me.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael W. Peat". The signature is fluid and cursive.

*Principal*

**Banks Trail Middle School**



***Katelyn Elliott***

***BTMS Student Council President 2017-18***

“My years at the Trail have been unforgettable. I have made many new friends and created many new memories. The Trail has not only strengthened my leadership, but my integrity and ambition. These character traits will stay with me as I enter high school and continue to strengthen in the years to come.”

***Bradley Wagner***

***BTMS Teacher of the Year 2018-19***

“Work hard, have fun and show integrity” those are the words of our principal, Mr. Pratt. I love this phrase. It explains exactly what Timberwolves do. I have heard him say this many times to us, the staff and to the students. We do work hard, and we have fun doing it, but most of all we show integrity. Not only in the classroom but on the field, the court and every other place Timberwolves represent Banks Trail. Being a part of the trail means being a part of something bigger than yourself. It starts at the top and is modeled to everyone who encounters Banks Trail. We teach the students the TRAIL, and EVERYONE – administrators, teachers, support staff, and students – is held to those traits. When students move on from Banks Trail, they are not only ready academically, but also socially and mentally. We are the TRAIL.



***Montrio Belton***

***BTMS SIC Chair***

Banks Trail Middle School has as part of its mission that it strives to “empower students to make a positive impact on their world.” That spirit is embodied in the students and professionals that learn and labor in this school daily. It has been my distinct pleasure to serve as the Chairperson of the School Improvement Council for the 2017-2018 academic year. This position has given me a unique opportunity to hear and view firsthand the learning opportunities that are afforded our students. It was once said that, “education is the currency to upward mobility.” Undoubtedly, each student at Banks Trail is receiving daily deposits of the skills necessary for them to collaborate, communicate, and cooperate in this rapidly changing, interdependent, and interconnected world. As I transition off the School Improvement Council, I wish Banks Trail administrators, faculty, staff, and, most importantly, students well and a forever focus of “Building a Tradition of Excellence.”



***Marie DeMartino***

***PTO President***

“I love BTMS because my child’s teachers have been warm and nurturing as she transitions from Elementary to Middle School. The teachers, staff and administration truly feel like they want to be here each and every day helping our kids learn and grow in their education as young people.



My daughter enjoys her club time, PACK time and comes home talking about what she learns. To my husband and I that says a lot about BTMS.”





## Academic

- Gifted and Talented Classes in ELA, Math, Science, and Social Studies
- Daily Power Period time
- High School Credit Courses
  - English 1 Honors
  - Algebra1 Honors
- Related Arts Electives
  - Gateway to Technology (ITE) courses in:
    - Intro to Engineering, Design & Modeling, Orthopedics in Motion, and Automation & Robotics
  - Physical Education
- Spanish
- Computer Technology
- Family and Consumer Science
- Art, Theater Arts and Music
- Extra Help – before school, during lunch, and after school
- Special Education Classes (resource and inclusion)
- Six-period daily schedule
- Intervention/Enrichment time (Tuesday/Thursday)
- Smart Boards, which allow for interactive learning
- Multiple Computer Labs, Google Chromebook Carts, and iPad carts
- Media Center with 10,000+ volumes, one full-time certified librarian

## Enrichment

- Junior Beta Club
- Character Education Program
- Cultural & Performing Arts
  - Art Honor Society
  - Band
  - Chorus
  - Drama/ Dance
- A/ B Honor Roll program
- Academic Challenge Teams
- Science Olympiad Team
- MATHCOUNTS Team
- Service Learning
- Student Council
- Yearbook Staff
- The Howl – Student News Program
- Class field trips
  - 6th: Carowinds
  - 7th: Charleston, SC
  - 8th: Washington, DC
- Club Time (Monday and Wednesday)

## Athletics

- **Middle School Sports**
  - Football
  - Volleyball
  - Cheerleading
  - Basketball Boys and Girls
  - Soccer Boys and Girls
  - Baseball
  - Track Boys and Girls
- **High School Sports**
  - Cross Country Boys and Girls
  - Golf Boys and Girls
  - Swimming Boys and Girls
  - Softball
  - Wrestling

## Home School Connection

- Active School Improvement Council
- Awesome PTO
- Making Middle Grades Work
- Rising 5<sup>th</sup> graders Tour and Orientation
- Back-to-School Orientation
- Fine Arts Performances
- Faculty Websites
- Weekly Class Newsletters
- Community Service projects and events
- Staff Luncheons
- Staff Appreciation
- Box Top Fundraising
- Community Spirit Nights
- Volunteer Opportunities

**Our  
Mission**

*Banks Trail strives to provide educational experiences in and outside of the classroom which empower all students to make a positive impact on their world.*

## Accomplishments, Recognitions, & Awards

- Thirty students recognized as Junior Scholars.
- Twenty students enrolled in the Duke TiP program.
- Four students received State Recognition for the Duke TiP Program.
- Forty Seven Junior Beta Club members
- BTMS MATHCOUNTS Team competed in the Catawba Chapter Competition.
- Science Olympiad Team placed 5<sup>th</sup> in the state with individual students winning various awards.
- Sixth through Eighth Grade participated in Academic Challenge.
- Participated in the Optimist Essay Contest with a 1<sup>st</sup> place winner, Alyia S. (7<sup>th</sup>) and 3<sup>rd</sup> place win for Tatum P (7<sup>th</sup>)
- Nine students represented BTMS in Scripps National Spelling Bee District competition
- Kaylen P., an 8<sup>th</sup> Grader won the District Wide Spelling Bee Competition
- We had over approximately 150 8th grade students take the PSAT
- BTMS Band participation in Your Instrumental Workshop at Disney World, Orlando, FL and Choral participation in the Disney Performing Arts Series: Disney Sings, Orlando, FL.
- Two students attended the SC All-State Band Event.
- Twenty-eight students earned York County Band Honors.
- Twenty students represented in the All-Region Band.
- Twelve Band students participated in the Solo and Ensemble Festival.
- Winter and Spring Chorus and Band Performances.
- Chorus performances at the Foundation for Fort Mill Schools Chili Showdown, performance of the National Anthem at Charlotte Hornets Game and the Charlotte Knights Game.
- Hannah W.(8<sup>th</sup>), Haley T.(8<sup>th</sup>) and Colin M. (7<sup>th</sup>) were named All-Star performers at the MTI Broadway Junior Musical Theater Festival.
- BTMS Theatre Company performed at Broadway Jr. for the 5<sup>th</sup> year in a row.
- Thirty one active members in Junior Art Honor Society for BTMS.
- Five students participated in the Lions Club Peace Poster Contest. One student has gone on to compete at the Regional level.
- BTMS submitted seven pieces to the District Juried Art Exhibit taking home a 1<sup>st</sup> place for Sadie M. and a honorable mention for Giada E.
- Four BTMS students competed in the SCEA Read Across SC Poster Contest
- Twenty four students represented BTMS at the first FMSD Art Exhibit, where BTMS won a 1st place and honorable mention.
- Banks Trail Broadcast Club, “The Howl” participated in the National Student Television Network Conference and won 2nd place anchor team, 3rd place silent film & 3rd place short film.
- One BTMS Students was awarded a Do the Right Thing award from the Fort Mill Police Department.
- Banks Trail participated in a food drive collecting over 3000 pounds of food for families in need.
- BTMS Student Council raised over \$1500 for the Angel Tree gifts for the Fort Mill community.
- BTMS raised \$1500 for Hoops for Heart with a 3 on 3 basketball
- First annual Path to the Trail program for Rising 6<sup>th</sup> graders.
- Second annual Literacy Night with over 500 visitors, the Faces of Banks Trail and various classroom exhibits.
- Participated in Read Across America Day with over 50 special guest readers from BTMS and the Community.
- Attended the 7th grade career fair that took place in March, with over 55 businesses represented.
- Two Scholastic Book Fairs
- 2017 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys Football Team won FM Athletic Conference Championship
- 2017-2018 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls & Boys Basketball Teams won the FM Athletic Conference Championship
- 2018 Girls Track Team won the FM Athletic Conference Championship for the third year in a row.

## 2016-17 School Improvement Council Members

- Montrio Belton, SIC Chairperson
- Michael Pratt, Principal
- Trish Mumaw, Teacher Representative
- Melanie Kugler, Teacher Representative
- Gigi Frank, Teacher Representative
- Donald Elliott, Parent Representative
- Nikki Godfrey-Hill, Parent Representative
- Sara McCart, Parent Representative
- Kelly Wilson, Parent Representative

### School Improvement Council Purpose

Mandated by law, the SIC serves as an advisory group to the school. The SIC Brings together parents, school faculty, and community stakeholders to collectively establish, monitor, and evaluate specific long and short-range goals for students achievement. In addition, the SIC is a forum for parents, community members, and faculty members to share ideas and concerns about the school. Other functions of the SIC are to provide an annual school report to parents and the community and to increase parental awareness of and involvement in SIC initiatives. The BTMS SIC meets monthly. Updates and reports about the SIC are available on the school website.

### Athletic Booster Club Board Members

- Mindy Atkins, President
- Ashley Causey, Treasurer
- Kristen Privette
- Kelly Thomas
- Donna Jackley
- Ed Shelton

## Testing Data

### Science and Social Studies SC PASS Data:

The percentages below reflect students who have scored Exceeds and Meets Expectations in Science and scored Met or Exemplary in Social Studies for the year prior.

Grade	Science	Social Studies
6 <sup>th</sup>	<b>84.4%</b>	<b>96.5%</b>
7 <sup>th</sup>	<b>76.2%</b>	<b>76.2%</b>
8 <sup>th</sup>	<b>73.8%</b>	<b>73.8%</b>

### English and Math SC College & Career-Ready (SC READY) Assessment Data:

The percentages below reflect students who have scored Exceeds and Meets Expectations for the prior year.

Grade	English	Math
6 <sup>th</sup>	<b>70.7%</b>	<b>72.0%</b>
7 <sup>th</sup>	<b>62.5%</b>	<b>70.4%</b>
8 <sup>th</sup>	<b>65.4%</b>	<b>71.5%</b>

### English 1 and Algebra 1 End of Course Data:

English – 100% passing  
Algebra 1 – 97.7% passing

## Annual Report

Banks Trail Middle School and its School Improvement Council would like to share this Annual Summary Report with parents and community members who are interested in our school. The report provides information about our student academic achievement, school accomplishments, programs, and community service and involvement.