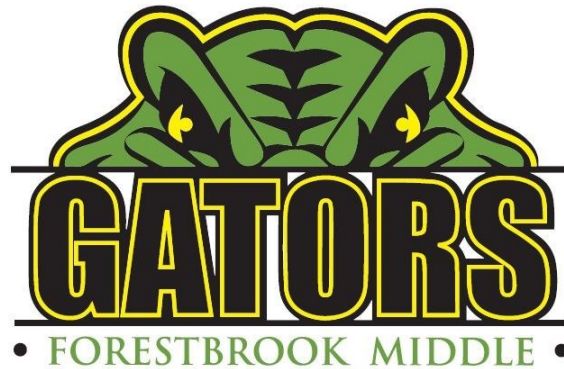


# Forestbrook Middle School 2021 School Summary Report



**2015 National Blue Ribbon School**  
**2014 Palmetto's Finest School**

## **School Mission**

*The Mission of Forestbrook Middle School, a nurturing family responsive to an evolving community, is to ensure that all learners are prepared for and committed to lifelong learning with integrity by challenging students with innovative curriculum, teaching with high expectations, and cultivating individual talents.*

## **School Improvement Council**

*Connie Rogers (PTO President and Socastee Advisory Board Member), Scott Barnes, Allie Sheets, Rebecca Cisler (SIC Chair), Faith Powalie (SIC Secretary), Robert Kegler, Amanda Pidgeon, Amanda Tenney, Sheila Stalvey, Chad Horsley, Gussie Simmons*

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**843-236-8065 (fax)**  
**[www.fm.horrycountyschools.net](http://www.fm.horrycountyschools.net)**



Dear Forestbrook Middle School Gator families:

It is our sincere pleasure to share this annual school report with our school community. Forestbrook Middle School has high expectations and standards for our students, and our staff takes great pride in providing a safe and secure learning environment, while at the same time offering a wide array of exciting and challenging academic programs. Each year we are filled with pride as we watch our students grow and learn and become responsible young adults. We are so fortunate to have a wonderful group of students at Forestbrook Middle School, and we continue to work in partnership with our families and community to ensure our students' success. We know that having your support is an essential part of our success, and we thank you for all that you have done to make our year so fulfilling and memorable despite the many challenges we have faced as a community with COVID-19.

At Forestbrook Middle School, we have a proud tradition of excellence that is associated with being a SC State Department of Education Palmetto Gold/Excellent Ranked School, Palmetto's Finest and National Blue Ribbon award winner. Academically our students have continued to perform at high levels in all areas. In addition, our students and faculty have continued to excel both in and out of the classroom. We have provided opportunities for student success beyond the classroom through our clubs and activities designed to enhance the middle school experience and to foster individual talents. This year we have continued to implement effective personalized learning with Google Chromebooks and have supported our students' social and emotional needs through implementation of the Second Step curriculum. In all aspects of our school, we embrace our motto of "Excellence, Every Day, Everywhere!"

Thank you for taking the time to read this annual report and to celebrate the accomplishments of our school and community. As always, we appreciate your support of Forestbrook Middle School.

Sincerely,

*Mrs. Melissa Rutenberg*  
Principal

*Mrs. Rebecca Cisler*  
School Improvement  
Council Chairperson



2020-21 FMS Administration

**Community and Parent Involvement**

- Free Food Distribution for Students Learning Virtually
- Backpack Buddies—Year-Round Food Distribution for Students
- Free Breakfast and Lunch for Brick-and-Mortar Students All Year
- Veterans Day Art and Writing Contests
- Family/Business Donations to School: Over \$20,000
- Charitable Fundraising and Donations:
  - FMS Angel Tree: Nearly \$1,200 in Donations Supported Students and Families
  - United Way: Donations via Staff Payroll Deductions
  - FMS Polar Plunge Team Raised Nearly \$3,000 for Special Olympics
- Socastee Attendance Area Advisory Board
- Bilingual School Correspondence
- School-to-Work Initiative—100% of 7th Graders Participated in Virtual Career Conference
- Featured on WBTW, WPDE, WMBF; and in *Sun News* and *Post and Courier*
- Parent Survey
- Parents' Nights for Sports Teams
- Virtual Back-to-School Night for Parents and Students to Meet Teachers
- Active and Supportive PTO and School Improvement Council
- WatchDOG Dads Parent Involvement Program



2020 Angel Tree Shopping



2021 Polar Plunge Team



# Celebrate With Us!



## Administration

Melissa Rutenberg, Principal—[mrutenberg001@horrycountyschools.net](mailto:mrutenberg001@horrycountyschools.net)  
Sylvester Carr, Assistant Principal—[scarr002@horrycountyschools.net](mailto:scarr002@horrycountyschools.net) • Erica Markunas, Assistant Principal—[emarkunas@horrycountyschools.net](mailto:emarkunas@horrycountyschools.net) • Jacqueline Anderson, Assistant Principal—[janderson003@horrycountyschools.net](mailto:janderson003@horrycountyschools.net) • Grayson Hancock, Instructional Coach—[ghancock@horrycountyschools.net](mailto:ghancock@horrycountyschools.net)

## Academic Awards and Other Honors

2015 National Blue Ribbon School  
Seven National Board-Certified Teachers and One National Board-Certified School Counselor  
Nationally Recognized BETA School  
Ten Junior Scholars  
One Student Won SC Council on the Holocaust Award for National History Day Exhibit on Nazi Book Burnings  
One Teacher Won SC Ingle Teacher of the Year Award for Junior Division  
Two Students Qualified at HCS Competition to Compete at South Carolina State History Day Competition  
Yearbook Named National Program of Excellence by Jostens  
Teachers Presented at a Variety of State and National Conferences  
Alpha/Beta Incentives  
Students of the Week Recognition

## Student Academic Activities

Black History Month—Writing and Art Contests and Displays  
English for Speakers of Other Languages Classes  
School-Sponsored Creative Writing and Art Contests  
Student Writing and Art Created and Displayed for Veterans Day  
Pi Day Events  
After-School Extended Learning, Credit Recovery, and Band Tutoring Programs  
LEAP Days Offered to Students in August  
Virtual Battle of the Books  
Two-Sentence Horror Story Contest

## Extracurricular Activities

Archery Team  
Basketball, Football, and Cheerleading Teams  
Active Participation in Socastee High School Sports  
Polar Plunge  
Spirit Week, Red Ribbon Week, Holiday Dress-Up Days and Charitable Giving  
Book Fair  
Virtual Talent Show  
Same Day, Different Pond Fishing Tournament

## Life Skills

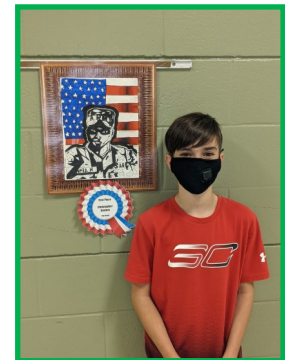
Guidance Department  
Red Ribbon Week Activities  
Drinking and Driving Curriculum  
HTC Reel Kids—Recognition for Students Excelling Despite Incredible Challenges  
Second Steps Social-Emotional Learning Curriculum

## Clubs

Book Club and MakerSpace Club  
Junior Beta  
Yearbook Staff  
Art Club  
Gator Anglers  
National Junior Art Honor Society



Same Day, Different Pond Virtual Fishing Tournament



Veterans Day Art and Writing Contest



Eighth Grade Chorus

## Visual and Performing Arts, Communications

FMS Music Programs are Nearly 200 Students Strong  
Five Students Qualified for All-State Chorus  
Ten Students Qualified for All-County Chorus  
Band and Art Students Participated in Outdoor "Amp Up Your Holidays" Event with Socastee Middle and High School  
Student Won 2nd place for Youth Art Month National Art Education Association Eastern Division Contest  
Student Won 1st Place for "Stop Domestic Violence" T-Shirt Design Contest  
Student Artists Designed FMS Yearbook Cover, Title Page, and End Page  
Sixteen Students Inducted into National Junior Art Honor Society

Art Students Participated in Art for Hope Fundraiser for New Directions Homeless Shelters at Miller Studios and Gallery in Myrtle Beach  
Gator Marquee Provided by Student Council and PTO  
FMS/FES Signs Provided by Hunters Ridge Subdivision  
Sound System for School Provided by PTO  
Hallway Video Monitors Display Student Activity Photos, Awards, Alpha/Beta Status  
Blackboard/Parent Link System  
Daily Parent Newsletter via Email, HCS TV-12  
FMS Web Page, Facebook Page, Instagram, and Blog  
Gator Guides, Career Ambassadors, and Greeters