



Timberwolves
Teamwork. Responsibility. Ambition, Integrity. Leadership

Banks Trail Middle School
861 Fort Mill Parkway
Fort Mill, SC 29715
803-578-2990
<https://www.fortmillschools.org/BTMS>

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 approximately 485 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 turf 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 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 2023-2024

Dear Parents,

Our focus at Banks Trail Middle School is to provide all students with the highest quality instruction and to develop the skills and career characteristics needed to be successful in the 21st Century. Our school's reputation of excellence and the Timberwolf traditions have been a part of the Fort Mill community for over thirteen years. Our goal is to raise the academic achievement of all of our students through inquiry-based learning, literacy strategies that span across content areas, and in connecting curriculum to real-world applications.

We continue to implement new instructional strategies to impact each student's individual learning styles and needs. Banks Trail teachers participate in professional learning opportunities throughout the school year. These sessions are developed based on student test data, observational data, student needs, and the goals of our school. We continue to include research-based instructional practices, parent communication, data analysis, and technology integration. Through funding provided by our district, we will continue to offer one-to-one technology for our students and fully integrate technology into our curriculum and instructional programming.

Banks Trail Middle School strives for excellence in the arts, athletics, and academics. We offer students the opportunity to take band, art, chorus, and drama. We offer Gateway to Technology courses and computer science classes that help prepare students for possible STEAM based majors and career paths. Athletic opportunities at the middle school level include football, volleyball, cheerleading, basketball, soccer, track and field, and baseball. Additional athletic options for 7th and 8th grade students are offered through our local high schools. We take great pride in delivering world class instruction through high quality teaching, a wealth of academic resources, and the positive student and teacher connections that the Fort Mill School District is known for.

Banks Trail follows a model of high expectations and continuous improvement as we strive to be on the cutting edge of student engagement and achievement. We make every effort to provide an educational environment in which all students have the opportunity to inspire, motivate, and live the "TRAIL" (**T**eamwork, **R**esponsibility, **A**mbition, **I**ntegrity and **L**eadership) during the middle school years and beyond. We strive for our students to be globally prepared for the challenges of the 21st Century and for them to be caring people who help create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding, cooperation, and respect.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Pyrc". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Marc Pyrc
Principal

Banks Trail Middle School

Ashley Donovan
BTMS Teacher of the Year 2024 - 25



"I am truly honored and humbled to be selected as the 2024 - 2025 Teacher of the Year for Banks Trail Middle School. Banks Trail has felt like home since I walked in the doors last fall. The supportive administration, the exceptional students and families, and the inspiring colleagues I am privileged to interact with on a daily basis ensure all members of BTMS walk the TRAIL daily. I look forward to continuing to work with such an amazing school community, to build positive relationships with everyone at Banks Trail, and support every incredible student who walks through the gym doors."



Melissa Hall
PTO President

My name is Melissa Hall and I have 2 kids in the FMSD. When my oldest started at Banks Trail Middle School last year, I thought it might be a good idea to get involved at the school since this was my first experience with having a middle schooler and wasn't quite sure what to expect! I reached out to a friend who was on the PTO Board at the time to find out what the PTO was all about. She assured me being on the PTO wasn't as scary as I had in my head so I decided to give it a try! I'm so glad I did, as it has allowed me to be a part of helping our students through these middle school years in a variety of ways. I hope the BTMS PTO contributions have also made the work lives of our teachers and staff just a little better too :). I'm now in my second year on the Board and hope to continue to be able to give whatever I can to our wonderful school for years to come. I am grateful to be a part of the BTMS Timberwolf community!

Kelsey Linner
BTMS SIC Chairperson



"I have been a proud Timberwolf teacher for 5 years and had the privilege to be selected as our Teacher of the Year for the 2022-2023 school year. Through my involvement in the SIC committee, I've witnessed the remarkable collaboration among our administration, faculty, staff, and parents to create a supportive and engaging learning environment that prepares students for success in school and beyond. It has been an honor to serve as the Chairperson of the School Improvement Council. I encourage all parents to have a role in fostering positive change and growth within this amazing BTMS community!"



Maddie Anderson
Student Council President 2023 - 24

"I feel so honored to have been the student council President this past year for BTMS. I am so thankful for all the opportunities I have been dealt with here at Banks Trail. Being the President of our Student Council definitely came with its challenges but being able to work with my awesome teachers and fellow students made it a breeze! Having the chance to be the Leader of our Pack was amazing. I am so excited to see what the future has in store for our Pack and the next Student Council President."

Academic

- Gifted and Talented Classes in ELA and Math
- Daily FLEX time
- High School Credit Courses
 - English 1 Honors
 - Algebra 1 Honors
- Timberwolf Time – Math and ELA intervention twice a week
- Extra Help – During lunch and FLEX periods
- Tutoring – Twice a Week After School
- Small Group Literacy & Math Instruction as needed
- Special Education Classes (Resource and Inclusion)
- ESOL Support
- Six-period daily schedule
- STAR Testing three times a year
- APEX Days for enrichment of teaching staff
- Related Arts Electives
 - Gateway to Technology (ITE) courses in:
 - Flight and Space
 - Design and Modeling
 - Automation and Robotics
 - Physical Education
 - Computer Technology
 - Family and Consumer Science
 - Spanish
 - Art
 - Theater Arts
 - Music
- Media Center with 10,000+ volumes, one full-time certified Librarian

Enrichment

- Junior Beta Club
- Character Education Program
- Cultural & Performing Arts
 - Band & Chorus
 - Drama/ Dance
- A and A/B Honor Roll Program
- Digital Citizenship Program
- TRAIL Ticket Incentive Program
- Academic Challenge Team
- Battle of the Books Team
- Service Learning
- Student Council
- Yearbook Staff
- Class field trips
 - 6th: Camp Thunderbird
 - 7th: US National Whitewater Center and attend a performance of “The Giver”
 - 8th: Washington, D.C.
- Related Arts Enrichment Field Trips
- Club Time
- Spirit Weeks, Pep Rallies, Purple Outs & School wide dances
- Career Development
 - 6th: In-House Career Day
 - 7th: Career Fair
 - 8th: Job Shadow Day

Athletics

- **Middle School Sports**
 - Football
 - Volleyball
 - Cheerleading
 - Dance Team
 - 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
 - Tennis Boys and Girls

Home School Connection

- School Improvement Council
- Awesome PTO
- Rising 6th Grade Tour and Orientation
- Rising 9th Grade HS Tours
- Back-to-School Orientation
- Path to the TRAIL
- Weekly Class Newsletters
- Band & Chorus Performances
- Monthly Cultural Activities
- Community Service projects and events
- Staff Appreciation
- Community Spirit Nights
- Volunteer Opportunities



Accomplishments, Recognitions, & Awards

- Thirty-two students inducted into Junior Beta Club
- Fifteen students recognized as Junior Scholars
- Ninety 8th grade students took the PSAT
- Fourteen 6th, 7th and 8th Grade students competed on the Academic Challenge team. They finished 3rd in the OEC small school division and 3rd overall in the regular season.
- Participated in a County wide Battle of the Books competition. BTMS took sixth place in the Fort Mill School District.
- Fifth annual SC Junior Book Award Pizza Party held for students and staff that read at least five 2023–2024 Summer Reading books
- Nineteen students participated in the county wide Read-In
- School wide Spelling Bee. Tanishqa G. won and went on to represent BTMS at the Regional Competition
- BTMS production of The Wizard of Oz Jr. was held in the Spring at Catawba Ridge High School
- Theatre students attended the Broadway Jr. Celebration in Charlotte. Students performed “Jitterbug” from The Wizard of Oz for a panel of judges. Charlie W. and Norah F. were selected by the judges as All Star performers and were given an award.
- Honors Theatre attended the Performing Arts Disney trip and participated in a cast led workshop.
- 8th grade Band and Chorus trip to Disney World.
- Both the Beginning band and Advanced band students received a Superior rating at Concert Performance Assessment
- BTMS students represented our school in the All-Region Band.
- Several students have participated in the Catawba Ridge High School Marching Band
- Attending the Carowinds Festival of Music
- Addison G. received a Superior rating at the Solo and Ensemble competition.
- 8th Grade Art Honors participated in the annual Disney Field Trip and attended the Technology Workshop for Disney Imation Campus
- 8th Grade art students created the wolf mural in the gym.
- 7th Grade art students created the words beside the wolf mural in the gym.
- Art students created signs around the school for various events and created multiple props for the Wizard of Oz Production
- Student council made posters for PTO events, helped promote PTO fundraisers, led recycling efforts around the school and wrote inspiring thank you notes for staff. Some members served as teacher helpers. Some of the funds raised by Student Council are going towards supplying a class set of gloves to the new school garden.
- Through donations from Banks Trail Families, BTMS provided 12 complete Thanksgiving meals to our families in need and were able to help 26 families during the winter holidays.
- Mr. Shannon Brown, the Church Plant Pastor at River Rock Community Church (formerly Indian Land Community Church) has partnered with BTMS to help support our Back-pack Program, any student/family with financial needs and also the staff appreciation efforts.
- Path to the Trail program for Rising 6th graders will be held during the month of July
- The Sixth grade held an in-house Career speaker event. Various careers were represented throughout the morning.
- All 7th graders participated in the FMSD Middle School Career Fair. The Fair consisted of community members that represented over 50 various careers and jobs. Displays were set up by participants where students were able to ask questions and get information about careers and jobs that they found interesting. Prior to the Fair, students completed Career Interest Inventories that helped them identify various career clusters that aligned to their interests. Students also learned about and were able to practice soft skills needed when interacting with potential employers.
- Eighth grade participated in Job Shadow day. They were able to choose to either learn about the Military from JROTC at Catawba Ridge High School or job shadow a professional of their choice for the day.
- One Scholastic Book Fair
- This I Believe Celebration for 7th Grade
- 8th Grade Celebration week before 8th Grade Promotion Ceremony
- Students participated in an Annual Dodgeball Tournament and a 3 v 3 Basketball Tournament to raise money for the Athletic Booster Club.
- BTMS became a Unified Champion School this year. The students received a lesson on unity and inclusion and came up with ideas for ways our community could be more inclusive.
- Inclusion classes participated in the Special Olympics
- PTO Booster Bash Fundraiser and Silent Disco

2023-24 School Improvement Council Members

- Marc Pyrc, Principal
- Stephanie Cost, Community Representative
- Tabatha Astacio-Arce, Teacher Representative
- Kelsey Linner, Teacher Representative
- Chelsea Beauchamp, Parent Representative
- Katie Conroy, Parent Representative
- Kate Haynes, Parent Representative
- Chris Moody, Parent Representative
- Kirk Ogden, Parent Representative
- Jacob Poulsen, 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 student's 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

- Andrew Reynolds, President
- Jane Mosher, Treasurer
- Shannon Edwards, Concessions Coordinator

Testing Data 2023 Results

Science SC PASS Data:

The percentage below reflects students who have scored Exceeds and Meets Expectations in Science for the prior year. Only 6th grade took the Science SC PASS test.

Grade	Science
6 th	68.3%

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 th	79.9%	68.3%
7 th	72.3%	42.4%
8 th	63.3%	47%

Algebra 1 End of Course Data:

Algebra 1 – 100% 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.