

Beaufort Middle School
2023-2024
Annual School Improvement Council
Report to Parents



Dr. Elandee Thompson, Principal
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Established 2001

#OntheRise

Beaufort Middle School Mission, Vision, and Goals

Mission

The mission of Beaufort Middle School is to guide, prepare, and engage learners to succeed academically, artistically, and technologically for the future they create.

Vision

We will prepare our passionate and diverse learners for success in an ever-changing global society.

BCSD Goals

- **Goal #1: Purpose and Direction:** *Beaufort County School District maintains and communicates at all levels of the organization a purpose and direction for continuous improvement that commit to high expectations for learning as well as shared values and beliefs about teaching and learning.*
- **Goal #2: Resources and Support Systems:** *Beaufort County School District has resources and provides services in all schools that support its purpose and direction to ensure success for all students.*
- **Goal #3: Teaching and Assessing for Student Learning:** *Beaufort County School District's curriculum, instructional design and assessment practices guide and ensure teacher effectiveness and student learning across all grades and courses.*
- **Goal #4: Documenting & Using Results for Continuous Improvement:** *Beaufort County School District 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.*
- **Goal #5: Governance and Leadership:** *Beaufort County School District operates under governance and leadership that promote and support student performance and system effectiveness.*

Beaufort County School District Mission, Vision, and Goals

Mission

The Beaufort County School District, through a personalized learning approach, will prepare graduates who compete and succeed in an ever-changing global society and career marketplace.

Vision

We will work with families and our diverse community to ensure that students perform at an internationally competitive level in a learning environment that is safe, nurturing and engaging.

Core Beliefs

We believe:

- Every student can learn using his or her valuable and unique talents and skills.
- Learning takes place when the physical, emotional, social and intellectual well-being of all students is assured at every level and during every transition.
- High expectations of the school community positively impact student success.
- Early childhood learning experiences form the foundation of future school success.
- Students learn best when they are engaged and provided with opportunities for problem solving and active participation.
- All students are entitled to learning experiences so that they can become competent and confident in the skills and knowledge needed to become successful and productive citizens.
- Investment, involvement and connection of all members of the school community are essential to a student's success.
- Frequent informal and formal assessment aligned to clearly defined learning objectives will provide improved student achievement.
- The collection, analysis and use of data from a variety of sources are critical to making decisions.
- Students should be prepared to compete and contribute in a changing global and multilingual society.

School Improvement Council (SIC)

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

Elected Members:

Christine Barr - Parent
Shelisa Benson - Parent (**SIC Vice Chair**)
Aaron Bliley - Parent
Melissa Bliley - Parent
Roxanne Davis-Cote - Parent (**SIC Secretary**)
Marcus Dupree - Parent (**SIC Chair**)
Amanda Gelles - Teacher
Scott Lopatka - Teacher
Andrea Murray - Parent
Tracy Sands - Teacher
Amanda Trimpey - Teacher

Appointed Members:

Timothy Donaldson - Community Member
Roger Jaklin - Community Member
Will Myers - Community Member
Gale Parker - Community Member
Amanda Snead - Community Member
Amy Trask - Community Member

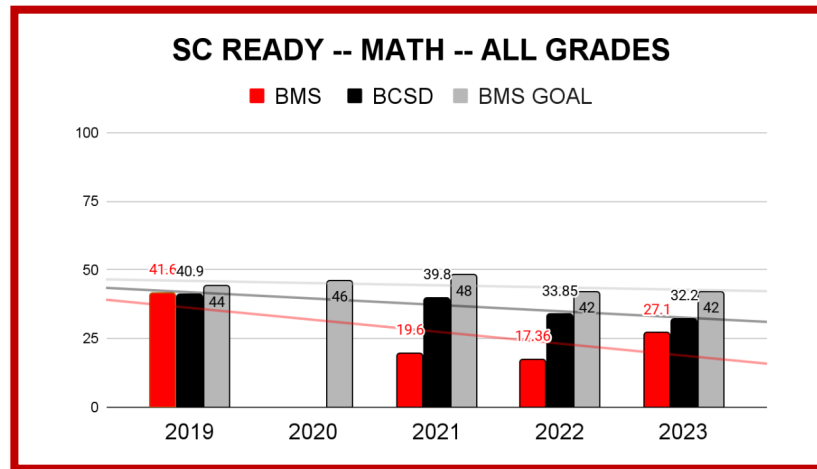
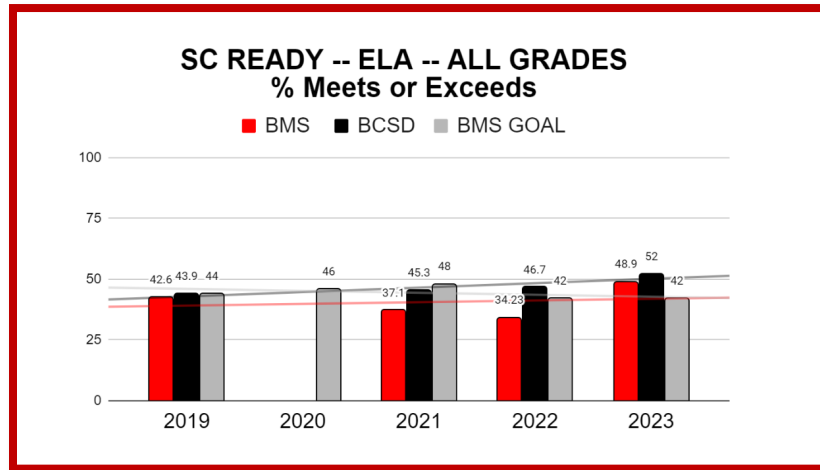
Ex-Officio Members:

Elandee "Dee Dee" Thompson, Principal
Yolanda Goethe, Assistant Principal
Willard "Ryan" Smith, Assistant Principal
Amy Edwards, Teacher of the Year

Points of Pride...

- Beaufort Middle School is proud to be the first school in BCSD to bring back the AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) program.
- One Beaufort Middle School student was chosen as “Student of the Month” at the district level this year.
- One of our 8th-grade students were recognized as a South Carolina Junior Scholar.
- Three of our faculty members were selected to participate in the AWAKE-STEM initiative. Through this grant, Ms. Felix, Ms. Hiner, and Ms. Reynolds have completed graduate coursework on Problem-based learning and career development and have used that knowledge to design and implement STEM-based PBL modules in our classrooms!
- Ms. Hiner, Ms. Trask and Dr. Thompson all received community grants this year to focus on school renewal and academic initiatives! Ms. Hiner received \$950 from Tanger Outlets to renovate the BMS Courtyard; Ms. Trask (\$405) and Dr. Thompson’s (\$4000) grants were awarded through the Foundation for Educational Excellence. Ms. Trask’s project, Coding with Microbits, supports our MakerSpace lab. Dr. Thompson’s project, BMS Campus-scape Renovation, seeks to revitalize the BMS Gardens.
- Two Gryphons represented Beaufort Middle School during the Regional Science Fair. 8th Grader Ryder Sutton won 1st Place in the Junior 2 Division for Behavioral and Social Sciences. 7th Grade student Gabriel Seronka was selected as a nominee for the Thermo Fischer Juniors Innovations Challenge to compete nationally for a grand prize of \$25,000.
- 6th Grade student Nasir Dore competed and qualified to participate in the National Incubate Debate Tournament in Florida. BMS is one of only a few schools with an Incubate Debate team, and our district is the only district hosting Incubate outside of the state of Florida. Nasir is one of the eight students who qualified for Nationals during this event. He debated, and was victorious against, students from grade levels 6-12 to qualify.

Making Progress...



Our SIC in Focus...

Goals:

- ◇ Hold consistent monthly meetings
- ◇ Celebrate student achievements
- ◇ Expand connections with the community
- ◇ Encourage an all-inclusive school environment
- ◇ Improve safety at school
- ◇ Work with all stakeholders to accomplish goals with fidelity.

Accomplishments:

- ◇ Worked with Arts Steering Committee to achieve Arts in the Basic Curriculum Recertification!
- ◇ Worked with SRO and school officials to address safety issues and concerns surrounding student arrival and dismissal.
- ◇ Worked with district and community officials to ensure that a cohesive safety and crisis plan exists for Beaufort Middle School
- ◇ Monitored school programs to ensure alignment with school mission and vision.

Shining in the Arts...

- Our school received a Distinguished Arts Program grant, ABC Learning Loss funding, and achieved recertification and funding as an Arts in the Basic Curriculum School! In addition, BMS received an award of \$1600 from the HHI Jr. Jazz Foundation Grant.
- In October we held our Second Annual Scream for STREAM community event, which showcased the arts, STEM, and literacy! We welcomed over 1,100 people from our community.
- Our combined Band/Orchestra ensemble was invited to and performed at the SC Statehouse for Arts Advocacy day on February 15th, 2024. Our Gryphons were honored to meet and be pictured with Representative Shannon Erickson.
- Our Band and Orchestra participated in the Six Flags Southern Star Music Festival in April, performing for a panel of judges. Our Gryphon Symphony brought home a trophy and a Silver Rating!
- Four students were accepted into summer programs at the SC Governor's School for Arts & Humanities!
- We continue to have a significant number of students identified as Artistically Gifted/Talented. 45 BMS students are currently identified and served!
- Fifteen students were accepted into All County Honor Band. Two students were accepted into the Region 4 Honor Band.

Shining in the Arts...

- Students in Art 1 got to take part in a community art show called, “The Year of Jubilee” for the Penn Center. Students were given a prompt regarding what “The Year of Jubilee” means to them after a lesson on how it affected African Americans in Beaufort when the emancipation proclamation was created. Seventeen students got to participate and entered ten artworks which are going to be displayed in their gallery!
- We again hosted Electrify Your Symphony, an event during which 162 band and orchestra students from our district earn from and play in concert with violinist Mark Wood of the Transiberian Orchestra and famed trombonist Dr. Javier Stuppard! This effort was funded in partnership with Fripp Island Friends of Music.
- Directed by Ms. Barr, our Gryphons performed the musical *Legally Blonde, Jr.*! The auditioned cast was comprised of students in from all grade levels.
- Art students at BMS explored the ecology of the Lowcountry through multimedia artworks focused on a plant or animal of their choice that is native to the Lowcountry. Students got to have a collaborative lesson with ELA in order to create poems to embody their plant or animal. We had eight students published in the district’s into the River of Words anthology! Seven of these students were selected not only for their artwork, but also for their poetry submissions! BMS students featured in this year’s publication include: Zalayah James, Natale Cherami, Brandon Cruz, Haydee (Savannah) Salazar-Myersc, Jhayla Ilaire, Chloe Hampton, Olivia Smith, and Juliet Pieczonka.

Athletic Spotlight...

The Beaufort Middle School Athletic Department believes that students, who participate in extracurricular activities at their school, including athletics, benefit from their participation in numerous ways. The goals of Beaufort Middle School, in encouraging participation in extracurricular activities, are to:

- Promote a sense of accomplishment;
- Provide leadership opportunities;
- Promote good sportsmanship;
- Encourage self-discipline and individual responsibility;
- Encourage cooperation and concepts of team building; and
- Provide healthy outlets for competition and physical fitness.

Beaufort Middle School is proud to provide the following sports to our students:

- Football
- Volleyball
- Boys' Basketball
- Girls' Basketball
- Wrestling
- Boys' Soccer
- Girls Soccer
- Baseball
- Softball
- Track and Field

Athletic Spotlight, cont...

During the 2023-2024 school year, 146 students participated in athletics at Beaufort Middle School, including 60 males and 86 females.

Beaufort Middle Championships 2017-18 to 2023-24

Gryphon Football	2018-19, 2020-21, 2021-22
Gryphon Boys' Basketball	2017-18, 2018-19
Gryphon Girls' Basketball	2017-18, 2018-19
Gryphon Baseball	2017/18, 2018-19, 2020-21

BMS by the Numbers...

Staff	
Classified & Certified	64
Faculty (Certified)	40
Administrators	3
Instructional Coaches	2 (1.5)
School Counselors	2
Social Worker	1
Behavior Management Specialist	1
Parent Liaison	1

Special Student Populations		
Multilingual Learners	28	8%
Special Education	77	21%
Artistic GT*	46	12%
Academic GT*	57	15%
Enrolled in HS Credit Courses	39	10%



