

Forestbrook Middle School 2024 School Summary Report



2019 Palmetto Gold/Excellent Ranked School
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

Meghan Stiles – Chair, Faith Powalie – Secretary, Connie Rogers – Advisory Board Member and PTO President, Stacy Millward, Jessica Lugo, Gwen Millward, Holly Moore, Grayson Hancock, Rob Kegler—Community Member, Melissa Rutenberg—Principal

4430 Gator Lane
Myrtle Beach, SC 29588
843-236-7300 (voice)
843-236-8065 (fax)
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, clubs and athletics. 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.

At Forestbrook Middle School, we have a proud tradition of excellence that is associated with being a past 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, despite the many challenges students faced over the past few years due to Covid. 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. We continue to honor students who display excellence through our Student of the Week program, and many incentive programs throughout the school year. Our students continue to receive the highest praise while on field trips out in the community. 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. Meghan Stiles

**School Improvement
Council Chairperson**



Administrative Team

Community and Parent Involvement

- Pastries for Parents at Library Book Fair
- Backpack Buddies—Year-Round Food Distribution for Students
- Free Breakfast and Lunch for ALL Students
- Veterans Day Art and Writing Contests
- Family/Business Donations to School: Over \$20,000
- Charitable Fundraising and Donations:
 - FMS Angel Tree: \$2,300 in Donations Supported Students and Families
 - United Way: Donations via Staff Payroll Deductions
 - FMS Polar Plunge Team Raised Over \$5,000 for Special Olympics
 - Fundraisers for Area Animal Shelters
- Socastee Attendance Area Advisory Board
- Bilingual School Correspondence
- School-to-Work Initiative:
 - 100% of 6th Graders & 7th Graders Completed Virtual Career Exploration
 - 100% of 8th Graders Participated in Pathways to Possibilities Career Expo
- 830 Students Participated in FMS Career Fair
- Parent Survey
- Eighth Grader Recognition, Parents' Nights, and Awards Ceremonies for Sports Teams
- Orientations and Back-to-School Nights for Parents and Students to Meet Teachers and Administrators
- Active and Supportive PTO and School Improvement Council
- Support of Ronald McDonald House through pop tab collection



2024 Summer Arts Recipients



Celebrate With Us!



Administration

Melissa Rutenberg, Principal—mrutenberg001@horrycountyschools.net
Sylvester Carr, Assistant Principal—scarr002@horrycountyschools.net • Erica Markunas, Assistant Principal—emarkunas@horrycountyschools.net • Grayson Hancock, Instructional Coach—ghancock@horrycountyschools.net

Academic Awards and Other Honors

2015 National Blue Ribbon School
Seven National Board-Certified Teachers
Nationally Recognized BETA School
Eighteen Junior Scholars
Students Qualified for National History Day Competition
Student Awards at 2024 Horry County Schools District Technology Fair including first place Rubik's Cube teams
Yearbook Named National Program of Excellence by Jostens in 2022 and 2016
Teachers Presented at a Variety of State and National Conferences
Alpha/Beta, Behavior, and Assessment Achievement Incentives
Students of the Week Recognition

Student Academic Activities

Black History Month—Writing and Art Contests and Displays
Multi-Lingual Learner Classes
School-Sponsored Creative Writing and Art Contests
Student Writing/Art Contests, Displays, And Presentations for Veterans Day
Pi Day Events
MakerSpace in Library
After-School Extended Learning, Credit Recovery, and Band Tutoring Programs
CCU Teal Day and Mentoring Program

Extracurricular Activities

Archery Team
Band Director's Award
Basketball, Football, and Cheer
Active Participation in Socastee High School Sports
Polar Plunge
Spirit Week, Red Ribbon Week, Holiday Caroling, and Charitable Giving
Book Fair, Book Club, Battle of the Books
Fellowship of Christian Athletes
Spirit Weeks/Dress-Up Days for Athletics, Holidays, and More

Life Skills

Guidance Department
Red Ribbon Week Activities
STOMP Out Bullying Events
HTC Reel Kids—Recognition for Students Excelling Despite Significant Challenges

Clubs

MakerSpace
Junior Beta
Yearbook Staff
National Junior Art Honor Society
Robotics
Technology/Rubik's Club
Fishing Club
Gators Got Talent
Girls on the Run



HCS Tech Fair Winner



Band Director's Award



Student of the Week Winner



Forestbrook Middle School

2024 SC Ready Assessment Data

ELA w/TDA	OVERALL	56.13% M/E
ELA w/TDA	6	60.91% M/E
ELA w/TDA	7	56.63% M/E
ELA w/TDA	8	51.31% M/E

Math	OVERALL	41.8% M/E
Math	6	48.15% M/E
Math	7	40.16% M/E
Math	8	37.5% M/E

Visual and Performing Arts, Communications

FMS Music Programs are Nearly 350 Students Strong
 Band Superior Rating at State Festival
 Waves of the Future Cover Art Winner
 Black History Month Art and Writing winners
 9 students qualified for Region Band
 4 students qualified for Southern Region Choir
 32 students qualified for All County Chorus
 8 students qualified for All State Chorus
 13 students qualified for All County Band
 8 Students Qualified for All-County Orchestra
 5 students qualified for Region Orchestra
 8 students accepted to various summer programs

Highly attended winter concert series
 Highly attended spring concert series
 Blackboard/Parent Link System

Students Won 1st and 2nd Place for Eastern Division Contest of National Art Education Association's (NAEA) Youth Art Month
 Student Won 2nd Place at State Level NAEA Youth Art Month Competition
 Student Accepted into Art Fields in Lake City, SC
 Student Artists Designed FMS Yearbook Cover
 Art Students Attended Leadership Conference at Carowinds and Visited Three Art Museums in Charlotte, NC
 27 Students Inducted into National Junior Art Honor Society
 Spirit Rock Provided by Student Council and PTO
 Daily Digital and PA Student Announcements
 Hallway and Office Video Monitors Display Student Activity Photos, Awards, Alpha/Beta Status
 Bi-Weekly Parent Newsletter via Email
 HCS TV-12
 FMS Web Page, Facebook Page, and Instagram
 Gator Guides, Ambassadors, and Greeters