2025-2026 Gregg Middle School Improvement Council (SIC) Annual Report to Parents

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Gregg was originally built in 1974 to serve as the ninth and tenth grade campus of Summerville High School in Summerville, South Carolina. The school was named after Mr. John W. Gregg. Mr. Gregg dedicated his life to public education after graduating from Claflin College where he received his Bachelor of Science and South Carolina State University where he received his Masters of Science. He was a teacher and principal at Alston Middle School from 1970 to 1974. He later served on the administration team and as an assistant principal at Summerville High School.

Unfortunately, injuries he sustained in an auto accident forced him into early retirement. In his honor, this school was dedicated to him on September 25, 1988, almost one year after he passed away.

In 1997, after additions were completed at Summerville High School which would allow for 9th through 12th graders to be on the same campus, Gregg was renovated and officially became Gregg Middle School, home of the Mustangs. In the summer of 2014, more renovations were completed on the Gregg Middle School Campus, including a state-of-the-art Front Entrance and Welcome Center, new roofing, and air conditioning in the Gymnasium. As the largest middle school in Dorchester School District Two, we currently serve approximately 1,200 6th through 8th graders, while maintaining a student-centered learning environment that supports individual student needs and promotes a family atmosphere.

In March of 2015, after intense competition among the 256 middle schools across the state, Gregg Middle School was named Palmetto's Finest Middle School.

Mission Statement: Gregg Middle School exists to provide an environment that is safe and conducive to learning. Together, every day and in every way, we help all students reach their potential in all aspects of learning.

Vision Statement: The Gregg Middle School community will provide a safe, structured learning environment to promote high expectations for student achievement and character development to encourage success.





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Introduction

This report is issued by the School Improvement Council in accordance with South Carolina law to share information on Gregg Middle School's progress in meeting various goals and objectives, the work of the School Improvement Council, and other accomplishments during the school year. GMS has a continued commitment to ensuring every student, we serve, will learn in a safe. structured learning environment that promotes student growth, achievement, and character development. We know healthy relationship building is the foundation for a safe and successful learning environment. That is why we are constantly working to strengthen partnerships with our parents, business partners, and community members.

School Improvement Council Members

Elected Members: James Helton (Chair), Rachelle Hall (Parent), Charlotte Drinkard (Parent), Megan Hartley (Teacher)

Appointed Members: Danny Garnette (Community Member), Kevin Kelley (Community Member)

Ex-officio Members: Angela Ackerman (Media Specialist), Elizabeth Hill (Title 1 Parent Advisory Council Representative), Danielle Kafina (Assistant Principal), Alice Kelley (Principal)

Please contact Principal, Alice Kelley at alkelley@dorchester2.k12.sc.us, Assistant Principal Danielle Kafina at dkafina@dorchester2.k12.sc.us, or SIC Chair, James Helton at jamhelton@dorchester2.k12.sc.us for SIC questions or comments.

School Improvement Goals

1. **To continue improving school culture and climate among teachers, students, parents and the community through Title One and the Parent Engagement Events throughout the school year promoting collaborative relationships.**

2. **To bridge the social and emotional transition gaps between elementary and middle school (5th to 6th grade) by implementing targeted programs and supports that promote readiness, confidence, and connection for all students.**

Gregg Middle School's School Improvement Council continuously monitors all programs to ensure we are providing a quality educational environment. SIC will continue to acknowledge and support Gregg Middle School through Grit, Grace, Gratitude and Growth.

Fine Arts Achievements

- The Gregg Honor Band had 40 student participants and attended Concert Performance Assessment, where they received a rating of "Excellent." The Gregg Band held four separate performances throughout the school year. Additionally, three students participated in the Ashley Ridge Marching Band this year, four students participated in the SCBDA Region V Region Band, and eleven students were selected to participate in the DD2 Honor Band.

- The 6th grade Theater students performed *The 67 Show*, an original show that they wrote and performed

- The 7th grade yearlong Theater class performed *The Scandalous Marriage of Capitano Fortunato*, an Italian improvisational performance in a style called Commedia Dell'Arte. They improvised the whole show based upon a scenario!

- The 8th grade yearlong Theater class performance of *As Seen On My Screen*, was a show that they created entirely from script to stage.

- Theater students attended two live musical performances: Charleston Stage Company's *Diary of a Wimpy Kid the Musical*, and ARHS's *Matilda*.

- Two students participated in the PATHWAYS program in theater for DD2

- Three students auditioned and were cast in community theater productions with South of Broad Theater Company and the Flowertown Players. They used their skills developed in theater class to earn roles in these shows.

- 8th Grade CP dancers performed in the District Dance Performance in February at Summers Corner Performing Arts Center. Our big dance recital was held in October at the SCPAC, dancers performed their own dances in their choreography showcase

in December and February, and are getting ready for their final recital "Leaping into Summer", in May!

- GMS Orchestra has seen 20& growth from 24-25 school year (55% growth over the past 3 years) Spooktackular performance
- Orchestra performed for our Veterans day performance, a Winter and Spring Concert
- GMS Honors Orchestra brought home a Superior from Concert Performance Assessment!
- GMS Chorus conducted multiple performances throughout the academic school year: October showcase concert, Sang the National Anthem at home volleyball games, Performed at the Veterans Day assembly, Rising 6th Grade Night, and Dreamfest. Students went on several field trips to include the Opera, Carowinds and recruiting of rising 6th graders.
- Apex Robotics VEX Team performed in the quarterfinals of the state competition this year.
- Steel Band participated in the Festival of Steel
- Digital Literacy Media Class implemented a weekly "Mustang Media" where students produce, record, and present local weather, sports, upcoming events in the local area, and school updates.





Athletic Achievements

- SCMAT Girls Carolina Invitational in wrestling resulted in Taylor Delk winning 1st place at state. She is the first girl at Gregg Middle School to win a state title. GMS also had a 3rd place finalist, Nevaeh Reardon.
- GMS held staff appreciation nights acknowledging teachers and staff members for their support of our athletics.



School-Wide Accomplishments and Achievements

- National Beta Club inducted new members with a total of over 100 active members. Our service hours in the community totaled over 1,000 hours.
- The GMS 8th grade Leadership class successfully collaborated, planned, and executed the Quarter 3 Renaissance Rally, creating an engaging and celebratory event that recognized student achievement and showcased their strong leadership skills.
- Partnered with Ashley Ridge High School ROTC, Summerville High School ROTC, and The Citadel Navy ROTC Command Master Chief, Kyle J. Shafer, to honor our nation's veterans during a special Veterans Day program. Master Chief Kyle J. Shafer served as the guest speaker.
- MAP Incentive Celebrations to celebrate academic growth for our students including Food Trucks, Snacks, Jump Castles, Music, and other activities.
- Held Reality Town with over 50 community volunteers who assisted with exposing our 8th graders to budgeting a monthly income and prioritizing their needs and wants to better prepare them for the real world. During this activity students took on the life of an adult with a career based off of interest and their GPS. SHS Leadership students led middle school students though activities in their classrooms to help prepare for high school.
- Thursday Treats for Staffulty was hosted on the third Thursday of each month throughout the school year. The entire GMS Staffulty was divided up into groups and hosted the monthly event with a theme and provided snacks, food, and drinks to continue increasing our positive climate.

- Completed the 2nd school year of implementing the Jostens Renaissance formula to continue improving the climate and culture at GMS.
- The Beacons and Leading Ladies mentoring groups who meet weekly throughout the school year with their adult community members.
- Communication Readiness and Supportive Learning classes attend Swamp Fest and Special Olympics events.
- 8th grade intervention classes attended the SC Stingrays education day.
- 8th Grader Gage Herb is our 2025-2026 Spelling Bee Champion and went on to the District Championship.
- GMS hosted International Festival where cultures collided, music moved everyone, and GMS showed the community how we celebrate diversity in style.
- Received our 8th "School Culture Builder Awards" in partnership with Jostens Renaissance Education.





Media Center Highlights

- Hosted a Grandparents' Breakfast in correlation with the Fall Book Fair on September 8th, 2025.
- All students have library access during all lunch and courtyard times.
- Added books to the library collection to meet the state's book-per-student requirement.
- Collaborated with teachers in every grade to develop information literacy skills and support the curriculum through class visits and instruction.
- Created literacy-based lessons to encourage reading various genres of literature.
- Created makerspace stations throughout the library for students to work collaboratively and creatively.

- Submitted and received a grant for a 3D printer for all students to utilize.
- Continued to implement the Beanstack reading program to encourage reading.

What Does It Mean To Be MUSTANG STRONG?

- Focus on the positives, no matter the circumstance!
- Celebrate every victory- even the "small" ones!
- When facing obstacles, know we will get through them together!

Struggling is Acceptable

Falling is Acceptable

Crying is Acceptable

Quitting is NOT

KEEP MOVING FORWARD