

## Clubs and Organizations

While students cannot participate in school sports until 7th grade, there are a wide variety of opportunities for all middle school students to get involved in Eagle Spirit:

- Serteen—A junior division of the Sertoma Club. Serteens get involved in a wide range of school and community service projects
- Pep Club—Come and cheer with friends at school games
- Beta Club—An honor organization for students who earn A's and B's; a great way to get involved in our school and community
- Academic Team, Future City, and Math Counts, —Audition to participate in one or more of these academic teams
- Band—Any student with an interest in music can join band in 6th grade; play at concerts, pep rallies, and football games

We encourage students to listen to morning and afternoon announcements for details about joining these and other clubs and organizations. Announcements are made ahead of time so that students can arrange rides.

**Our Purpose:** M.B. Kennedy Middle School educates all students to achieve at their highest levels.

**Our Direction:** Students will apply the acquired knowledge and skills to become life-long learners who are productive citizens.

- M.B. Kennedy Middle School is a place where:
- everybody is welcomed and encouraged to help their classmates
  - we respect and care for everyone and everything around us
  - teachers will provide interventions tailored to individual student's needs
  - students should be responsible and held accountable for their behavior and their academic success
  - administration, staff, parents, and community will work together to help ensure academic success of all students

### Additional Information about M.B. Kennedy Middle School

Our school colors are blue and gold.

Our mascot is the eagle.

We serve students in grades 6-8 with an enrollment of approximately 940 students.



## Aiken County Public Schools

Building a Better Tomorrow—One Student at a Time

**M.B. Kennedy Middle School**

**M.B. Kennedy Middle  
School**  
Annual Report 2013-2014

**Home of the Eagles**



*Teresa Mitchem  
Principal*

*Jamie Byrne  
Assistant Principal*

*David Hanna  
Assistant Principal*

*274 E Pine Log Rd.  
Aiken, SC 29803*

**803-641-2470—phone  
803-641-2405—fax**

# Where Students Soar

## Academic Courses

M.B. Kennedy Middle School offers rigorous and challenging programs in Math, English, Science, and Social Studies as we prepare our students for high school studies and beyond.

8th graders have the option to earn high school credits. No more than three credits can be carried over to high school. English 1 and Algebra 1 are academic credits. A variety of elective credits may also be earned. An administrator can discuss these options with students who enroll.

## Exploratory Courses

Graded non-academic classes are assigned to students as space is available. These courses include physical education/health, music, keyboarding, family and consumer science, art, and French.

## Gifted and Talented

Students who are identified as being eligible for gifted and talented are served through a year-long GT exploratory class in 6th and 7th grades and through GT science in the 8th grade. All students are screened for eligibility.

## Band

Students may begin band in the 6th grade. It's offered as a year-long exploratory course.

## KOS and Chorus

Kennedy on Stage and Chorus are offered for students who enjoy singing and performing. These are also year-long exploratory courses.

## **POINTS OF PRIDE**

- We consistently have over 30 eighth graders identified as South Carolina Junior Scholars, with 100 invited to take the PSAT to have the opportunity to earn this honor.
- We have approximately 10 students recognized at the State Level for Duke Talent Identification Program each year and usually have at least one recognized at the National Level. Approximately 90 seventh graders qualify to be invited to take the SAT or ACT to have the opportunity to be recognized.
- Each year for approximately 25 years, mini courses are offered for all students. Volunteers are invited to teach during the school day a short series in their area of expertise to help students develop career and/or leisure interests. Topics covered typically include the arts; culinary interests; health sciences; cosmetology; welding; sports, including the world-recognized Aiken Polo Club as well as USCA basketball and soccer; teams, animal care; and many others.

- We have active and competitive football, volleyball, golf, and basketball teams.
- Our students participate in a variety of art competitions, and they audition for and attend GATEWAY summer art programs.
- We have an active and effective school-wide reading program. Approximately 25,000 books are checked out from our school library each year. Almost all students meet their Accelerated Reader goals each quarter and several earn over 100 points each quarter.
- Our standardized test scores indicate that our students meet or exceed the district's average.

## **GETTING INVOLVED**

Parents are welcome to volunteer with our active PTO. Kennedy's PTO has many options to serve in a variety of contexts, including chaperoning dances, sorting materials for fund-raisers, and helping with the Accelerated Reader store. If you are willing to help, we have a place for you!

Parents can also get involved by attending Parent-Teacher Conferences and SIC Meetings.

Parents are encouraged to track their child's progress through Parent Portal, School Fusion, and contacting teachers.

*School Renewal Performance Goals  
2013-2014*

1. The percentage of students who meet or exceed their grade level (Met or Exemplary) on PASS will increase from the baseline percentage from 74.6% to 86.6% in ELA, from 67.1% to 79.1% in Math, from 67.7% to 79.7% in Science and from 69.3% to 81.3% in Social Studies.
2. M.B. Kennedy Middle School will maintain efforts to hire and retain highly qualified teachers while ensuring each has the opportunity to participate in staff development relating to district and school goals.
3. By Spring 2014, 90% of the school stakeholders will indicate satisfaction with the learning environment, social and physical environment, and school-home relations as measured by the school report card.

School Improvement Council Members

Teresa Mitchem, Principal  
David Revelle, Chairperson  
Monica Neumar, Parent  
Sarah Burnham, Teacher  
Denise Barnhart, Parent  
Rosalind Key, Parent  
Whitney Ray, Teacher

**PASS Testing Results 2013**

<b>ELA</b>	<b>Our School</b>	<b>Middle Schools like</b>
Exemplary	45.1%	47.2%
Met	33.5%	33%
Not Met	21.4%	19.8%

<b>Math</b>	<b>Our School</b>	<b>Middle Schools like</b>
Exemplary	31.3%	38.5%
Met	41.6%	39.9%
Not Met	27.2%	21.6%

<b>Science</b>	<b>Our School</b>	<b>Middle Schools like</b>
Exemplary	23.7%	33.1%
Met	52.1%	48.7%
Not Met	27.2%	21.6%

<b>Social Studies</b>	<b>Our School</b>	<b>Middle Schools like</b>
Exemplary	33.0%	45.3%
Met	38.4%	34.9%
Not Met	28.6%	19.9%

<b>Writing</b>	<b>Our School</b>	<b>Middle Schools like</b>
Exemplary	41.5%	44.5%
Met	42.7%	39.3%
Not Met	15.8%	16.2%

<b>End of course</b>	<b>Our School</b>	<b>Middle Schools like</b>
Algebra 1	100%	95%
English 1	99.0%	98.8%
All Subjects	99.4%	95.8%

<http://ed.sc.gov/data/report-cards/2013/middle/c/m0201028.pdf>