

SOUTH CAROLINA SCHOOL TO WATCH



R.H. Fulmer Middle School



Designated in 2011-12; Redesignated 2014-15

R.H. Fulmer Middle School • Lexington School District Two
Lexington County • South Carolina
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2014-15 School Statistics

(Source: 2014 School Report Card)

Community: Rural/Suburban School in West Columbia, SC, situated next door to Airport High School and the Columbia Metropolitan Airport and minutes from downtown Columbia.

Enrollment: 672 students

Grade Levels: 6th – 8th Grades

School Schedule: Rotating 6 Period Schedule

Student Demographics

8% Hispanic
59% White
33% African American
0% Filipino
<1% Asian/Pacific Islander

78.6% Free/Reduced Lunch

5% English Learners

19.5% Disabled Learners

2013 AYP: Met 19 of 21 Objectives

2014 AYP: Met 19 of 21 Objectives

2014 ESEA Points and Grade: 83.1/B

School Characteristics and Replicable Practices

Academic Excellence

- High, quality common formative assessments with data analysis in Mastery Manager.
- School-wide Academic Intervention Model to assist struggling and intentional non-learners.
- Multiple opportunities for students to demonstrate mastery of content through re-teaching and re-assessing.
- Teacher collaboration in content planning to determine effective instructional strategies, develop common formative assessments, and discuss best practices.
- “Essential Learning” posted in student-friendly terms in each classroom.
- Academic Math Lab to assist struggling learners within a variety of levels of Math curricula.
- Special Education mainstreaming with students in self-contained classes enrolled in regular education Science and Social Studies.
- Extensive opportunities in Fine Arts and foreign language.
- AVID College Readiness System transforms environment into a college-going culture and is a framework for high-yield instructional strategies for all students.
- Homeroom Tutoring is an embedded opportunity for students to receive additional assistance on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings.

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- Lunch Learning Center (LLC) is used as an opportunity for students to complete missed assignments, since failure is not an option.
- Special Education Co-Teaching model in all grade levels allows for immediate and relevant special education services.
- Incorporation of content literacy (reading, writing, and speaking) evident in all subject areas.

Developmental Responsiveness

- Advisory small group sessions where student groups loop from year to year.
- School-wide college and career readiness days.
- Administration and School Resource Officer available and visible on a daily basis at lunch and during student transitions.
- Career Development Facilitator invites guest speakers, Career Fairs, SCOIS, etc.
- Family involvement through open-door policy, School Improvement Council, Parent Portal, ParentLink, PlanetHS, Falcon Flash, Falcon Club and social media (Facebook & Instagram).
- “Take Flight” transition orientation for rising 6th grade students and parents.
- Rotating academic schedule to allow students and teachers to engage at different times during the school day.
- Multiple opportunities for student involvement in Athletics at the middle school and high school level.
- Guidance small groups formed based on students’ social and emotional needs.
- Student-led organizations – Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Teen Talk, Girls for Tomorrow, Run Hard, Boys and Girls Club of the Midlands.
- School-wide Behavior Intervention Plan to promote the modification of student behavior.

Social Equity

- Student perception survey administered annually to all students to provide feedback on their experiences at school.
- Collaboration with guidance in grade level team meetings once per week to discuss student needs.
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- Maintaining high expectations for all learners.

Organizational Support

- Collaboration through PLC teams, content planning, and teacher leadership meetings.
- PASS Data breakdown and analysis each summer.
- Use of Mastery Manager to collect and disaggregate common formative assessment data.
- “Daily News” emails from the Principal to efficiently disseminate information to the faculty.
- 40 students from the University of South Carolina completing practicum or student internships.
- District-wide early release cohort model for professional development.
- Transition programs for rising 6th grade students and 8th grade students as they transition to high school.
- “My Learning Plan” allows a teacher to select and track their professional development needs.
- Departmental peer classroom observations
- Teacher organizations including SC-AMLE, AMLE, ASCD, SCASA, SC2, PSTA, NSTA, SCEA, NEA, NCTM, Teaching Fellows, NBPTS, etc.