

South Carolina Schools to Watch

2019-2020

***Application for Re-Designation
of a Current School to Watch***



**South Carolina Association for Middle Level Education
South Carolina Department of Education
Center for Educational Partnerships- Middle Grades Initiative**

in collaboration with

**The National Forum to
Accelerate Middle-Grades Reform**

The South Carolina Schools to Watch Program affirms that exemplary schools are schools involved in an ongoing journey of excellence. To this end, South Carolina Schools to Watch, in coordination with the National Forum, has established a program of continuous evaluation for all schools designated as a School to Watch. In order to maintain status as a School to Watch at the end of three years it is necessary to submit an application for re-designation and have a one-day site visit to ascertain the progress of the school since the original designation.

The application portion of the re-designation process asks for the following specific information:

- A narrative reflection of school progress and programs in each of the four criteria areas
- An explanation of any significant changes that have occurred since the initial designation, specifically in the areas of leadership, school size and/or demographics, district mandates, program, structure, and test data
- Suspension and retention data for the 2018-2019 school year
- A list of any special recognitions awarded to your school since your designation as a School to Watch
- A description of any research projects, grant awards, articles, and projects of which your school has been the subject or recipient in the past three years
- A description of the involvement of your school in the South Carolina Association for Middle Level Education and the South Carolina Schools to Watch Program in the past three years.
- A description of the involvement of your school in the South Carolina Association for Middle Level Education and the South Carolina Schools to Watch Program for the next three years.
- The identification of several “stretch goals” that will move your school to the next level. Goals may be, but are not limited to, the following areas:
 - Efforts to move from teacher-directed to student-centered classrooms
 - Institution of more authentic and varied measures of student progress
 - More integrative approach to learning
 - More effective use of data in planning instructional improvement
 - The establishment of instructional coaches
 - Transitions in and out of the middle school
 - Increased involvement in the arts and humanities
- A summary of standardized testing data since the original designation
- Signature and Permission Document

The report is to be completed by a team of administrators and teachers chosen by the school and signed to certify their participation in preparing this application. Each STW school will send a team to present at the SC Association for Middle Level Education Conference in March, 2020 and the National STW Conference in Washington, DC in June, 2020.

Please submit no later than September 20, 2019 an e-mail copy of the application to: tina.jamison@scamle.org. **The STW Self-Study and Rating Rubric must be completed online prior to submitting the application.** Also please submit a copy to the following address:

South Carolina Association for Middle Level Education
225 Gardenwalk Drive
West Columbia, SC 29170

Note: Applications must be emailed no later than September 20, 2019.

Part Two Recognitions have been awarded to your school or faculty members since your designation as a

School to Watch three years ago? You may use either narrative or “bulleted” formats (maximum length, one

page) provide a narrative reflection of progress and programs in each of the following domains:

Part One

Academic Excellence

Developmental Responsiveness

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Social Equity

Organizational Structure & Support

Narratives, in 12-point type double-spaced, one to two pages per area, should reflect the indicators involved in each domain. If you prefer, you may use a “bulleted” format and describe how you are continuing to grow as a school.

Part Three

Describe any significant changes that may have occurred in the school since in the past three years in

Leadership

Size

Student demographics

District mandates

Overall program and structure

Test data— In addition to completing the chart on page 7, please provide a narrative explanation (no more than 2 pages) of key student data relative to summative state standardized testing to include: demographic performance by student subgroups (gender, race, socioeconomic status, G/T, special education, etc.) and trends in student achievement data over the last three years;

Part Four

Student Suspension and Retention Data

Provide a description of any research projects, grant awards, articles, and projects of which your school has been involved in the South Carolina Association for Middle Level Education and the South Carolina SIML Program during the past three years. Describe your school's progress in implementing the stretch goals. In other words, "What's next?" Your response should include, but are not limited to, the following areas:

- Efforts made to move from teacher-directed to student-centered classrooms
- Increased use of authentic and varied measures of student progress
- Integrative approach to learning
- Effective use of data in planning instructional improvement
- Establishment of instructional coaches
- Transitions into and out of the middle school
- Increased involvement in the arts and humanities

Please briefly describe how you intend to meet these "stretch goals" in the coming years (maximum length, one page).



Re-Designation Application Cover Sheet

Please type or print all information

School Name: _____

School Address: _____

School District: _____

School Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Grade Configuration (6-8, K-8, etc) _____

Principal's name (please print): _____

Principal's e-mail address: _____

Student Population	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Total	Percent
All Students					
Male					
Female					
White					
African-American					
Asian/Pacific Is.					
Hispanic					
Am. Indian/Alaskan					
Disabled					
Limited English Prof.					
Subsidized Meals					
What was the average attendance rate (% of all students) in your school during the last school year?					
What is the poverty rate for your school?					

Signatures of Application Writing Team & Position in Your School:

Suspension Data for 2018-2019 School Year

Student Population		In-School Suspensions		Out-Of-School Suspensions	
Category	Total Number of Students in School 2017-2018 (135-Day)	Number of Different Students Suspended in School	Total Number of In-School Suspensions	Number of Different Students Suspended Out of School	Total Number of Out of School Suspensions
All Students					
Male					
Female					
White					
African-American					
Asian/Pacific					
Hispanic					
Disabled					
Not Disabled					
LEP					
Non- LEP					
Subsidized Meals					
Full-Pay Meals					

Students Not Promoted (Retained) 2018-2019 School Year

Student Populations	Grade 6		Grade 7		Grade 8	
	Number Not Promoted	Percent of Total in Grade	Number Not Promoted	Percent of Total in Grade	Number Not Promoted	Percent of Total in Grade
All Students						
Male						
Female						
White						
African-American						
Asian/Pacific Is.						
Hispanic						
Am. Indian/Alaskan						
Disabled						
Not Disabled						
LEP.						
Non -LEP						
Subsidized Meals						
Full-Pay Meals						

2019 SC Ready Scores - Percent Meets or Exceeds Expectations

	ELA 6	Math 6	ELA 7	Math 7	ELA 8	Math 8
All Students						
Male						
Female						
Hispanic/Latino						
American Indian						
Asian						
African American						
Pacific Islander						
White						
Two or More Races						
Disabled						
Not Disabled						
Migrant						
Non-Migrant						
LEP						
Non-LEP						
Students in Poverty						
Non- SIP						

2018 SC Ready Scores - Percent Meets or Exceeds Expectations

	ELA 6	Math 6	ELA 7	Math 7	ELA 8	Math 8
All Students						
Male						
Female						
Hispanic/Latino						
American Indian						
Asian						
African American						
Pacific Islander						
White						
Two or More Races						
Disabled						
Not Disabled						
Migrant						
Non-Migrant						
LEP						
Non-LEP						
Students in Poverty						
Non- SIP						

2017 SC Ready Scores - Percent Meets or Exceeds Expectations

	ELA 6	Math 6	ELA 7	Math 7	ELA 8	Math 8
All Students						
Male						
Female						
Hispanic/Latino						
American Indian						
Asian						
African American						
Pacific Islander						
White						
Two or More Races						
Disabled						
Not Disabled						
Migrant						
Non-Migrant						
LEP						
Non-LEP						
Students in Poverty						
Non- SIP						

Composite School PASS Scores - % Met and Exemplary

	Science 6	S Studies 6	Science 7	S Studies 7	Science 8	S Studies 8
2019						
2018						
2017						
2016						
2015						
2014						
2013						
2012						

Signature and Permission

I give permission to the National Forum, the SC-AMLE, SCASA-Middle Level, to publish the information and materials included in this application on their websites in order to help other schools move toward high performance. I understand that selection committee members will conduct a site visit to my school for at least one day between October 1, 2019 and January 30, 2020 and I will gladly host such a visit. If my school is re-designated as a "School to Watch", I will send a team to present at the South Carolina Association for Middle Level Education Conference in March 2020 and the National STW Conference in Washington, DC in June 2020 at the cost of the school/district. Furthermore, if my school is selected as a "School to Watch," a documentation team may visit the school during the spring of 2020 in order to gather further information for a case study. Schools who do not send delegations to these conference may have their designation removed. This case study may include written, photographed, and videotaped documentation. My staff and I will cooperate in the data-gathering effort to the fullest extent possible and will assist in obtaining the necessary releases for the case study. I recognize that being selected as a "School to Watch" will result in an increase of outside visitors and publicity. We are prepared to share our knowledge and experience with others in order to accelerate middle-grades reform.

Principal's Signature	Date
School Improvement Chair's Signature	Date
Superintendent/Designee's Signature	Date

Return Your Completed Application

Please mail completed applications to:

Tina Jamison, SC-AMLE
225 Gardenwalk Drive
West Columbia, SC 29170
Phone: (803) 261-6117

Please do not fax applications. Call or e-mail: tina.jamison@scamle.org if you have any questions about your application or the process.

Email applications must be received by September 20, 2019

Thank you for helping to strengthen middle-grades schools by taking the time to complete this application.

Explanation of Demographic Charts

Page 5 – Student Population – for current school year (2019-2020)
Average Attendance – for last school year (2018-2019)

Page 6 – Suspension Data – for last school year (2018-2019)
Number of different students is an unduplicated count. Total number of suspensions is a duplicated count. The unduplicated count is never larger than the total number of suspensions.