

Andrew Jackson Middle

Volunteers

Our demographics

School principal: Theodore (Butch) Dutton **Years at school:** 13 **In district:** 27 **In education:** 27
Grades served: 6 – 8 **Enrollment:** 532 **Economic status:** 54.5% free & reduced lunch
Diversity: 79% White, 18% African-American, 3% Other
Number of teachers: 30 **Classified:** 9 **Administrators:** 2 **Counselors:** 1 **Media specialists:** 1
Other: Part-time Resource Officer, Nurse
Teachers with advanced degrees: 53% **Teacher attendance:** 95.6% **Student attendance:** 96.1%

Our mission

The mission of Andrew Jackson Middle School and the community is to create productive life-long learners.

Our facilities

Date main building was built: 1984 **Date of renovations:** 2001
Square feet: 85,147 **Number of computers:** 166 **Number of classrooms:** 36
Specialty areas: 3 computer labs, dance classroom, drama room, and art lab

Our school programs

- **Focus School of The Arts** – As the district’s middle level arts focus school, we offer students the opportunity to participate in many different programs such as band, dance, drama, visual arts and chorus.
- **Annual Veteran’s Day Program** – Each year the staff and students of AJMS present a program to the community and invited Armed Forces Veterans. This program pays tribute and honor to current service men and women, veterans, and their families. We also honor all who paid the ultimate price for our freedom. This event is an annual highlight for AJMS and the community. We structure the program to include as many of our students as we can. This allows our promising youth the opportunity to experience the pride displayed by generations of individuals from the community who are a very important part of our history.
- **Fine Arts Field Trips** – AJMS makes every effort to expose students, families, and staff members to fine arts. Annual trips to Charleston’s historic city, Washington’s rich monumental landscapes and museums, and NY City’s vast arena of cultural and artistic treasures, allow participants to see rich artistic venues and attractions. These trips are open to families and students who are primarily involved with the Arts Focus School. However, many individuals take advantage of these opportunities as they are offered.

- **Evening Play Productions** – AJMS has a rich and long standing tradition in play production and student performances. Our drama, dance, and music students perform in evening productions that are open to the public and promoted as culminating activities for our fine arts students. Students from all areas of our community and student body are included. In addition, these performances are often augmented by visual art presentations in an environment that is reflective of an Arts Gallery experience for students to display their work. These events have been well received. They have proven to be the impetus for many students to pursue artistic growth. Our students experience a rich and varied fine arts education that compliments their core curricular courses.

Our co-curriculum, clubs, athletics

- **Sports Teams** – Football, Volleyball, Basketball, Cheerleading
- **Service / Community Organizations** – Mentoring, Annual Civic Fund Raisers, First Priority and Student Council.

Our parents/parent support programs

- PTO/SIC
- Middle School Booster Club

Our school strengths

- Arts Focus Program
- Junior Scholars Program
- Grant Recipient History
- Connections to Community
- Open Door Policy

Our honors & awards

- 2003 Palmetto Silver Award Recipient
- Kennedy Center / SC Alliance For Arts Education Creative Ticket Award 2004