

Indian Land Middle

Warriors

Our demographics

School principal: David D. McDonald **Years at school:** 10 **Years in district:** 10 **In education:** 10

Grades served: 6 – 8 **Enrollment:** 639 **Economic status:** 31% free & reduced lunch

Diversity: 75% White, 14% African-American, 8% Hispanic, 3% Other

Number of teachers: 40 **Classified:** 10 **Administrators:** 3 **Counselors:** 2 **Media specialist:** 1

Other: Nurse, Instructional Facilitator, 8 Interventionists and Part-time Resource Officer

Teachers with advanced degrees: 50.6% **Teacher attendance:** 94.3% **Student attendance:** 95.6%

Our mission

An innovative community inspiring excellence

Our motto

“What Happens Here will Change the World.”

Our facilities

Date main building was built: 1979 **Date of renovations:** 2008

Square feet: 165,000 **Number of computers:** 355 **Number of classrooms:** 39

Specialty areas: 1 science lab, 4 computer labs and gymnasium

Programs unique to our school

- **Uniform Dress Code** – All students are required to adhere to a uniform dress code.
- **Warrior Time** – All students participate in our advisory program, which meets on a regular basis during the school day.
- **Clubs** – All students participate in interest activities on a regular basis during the school day.
- **One Book/One School** – This nationally recognized program unites all students, faculty and staff as we read a common book title each year. Books are paid for via a grant program. The 2012-13 school year marks the fifth year for this program at ILMS.
- **Morning Literacy** – New for the 2011-12 school year, all students begin each day with morning literacy, which enhances reading and writing skills.

Our co-curriculum, clubs, athletics

- **The following middle school athletic programs are open to 7th and 8th grade students:** football, volleyball, basketball, baseball, cheerleading and wrestling.

- **Other** – 7th and 8th grade students are able to participate in any sport offered at ILMS that is not offered at ILMS. Sports include: cross-country, track, soccer, softball, baseball and golf. Students may also participate in swimming offered at Lancaster High School.
- **National Junior Honor Society** – This group is made up of students who exemplify the highest of standards in academic excellence. Students participate in community and school service programs.

Our parents/parent support programs

- **Parent/Teacher Association (PTA)**
- **School Improvement Council (SIC)**
- **School Parent/ Community Member Volunteer Program**
- **Lunch Buddy Program**
- **Annual Community Day**
- **Coffee with the Principal**
- **Parent Appreciation Morning**
- **Fall and Spring Athletic Recognition Programs**
- **SC Junior Scholars Program**
- **Upcoming Events Calendar/Newsletter**
- **Connect Ed Automated information Call/E-mail Communication**
- **Service Learning**
- **Back-to-School Programs**
- **Meet in the Middle Transition Program for Rising 6th Graders**
- **Powerschool**
- **Parenting Seminars**

Our school strengths

Diverse academic and enrichment programs – Programs include visual and performing arts as well as academics. In addition to art, music, physical education, media, and computer, students also participate in a hands-on Science lab. In addition, students utilize our Classworks lab on a rotating basis to enhance learning in Language Arts and Mathematics. Pre-Honors classes and enrichment opportunities are available for students who excel academically or struggle academically. Every teacher offers free tutoring before or after school for students. Parent/teacher conferences are scheduled throughout the year to foster strong communication between school and home.

Social equity – A major focus at ILMS is to provide opportunities that cater to the interests of all students. Every student participates in club activities during the school day that involves opportunities such as: dance, journalism, video gaming, fishing, intramurals, cheer, yearbook, history and many more!

Structured organization – All stakeholders (students, staff, and community) play an important role in the success of our school. Our student council, PTA, SIC, volunteers, community partnerships work together to support the mission and goals of our school. Our administrators meet with stakeholders regularly to share information about our school and to learn more about the needs/desires of the community.

Communication and parent involvement – ILMS encourages and seeks involvement from stakeholders in the school. Our PTA, guidance counselors, and community partnership coordinate works to match needs of the school with volunteers. Our goal is to create a climate that promotes learning through the family and community. To achieve this, we work to provide parents with opportunities to be involved. Several initiatives to promote connection and communication include regularly updated web pages by school personnel, a school calendar with important dates and information, monthly newsletters, weekly bulletins, weekly automated phone calls and e-mails and more.

Small learning communities – While our enrollment continues to grow, we feel it is vital to maintain small learning communities. Each grade level is divided into two teams, each boasting a unique team name. Teachers participate in grade level, team, and departmental meetings. Leadership team members and all new teachers also meet regularly. Teachers meet with administrators regularly to discuss ways in which instruction has been individualized in the classroom and to share facility and individual student concerns.

Our honors & awards

- A-Rating for South Carolina Report Card
- A National Schools to Watch Award Recipient
- Palmetto Gold Recipient, 2012
- South Carolina School of Character; 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011
- Palmetto Silver Award Winner; 2009 & 2010
- Red Carpet School
- Promising Practices Character Award for the One Book, One School Literacy Initiative
- Promising Practices Character Award for Warrior Time Advisory Program
- Promising Practices Character Award for Think Big Club
- Promising Practices Character Award for You've Got Mail
- Red Robin U-ACT Character Education Merit Recipient
- National e-Chalk Exemplary Site
- "Win with Classworks" Award Recipient
- SC Art Educator of the Year (Teresa Petty)
- Outstanding Accomplishments in History (Emily Dunning)
- Dept. of Education's "Doing What Works" Educator (Tiffany Evans)
- 2012 District Spelling Bee Winner - Kaila Hayden (8th Grade)

Partnerships

- Winthrop University Partner School
- Making Middle Grades Work, SREB
- S.C. Middle School Association