

Alston Middle School—Proud to be recognized as one of three middle schools in the state of SC as a Palmetto's Finest Finalist.



Congratulations

Jessica House
Teacher of the Year

Crystal Rohde
Rookie Teacher of the Year

LaDonna Davis
School Counselor of the Year

Chantel Bacon
Star Performer of the Year



ACHIEVEMENTS & AWARDS

- * Named a Tri-County semi-finalist in the **Dimension U** Competition.
- * Received the **Crayola CreatED** grant, the **Engaging Creative Minds** grant, and the **Distinguished Arts** grant to support arts infusion.
- * The Symphonic Band received an overall "Excellent" rating at the annual SCBDA CPA Event.
- * Two students were placed in the SCBDA Region 4 Honor Band.
- * AMS Honors Choir scored a Superior in sight-reading at the SCMEA Choral Assessment.
- * Three piano students were selected to play for the DD2 Honors Recital.
- * Twelve vocal students were selected to represent Alston Middle in the DD2 Honors Choir.
- * One student earned an award of merit in dance choreography at the district level Reflections competition.
- * One student placed 3rd overall in composition at **Trident Tech's Quest Competition**.
- * Facility improvements included: a remodeled media center, a renovated gym, improved hallway tile, new ball fields, and a new courtyard area.
- * The Health and Wellness Committee placed in the top three among all DD2 schools for the **MUSC/Boeing Health and Wellness Initiative** for the 5th year in a row.
- * The Health and Wellness Committee sponsored two Fresh for All events in conjunction with ABES to provide fresh fruits and vegetables to our local community.



SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT TO THE PARENTS
2017-2018

ALSTON MIDDLE SCHOOL

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SUMMERVILLE, SC 29483
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843-821-3978 (FAX)

[HTTP://WWW.AMS.DDTWO.ORG](http://www.ams.ddtwo.org)



Thad Schmenk, Principal
Natasha Prosser, Assistant Principal
Jennie Simons, Assistant Principal
Beth Fiorito, Administrative Intern

AMS Mission

Alston Middle School exists to provide all students with the skills and opportunities to become productive citizens.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

The 2017-2018 school year has been a fulfilling journey for Alston. First, the AdvancEd Reaccreditation process allowed us to reaffirm our commitment to student achievement and innovative instructional programs. Next, the Palmetto's Finest award process taught us that we are stronger when we work collaboratively with all stakeholders and that we are capable of fulfilling our school's mission. Both of these experiences provided us with opportunities to apply our growth mindset in order to take Alston from good to great.

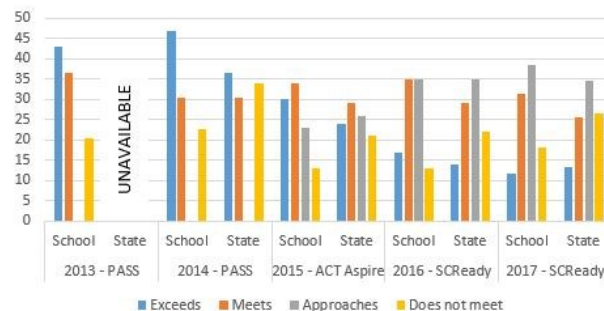
Built in 1910, the original Alston campus was one of the first African American schools founded in our county. In order to preserve this historical landmark, Alston underwent numerous beautification efforts this year. We renovated our gym and media center, hung a plethora of student pictures and artwork, added new landscaping, ballfields, a PTSA workspace, and a data room. Additionally, we created a historical exhibit to celebrate our rich history.

In the spirit of constant improvement, we strive to help all students develop the world-class skills of the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate by encouraging collaboration and creativity amongst all stakeholders, especially our students. Our House system and Student Council offer leadership roles, a platform for student advocacy, and opportunities for student-led philanthropic endeavors. Together, our students donated over 3000 canned goods for our food drive and over 1800 items for our Dorchester Paws fundraiser. Furthermore, we worked with our local businesses and community partners to offer our Fresh for All, Epic Seminar, and community picnic events.

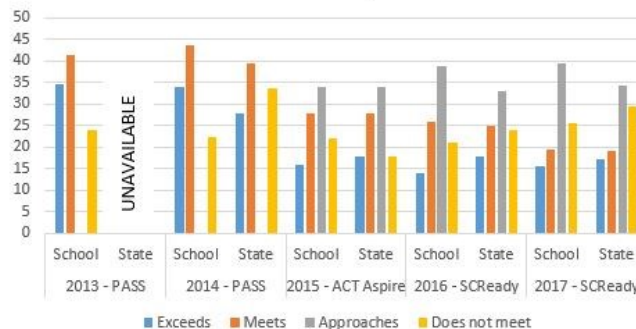
In an effort to promote creativity, Alston has also recently partnered with Engaging Creative Minds, a program that is currently collaborating with our science and social studies teachers to incorporate fine arts instruction. In addition, Crayola has partnered with AMS to provide extra writing support for our ELA teachers. These two programs further our arts mission statement. Our most recent partnership with iSTEM SC expands our instructional creativity by offering computer science, digital literacy, and computational thinking—the creative skills tomorrow's innovators need.

ACHIEVEMENT DATA

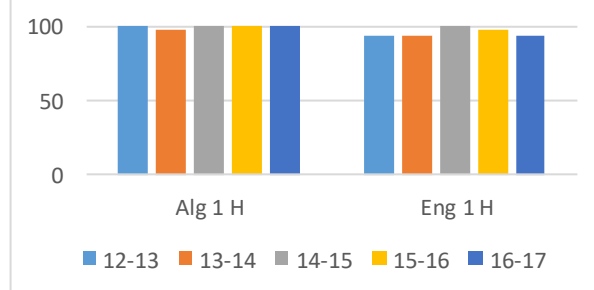
ELA SCReady Scores



Math SCReady Scores



EOC Passage Rate



AMS VISION

Alston Middle School will be recognized as a “World Class” school, in which partnerships with parents and the community provide each student an individualized, well-rounded education within a nurturing, safe, and creative environment that inspires each child to reach his or her full potential.

SIC GOALS

- * To build a sense of community in the classroom and school pride.
- * To increase parent involvement through parent workshops and events.

2017-2018 SIC Members

- * Thad Schmenk, Administrator
- * Tanya Timmons, Parent (Secretary)
- * Beth Fiorito, Teacher (Chairperson)
- * Erica Joy, Teacher
- * Lynn McClary, Community Member
- * William Lomax, Community Member
- * Lisa Hamilton, Parent
- * Lori Hamilton, Parent
- * Wende Kintner, Parent

FAST FACTS

- * Grades: 6-8
- * School Enrollment: 820
- * Number of Certified Staff: 56
- * Percentage of Certified Staff with Advanced Degrees: 50%
- * Average Number of Years of Teaching Experience: 7.3%
- * Percentage of Students Receiving Subsidized Meals: 58%