

# FURMAN MIDDLE SCHOOL



**Grades:** 6th - 8th  
**School Colors:** Purple and Gold  
**School Mascot:** Indians  
**School Theme:** Furman Pride  
**Enrollment:** 753  
**Average Class Size:** 27

## **Brief Summary of Instructional Program**\_\_\_\_\_

At Furman Middle School, the faculty and staff are committed to developing the world class skills and life and career characteristics of the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate by providing challenging opportunities for all students to be successful in a safe and caring environment. We do this by providing standards-based instruction along with instruction on available career paths and opportunities for our students as they progress through middle and high school. Students, parents, faculty, staff and community members support each other in our endeavors to achieve this goal.

We participated in the Literacy and Math Design Collaborative through the Southeast Regional Education Board (SREB). This initiative provided all teachers with strategies for promoting literacy across the curriculum and provided math teachers with Formative Assessment Lessons that were based on student-centered lessons to improve student achievement. In addition, we worked with the SREB to train a pilot group of teachers on how to implement Project-Based Learning in an effort to

engage students and to bring relevance to what they are learning. Those teachers are implementing their first projects this year. We also changed our master schedule to a block schedule in order to provide 90 minutes of instruction daily in math, science, social studies and language arts.

Furman Middle provides avenues for our teachers to grow professionally. We added a PLUS team, a team of three veteran teachers, whose purpose is to provide training and support to all teachers to improve their effectiveness in instructing our students. To further provide opportunities for growth, we added time in the daily schedule for professional development for our teachers.

Through the United Way, we have community and military members who come to Furman each week to mentor individual students. In addition, these same mentors developed and led a Gentleman's Club for some of our 7th grade boys. We have a Diamonds program that teaches personal growth. We also piloted the first Chamber of Commerce Student Career Forum for middle schools.

Michael Riggins, Principal  
3400 Bethel Church Road  
Sumter, SC 29154  
Phone: 481-8519 Fax: 481-8923  
<http://fms.sumterschools.net>

## Outstanding Features/Programs

- Team Teaching
- Exploratory Classes
- Tutoring
- Student Support Groups
- Society's Finest Boys Group
- Ambassador Club

## Recent Awards and Honors

- Superior Rating and First Place in the Middle School Division at the Carowinds Music Festival
- Home for Heroes Award Recipient
- Superintendent's Award of Excellence Recipient
- \$10,000 STEM Grant for the Industrial Education Program
- AdvancEd Accreditation
- Duke TIP Junior Scholars

## Extracurricular Activities

- Athletics
- Furman Chorale
- Furman Show Choir
- FFA
- Band
- Yearbook Staff
- Student Council
- Step Team
- FBLA
- PTSA and School Sponsored Dances

## School Incentives

- Honor Roll
- Furman Academic Awards Program
- Furman Athletic Awards Program
- National Junior Honor Society
- Citizenship Awards
- Perfect Attendance
- Chamber of Commerce Golden Apple Awards
- Got Character Awards

## Community Involvement

- School Renewal Council
- School Strategic Plan Committee
- Service Learning Projects
- United Way
- Relay for Life
- American Heart Walk
- Principal for the Day

## Parent and Teacher Opportunities

- Parent-Teacher-Student Association
- Teacher Advisory Council
- School Improvement Council
- Science/Math Night
- ELA Night

## Faculty Profile

- 3 Administrators
- 34 Teachers
- 1 Athletic Director
- School Counselors
- Career Specialist
- 1 Media Specialist

