

# The Voice From Within

October 2018

## BAMBERG SCHOOL DISTRICT TWO

**Our Focus:**  
Student Achievement, Accountability, Attendance  
Turning It All Around

*Dr. Thelma F. Sojourner, Superintendent*

[www.bamberg2.org](http://www.bamberg2.org)

### Denmark-Olar Elementary School News

Dr. Lorraine Peeples, Principal

#### Greetings from Denmark-Olar Elementary School

The 2018–2019 school year is off to an excellent start. Students are more focused and referrals have decreased. Our goal is to continue to improve student achievement and also to improve the school's overall learning environment. The Leader In Me principles will be used to strengthen interpersonal relationships, to analyze our strengths and weaknesses, and set academic and personal goals. Improving the school's culture starts with every single member of the school. Each individual will take this personal growth journey that will lead to a broader perspective for all.

#### Grandparents Day!

Not even a hurricane could stop us from

spending time with one of the most inspirational people in the lives of students, Grandparents. On Friday, September 28,



over 150 grandparents joined their grandchildren for a Wee Viking breakfast. Friendly banter filled the cafeteria as grandparents talked with their grandchildren about their school experiences.



After breakfast, the priceless moment was captured in film as grandparents and

grandchildren posed for the camera. It was a beautiful morning.

Thank you, grandparents, for sharing your love with us!

#### Project STREAM 2018

Project STREAM, the 21st Century after school program, began on Tuesday, September 18th. Over 135 students registered for the program, and unfortunately, some are still waiting for an opportunity to participate. Students engage in academic enrichment that assists them with homework and classroom success. They explore special interests by participating in chorus, dance, arts and crafts, brain teaser, food and nutrition, and physical activities.

Students' STEM experiences include farming, aerodynamics, and cyber security. Students extend their experiences beyond the classroom as they travel to various learning venues, and periodically, field experiences are brought to them. The program operates Monday through Thursday from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. The students look forward to an outstanding year.

### PARENTS' RIGHT TO KNOW

Dear Parents:

In compliance with the requirements of the Every Student Succeeds Act, Bamberg School District Two would like to inform you that you may request information about the professional qualifications of your student's teacher(s) and/or paraprofessional(s). The following information may be requested:

- Whether the student's teacher -
  - \* has met State qualifications and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction;
  - \* is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which State qualifications or licensing criteria have been waived; and
  - \* is teaching in the field of discipline of the certification of the teacher.
- Whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

If you wish to request information concerning your child's teacher's and/or paraprofessional's qualifications, please contact your child's principal.

Ruby J. Johnson, Ed.D.  
Director of Curriculum/Instructional Services



# STUDENTS of the MONTH

October 2018

Congratulations to the following students who were selected Students of the Month at their respective schools and received plaques and certificates from the Board of Trustees and Superintendent during the October 1 Board meeting.



Trevin Jerido

D-O Elementary School



Jermariah Downing

D-O Middle School



Kalia Glover

D-O High School

## Denmark-Olar High School News

Dr. Deonia Simmons, Principal

### DRONE PHOTOGRAPHY AT DOHS

By Savonya Washington



This fall, the art class did an amazing project which was flying a drone. At first, I was afraid to fly it because I had never flown one, in fact I had never even heard of a drone. After Dr. Martin taught me how to use the controls, it was easy to fly. Now I love flying the drone and taking pictures of people working on the new school. Every week we go out behind the school and fly it over the workers to see what they are doing.



We can see where the new school will be. They are digging holes for water drainage, and we can see where the new football field will be. We saw a pond, and it looks like they are building another road. They are spreading sand to smooth out the area and making it level. We take pictures and put them on the art bulletin board so the students can see what is happening. We look forward to having a new school and the students enjoy the weekly updates provided by drone photography.

### OBAP ATLANTA ACE ACADEMY



Last Summer, Eidref Siblag, a Denmark-Olar High School student, participated in the Atlanta Aviation Career Education (ACE) Academy sponsored by the Organization of Black Aerospace Professionals (OBAP). Eidref's participation in the week-long camp was sponsored by Captain Ron Graves, a pilot for United Airlines, and alumni of DOHS class of 1978.



OBAP's ACE Academy provides middle and high school youth with exposure to opportunities in aerospace and aviation through week-long summer camps. All participants explored aviation history and got the opportunity to actually fly a single engine airplane. Also, the participants took a flight on an Airbus A-321, from Atlanta to Dayton, OH, where they spent the day at the US Air Force museum. Captain Ron Graves will take four students from Denmark Olar High School to the Atlanta ACE camp in the summer of 2019.

### DOHS Seniors Starting Early & Finishing Strong

Throughout August-December, high schools across the state will host College Application Day events to assist students

with the college application process. The goal of College Application Month is to provide a forum for all South Carolina seniors to complete and file college applications. Much of the focus of College Application Month is geared toward first-generation college students and students who may not otherwise apply to college.

At DOHS, we included events for freshmen, sophomores and juniors. Freshmen were engaged in "Opportunity Orientation," facilitated by Stephen Mason, VP of Economic and Workforce Development at Denmark Technical College. In this session students were informed of the myriad of opportunities available to them. Sophomores participated in a "Sophomore Soft Skills" session conducted by Marilyn Pickering, our Regional Career Specialist. "Junior Jumpstart" has become an annual addition to College Application Day where the college recruiters form a panel and answer questions posed by a moderator as well as the students in the audience. The staff are in on it as well, wearing their college paraphernalia and taking ten minutes of each class period to talk about the college experience. Our seniors completed or at least started close to 200 applications at this year's event!

This year we have added The College Goal South Carolina event. College Goal South Carolina, held on October 8, is an opportunity for ALL students, parents and guardians to receive free financial aid assistance while completing and submitting the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The FAFSA is the first step to receiving Federal aid and the second step to post-secondary access. It is a vital requirement for most college students who plan to pay for college with the assistance of several different types of aids.

So, the two most important things needed to transition to college - completing applications and the FAFSA have been started early and we are excited to see the Class of 2019 finish strong!

## Denmark-Olar High School News, cont.

### PEER EDUCATOR COMMUNITY EVENTS... A DENMARK TRADITION

Every year the Peer Educators sponsor four community events to encourage parent/child communication and bonding.



On October 17, 2018, we enjoyed an *Evening with Mothers and Sons*. The theme was "A Motherly Love." At these events, families have a wonderful dinner with dessert, enjoy great speakers and participate in fun activities.

The three remaining events for this school year all begin at 6:30 p.m. at DOHS. Here are the dates:



**Mother/Daughter - December 19, 2018**



**Father/Daughter - February 13, 2019**



**Father/Son - March 6, 2019**

The DOHS Peer Educators strategically plan the events from the décor to the activity and theme. It is astonishing how creative they are and the ideas get better and better. The Peer Educators have been hosting community

events for nearly 30 years and this community has supported those efforts beautifully. We want to thank our faithful attendees for making this event a priority.

We encourage teachers and administrators to attend with special students of their choice. If you haven't attended in a while, choose a young person to bring that may not otherwise get a chance to have the experience.

Former peer educators, whether you have become a parent or not, we invite you to come and share the evening's festivities with us. If you have never attended an event, this would be a great opportunity to do so. We look forward to seeing YOU at the events!



### SOUTH CAROLINA PALMETTO BOYS STATE REPRESENTATIVE

A thousand of South Carolina's most promising rising seniors were nominated by their

schools to attend the South Carolina Palmetto Boys State (PBS) event in SC. Palmetto Boys State is a "governmental laboratory" for leaders from high schools across the state and the attendees divide into mock cities and counties and mirror the state legislature.

Our own Talance Holman represented Denmark-Olar High School in this conglomeration of future leaders. Here are excerpts from his personal account of his experience:

My experience at PBS was absolutely amazing! The brotherhood at Anderson University was as if we knew each other for many years. We still actually have a group chat with our counselors who are, surprisingly, just a little older than I am. The leadership qualities that are expected there are held to a high standard. One of the mottos of Boys State often quoted is, "This is not a game or democracy at Boys State."

I was a part of a group called the Federalists and we opposed the Nationalists or Nats for short. We were then assigned to certain cities. I was assigned to Savannah and there were more than 40 others in my city. We had a stupendous amount of fun. We

played basketball, soccer, track...you name it. I made many friends and rivals at Boys State. A part of our evening rituals included certain battle chants. I led a chant entitled, "Who's that Chanting?"

Our junior and senior counselors, Nolan Henderson, Trevor Mudden and Furman Wilson, pushed us to run for almost every office. I ran for city councilman at large and the highest office at Boys State...Governor.

There are so many people I want to thank for helping me to realize this goal. I would like to thank the DOHS Guidance Department and Mr. Fulda for helping me through the application process. Shout out to all of the brotherhood who helped to make this experience rewarding.

My experience was almost movie-like in that I went into the experience one way and it changed my perspective and helped me to see how large the world is but how much people from every pathway of life can have in common. I would recommend that any young man that gets a chance take advantage of the opportunity to attend the South Carolina Palmetto Boys State event.

*Some excerpts from:*  
<https://www.legion.org/boysnation/websites>

If you  
**See** something  
**Say**  
something

**Stay Safe!**





**Congratulations!**

**MRS. GINA SIBLAG**  
Denmark-Olar Middle School



Mrs. Siblag was recognized at the October 1 Board of Trustees meeting and received a certificate and \$25 check.

# Commitment to Keeping Youth Healthy.

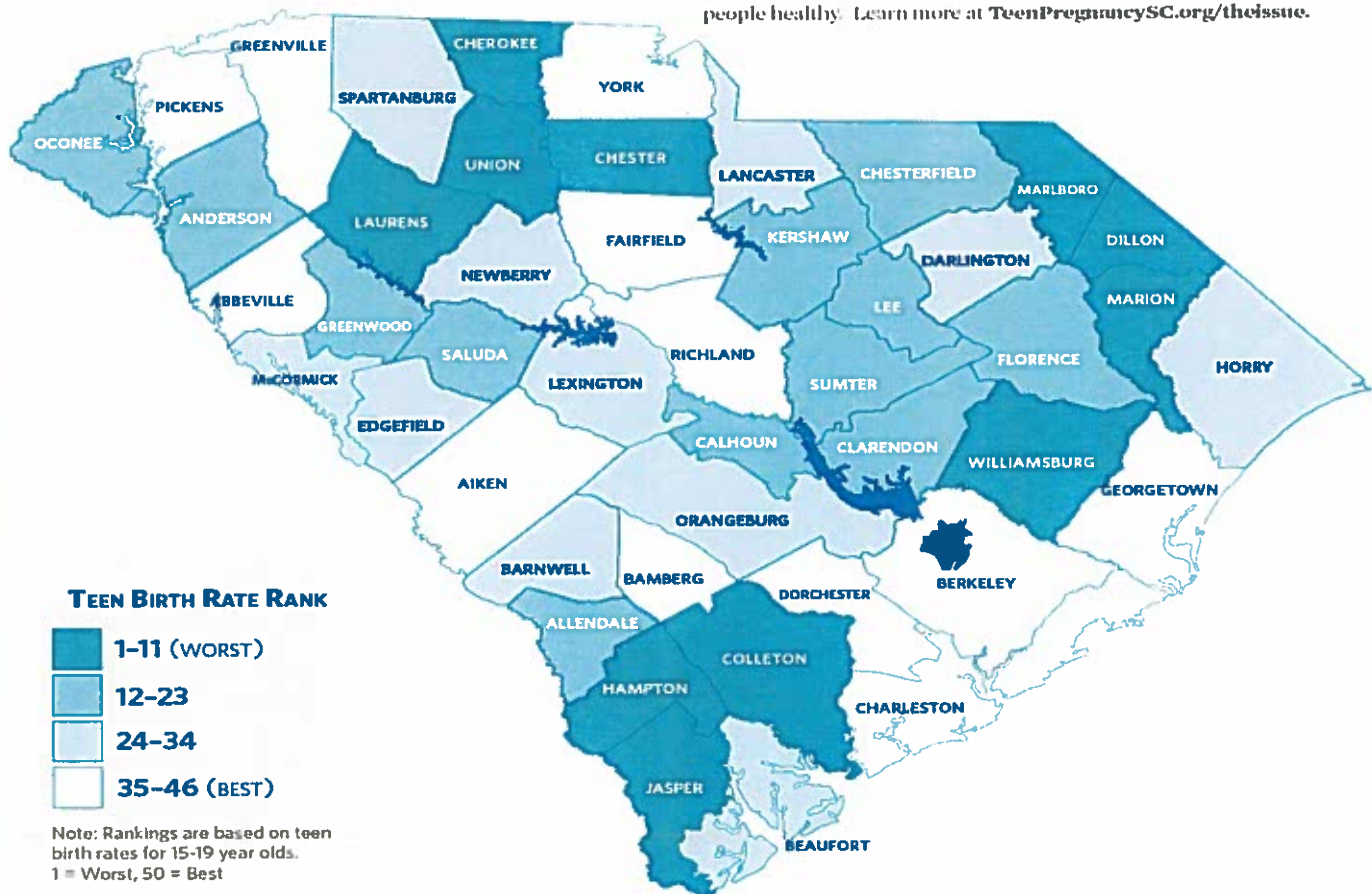
## 2017 South Carolina Teen Birth Trends



South Carolina Campaign to **PREVENT TEEN PREGNANCY**

South Carolina's teen birth rate has declined by 70% since peaking in 1991, continuing decades of success for communities across the state. This includes a 9% decrease from 2016 to 2017, landing the teen birth rate for 15-19 year olds at 21.7 per 1,000 females. Declines over the past 25 years have been most substantial among African American youth ages 15-17 whose teen birth rate has decreased by 83% since 1991.

Older youth (18-19 year olds) continue to drive the overall South Carolina teen birth rate, currently making up 75% of all teen births. The South Carolina Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy (SC Campaign) cannot make an impact on teen pregnancy rates without teams of dedicated professionals willing to engage young people across the state. The SC Campaign is committed to supporting professionals and parents, making sure South Carolina's youth get effective health education and increased access to reproductive health services. It takes sustained support and commitment to keep South Carolina's young people healthy. Learn more at [TeenPregnancySC.org/theissue](http://TeenPregnancySC.org/theissue).



Data Source: Division of Biostatistics, Public Health Statistics and Information Services, SC DHEC, 2017

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Bamberg School District Two is fully committed to affirmative action and to its policies of nondiscrimination and equal opportunity in all programs, activities, services, and employment with regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age, status as a person with a disability, religion, sexual orientation, gender/gender identity and protected veteran's status. Bamberg Two seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. Reasonable prior notice is needed to arrange accommodations. Evidence of practices not consistent with these policies should be reported to the individual who the District has designated as its Title IX Coordinator: Director of Human Resource Services, 62 Holly Avenue, Denmark, SC 29042 (803) 793-3346, Ext. 1019.