



AIKEN COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

Merry Glenne Piccolino

Director of Communications and Community Partnerships
803.641.2428 • mpiccolino@acpsd.net

Ashley Bodine

Communications Coordinator
803.357.0966 • abodine@acpsd.net

For Immediate Release

HIGHLAND SPRINGS MIDDLE TO OPEN IN 2023-24 WITH COMPETITIVE ATHLETICS &
A COMMUNITY-SELECTED MASCOT

As excitement builds for the opening of Aiken County Public Schools' (ACPSD) newest campus, Highland Springs (HSMS) fans can be assured they'll be cheering on HSMS student-athletes during the 2023-24 competitive athletic seasons in the name of a soon-to-be determined mascot.

Will Highland Springs' mascot be the Tridents, River Rapids, Riverhawks, or Titans? Future HSMS students, parents/guardians, teachers/staff, and the entire school community are invited to share their mascot preference. To cast a ballot, click on the link labeled "[Highland Springs Mascot](#)," or click on the logo designs in the scrolling banner on our District website to be directed to the voting platform. The voting period ends this Sunday (March 12) at midnight.

"Choosing the mascot for Highland Springs Middle School is such an important step in the branding and identity of our school," Highland Springs' Principal Paige Day commented. "It has always been important to me to gain as much input from our stakeholders as possible and voting on the mascot is the first step in this process."

Athletic, arts, and extra-curricular opportunities will be available to students as the new middle school opens in fall. In preparation for competitive football, volleyball, basketball, golf, and cheerleading, coaching positions are being staffed, the newest and best equipment is being ordered, and the athletic field is being seeded and irrigated.

"Being involved in athletics and extracurricular activities brings unity to a school and allows students the full experience of middle school," Day continued. "We are eager to show the other ACPSD middle school teams just what a contender HSMS is going to prove to be in the 23-24 school year and beyond."

###