**Saluda Trail Middle School Athletic Program’s Mission**

The purpose of athletics at STMS is to provide student-athletes with the opportunity to get better while participating in their sport of choice. Our student-athletes are gifted the chance to gain learning experiences which contribute to their emotional, mental, physical, and social growth. We believe that athletics assist with the development of positive self-esteem, and an environment among coaches and their student-athletes where mutual respect is valued. We also believe that athletics fulfill a necessary and important function in the student-athlete’s educational process.

STMS Athletics is an extension of the regular school day. We as a coaching staff feel that we are responsible for teaching core values such as: Character, Honor, Achievement, Motivation, Perseverance, Accountability, Sportsmanship, Leadership, Participation within the rules, Work Ethic, Responsibility, Self-Discipline, Teamwork, and the Ultimate Pursuit of Excellence.

Our goal is to properly educate students through participation in interscholastic competition. Our program is designed to enhance academic achievement and will encourage and instill opportunities for academic success.

**STMS Wildcat Pride**

**“Helping Our Student-Athletes to Build a Bridge to Their Success!”**

**Excellence**

 **Dedication Determination**

**Inspiration Integrity**

**Responsibility Respect**

 **Preparation Participation**