SC Annual School Report Card Summary

Varennes Academy of Communications and Technology
Anderson 5
Grades: K-5 **Enrollment: 387**
Principal: Dr. Mary C. Paul
Superintendent: Betty T. Bagley
Board Chair: Dr. William Mack Burriss

PERFORMANCE

Comprehensive detail, including definitions of ratings, performance criteria, and explanations of status, is available on www.ed.sc.gov and www.eoc.sc.gov as well as school and school district websites. Printed versions are available from school districts upon request.

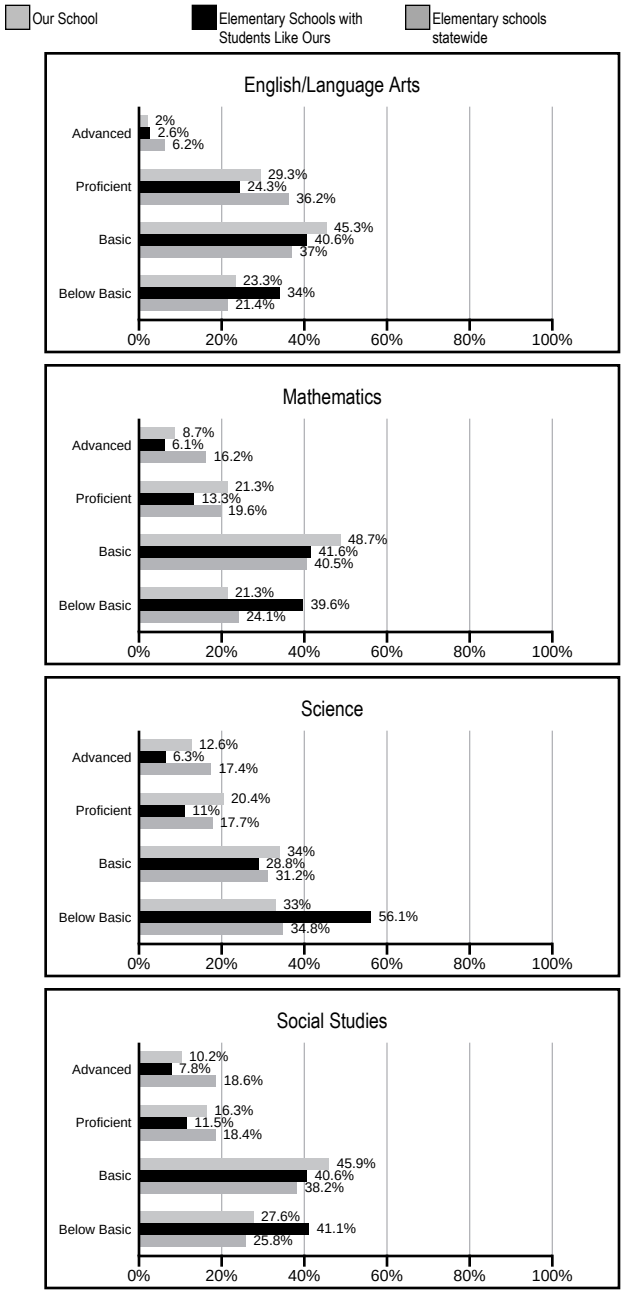
YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING	PALMETTO GOLD/SILVER AWARD	AYP STATUS	NCLB IMPROVEMENT STATUS
2008	Below Average	Below Average	TBD	Met	NI-DELAY
2007	Below Average	At-Risk	N/A	Not Met	NI
2006	Average	Below Average	Silver	Not Met	N/A

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	BELOW AVERAGE	AT-RISK
0	4	4	44	61

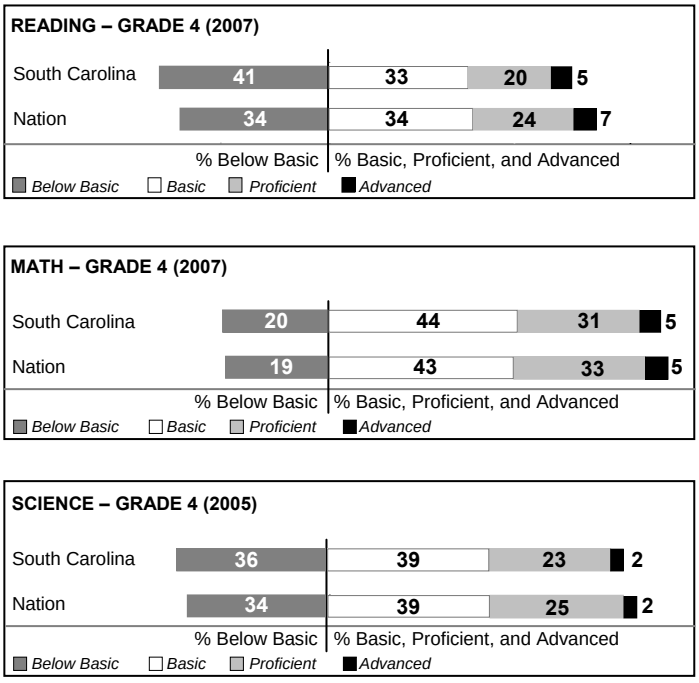
** Ratings are calculated with data available by 02/17/2009. Schools with Students like Ours are Elementary Schools with poverty indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this school.*

PACT PERFORMANCE



NAEP PERFORMANCE*

** Performance reported for SC and nation, data not available at school level. Percentages at NAEP Achievement Levels.*



SC PERFORMANCE GOAL

2010 Goal:
By 2010, SC's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the fastest improving systems in the country.

2020 Goal: TBD

Abbreviations Key
N/A Not Applicable **N/AV** Not Available **N/C** Not Collected **N/R** Not Reported **I/S** Insufficient Sample **TBD** To be determined
NI Newly Identified **CSI** Continuing School Improvement **CA** Corrective Action **RP** Plan to Restructure **R** Restructure **DELAY** School Improvement Status **HOLD** School Improvement Status

Varennes Academy of Communications and Technology [A

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Elementary Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Elementary School
Students (n=387)				
Retention rate	1.9%	Down from 4.1%	3.1%	2.3%
Attendance rate	96.0%	Down from 96.5%	96.0%	96.3%
Eligible for gifted and talented	2.7%	Up from 1.5%	2.9%	10.4%
With disabilities other than speech	12.6%	Down from 13.5%	7.8%	7.5%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent &/or criminal offenses	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=37)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	51.4%	Down from 53.8%	54.5%	56.7%
Continuing contract teachers	59.5%	Down from 71.8%	69.0%	77.3%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers returning from previous year	80.9%	Down from 82.4%	82.6%	86.4%
Teacher attendance rate	94.7%	No Change	95.0%	94.9%
Average teacher salary	$42,764	Up 4.3%	$43,876	$45,345
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.0%	No Change	1.0%	0.0%
School				
Principal's years at school	24.0	Up from 23.0	3.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	16.1 to 1	Up from 15.8 to 1	16.6 to 1	18.5 to 1
Prime instructional time	86.7%	Down from 88.8%	89.4%	89.8%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No Change	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Character development program	Excellent	No Change	Excellent	Excellent
Dollars spent per pupil*	$8,488	Down 36.9%	$8,172	$7,052
Percent of expenditures for instruction*	66.6%	Up from 62.3%	68.5%	69.1%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries*	65.3%	Up from 53.7%	61.0%	64.2%
% of AYP objectives met	100.0%		69.2%	85.7%

* Prior year audited financial data available.

EVALUATION RESULTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	32	59	22
Percent satisfied with learning environment	100.0%	86.4%	86.4%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	96.9%	83.1%	72.7%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	34.4%	82.8%	68.2%

*Only students at the highest elementary school grade level at this school and their parents were included.

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

Varennes Elementary, located in Anderson, SC, is a Title I school that served approximately 350 students in 2007-2008. The school serves students in grades K-5. The school's faculty consists of twenty-four regular education teachers, five co-curricular teachers, two special education teachers, and seventeen support personnel. All students attend Physical Education, Art, Music, and Computer classes as well as visit the media center on a weekly basis. Two Reading Recovery teachers serve first grade students who have been identified as at-risk readers. In addition, our two resource teachers work diligently alongside the regular classroom teacher to help Special Education students master grade-level standards.

The learning community at Varennes is committed to student success. Operating on a modified calendar allows every student the opportunity to be successful. Academic enrichment weeks are offered three times a year to students who are experiencing problems or require acceleration. In addition to enrichment weeks, we offer a comprehensive afterschool program. This program is open to any student in grades 3-5 who require or would like afterschool help.

Technology has been used to enhance instruction at Varennes for the last three years. SMART boards and LCD projectors are in every classroom. With the assistance of our computer facilitator and videographer, students engage in technology-rich lessons that encourage them to become innovative thinkers and prepare them to compete in the future job market. Fourth and fifth grade students showcase their speaking skills through the production of our "Tiger 21Live" morning television show.

We believe that building a strong school-home network is vital to the success of our students. For that reason, we actively seek parental and community involvement in all school activities. Parents, students, and faculty/staff members have participated in various afterschool events such as our annual school talent show, Math, Literacy, and Fitness nights as well as an Opening of School Celebration. As more parents and community members become involved, we are seeing ourselves grow as a learning community.

Through the tireless efforts of our students, teachers, parents, and community, Varennes is making great progress. However, we realize that our present progress is only a fraction of what our students are capable of achieving. We look forward to the 2008-2009 school year as we continue to pave the way for our leaders of tomorrow.

Dr. Mary C. Paul, Principal
Stacey Young, SIC Chair

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