SC Annual School Report Card Summary

Discovery School of Lancaster
Lancaster County
Grades: K-5 **Enrollment: 108**
Principal: Thomas H. McDuffie
Superintendent: Richard E. Moore
Board Chair: Charlene McGriff

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.

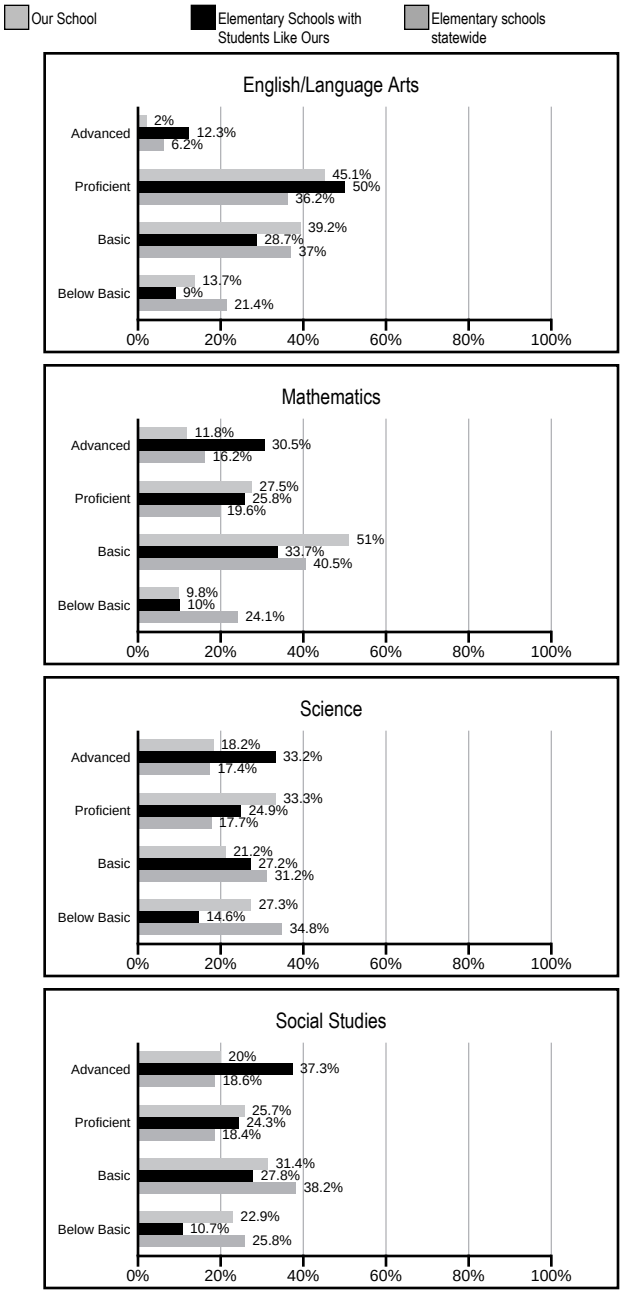
YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING	PALMETTO GOLD/SILVER AWARD	AYP STATUS	NCLB IMPROVEMENT STATUS
2008	Average	At-Risk	TBD	Met	N/A
2007	Good	Average	Gold	Met	N/A
2006	Excellent	Excellent	Gold	Met	N/A

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	BELOW AVERAGE	AT-RISK
4	16	2	0	0

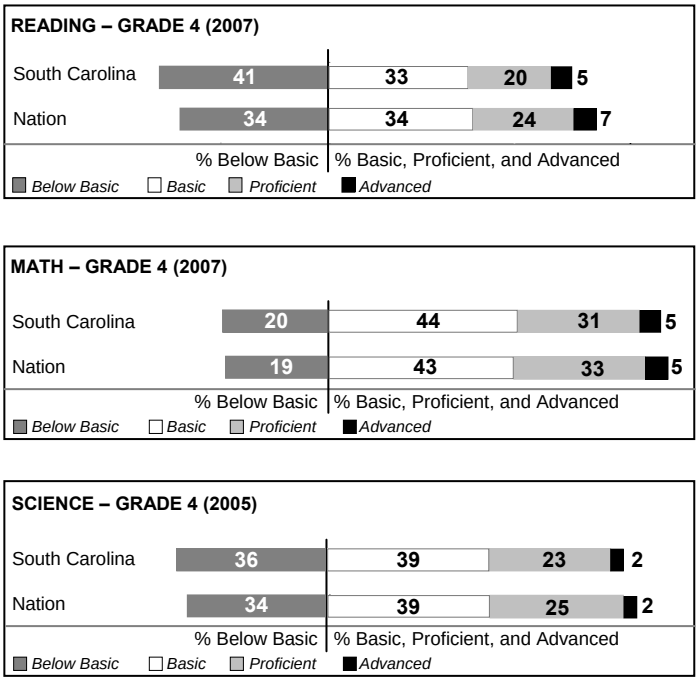
** Ratings are calculated with data available by 02/17/2009. Schools with Students like Ours are Elementary Schools with poverty indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this school.*

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

Discovery School of Lancaster [Lancaster County]

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Elementary Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Elementary School
Students (n=108)				
Retention rate	0.9%	No Change	1.4%	2.3%
Attendance rate	97.4%	Down from 98.0%	96.7%	96.3%
Eligible for gifted and talented	25.9%	Down from 31.5%	24.5%	10.4%
With disabilities other than speech	3.7%	Up from 1.9%	5.2%	7.5%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent &/or criminal offenses	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=13)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	33.3%	Down from 40.0%	61.1%	56.7%
Continuing contract teachers	44.4%	Down from 50.0%	81.4%	77.3%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers returning from previous year	64.2%	Up from 61.9%	88.7%	86.4%
Teacher attendance rate	96.0%	Down from 97.1%	95.0%	94.9%
Average teacher salary	$46,675	Up 20.7%	$47,699	$45,345
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	14.3%	Up from 0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
School				
Principal's years at school	8.0	Up from 7.0	6.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	18.0 to 1	No Change	20.0 to 1	18.5 to 1
Prime instructional time	89.8%	Down from 92.7%	90.4%	89.8%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No Change	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	No	No Change	Yes	Yes
Character development program	Good	Up from Average	Excellent	Excellent
Dollars spent per pupil*	$5,775	Up 14.0%	$6,547	$7,052
Percent of expenditures for instruction*	82.5%	Up from 76.9%	70.7%	69.1%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries*	68.4%	Down from 74.0%	65.3%	64.2%
% of AYP objectives met	100.0%		90.5%	85.7%

* Prior year audited financial data available.

EVALUATION RESULTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	7	18	18
Percent satisfied with learning environment	100.0%	88.9%	94.4%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	85.7%	83.3%	94.4%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	100.0%	94.4%	100.0%

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

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

School year 2007-08 was one of excitement at Discovery School. We want our school family and the community at large to feel the excitement when they walk into Discovery School. Excitement for teaching and learning. Excitement for sharing learning accomplishments. Excitement for exploration and growth.

We want Discovery School to be a place where practical application of the Multiple Intelligences theory is coupled with current educational research and technology, providing optimal learning experiences for all children. Teachers employ innovative and creative teaching strategies, including problem-based learning and the freedom to choose learning materials from a variety of sources rather than a particular text.

Our students face challenging activities traditionally reserved for students identified as academically gifted and talented. Students master the curriculum through an integrated approach, encouraging them to make connections among all core areas and the arts. Foreign language instruction begins in Kindergarten. The Positive Discipline program teaches students to be responsible citizens of safe, cohesive classrooms. Class schedules revolve around instructional needs, allowing students to explore topics more fully. Flexibility is encouraged in how students demonstrate mastery of material and concepts.

An innovative management structure gives parents and teachers significant input into the school's operations. Discovery School is administered by a three-person leadership team and governed by an executive committee and advisory board comprised of parents, teachers, and community members.

Excellence is Discovery School's ultimate goal — excellence in teaching, excellence in educational opportunities, and most importantly, excellence in student achievement.

"Let us think of education as the means of developing our greatest abilities, because in each of us there is a private hope and dream which, fulfilled, can be translated into benefit for everyone and greater strength for our nation." — John F. Kennedy

Tom McDuffie, Leadership Team Member
Chris Nunnery, School Improvement Council Chair

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