SC Annual School Report Card Summary

South Middle
Lancaster County
Grades: 6-8 **Enrollment: 697**
Principal: Joyce Crimminger
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.

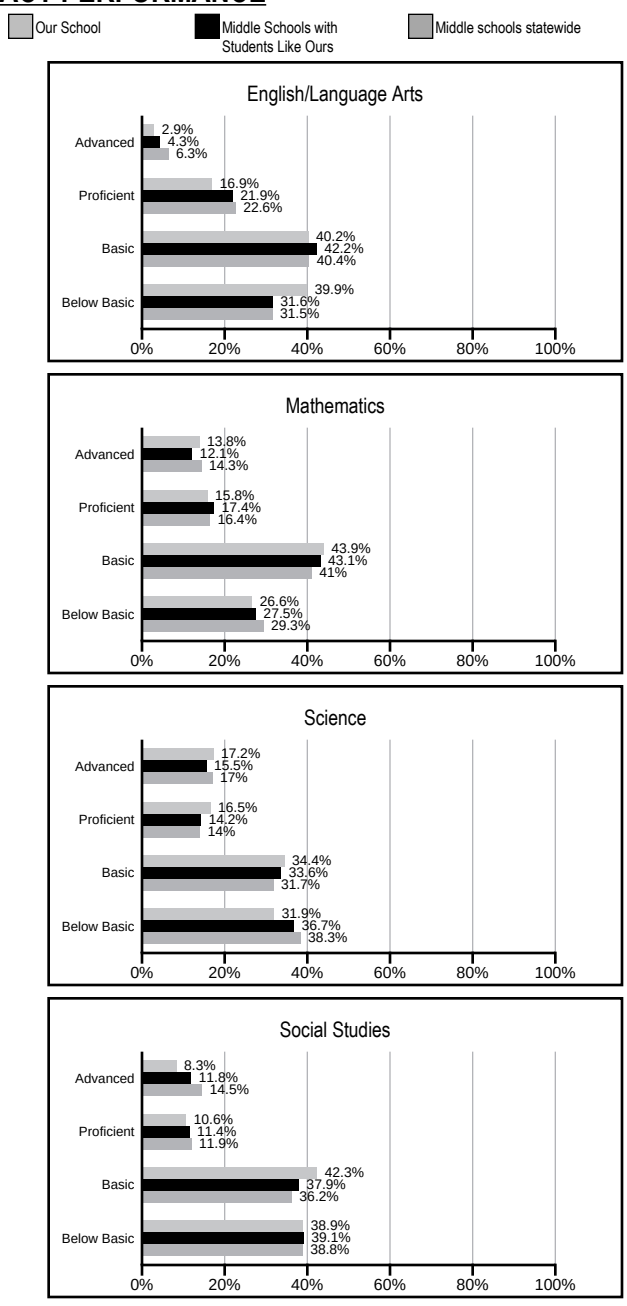
YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING	PALMETTO GOLD/SILVER AWARD	AYP STATUS	NCLB IMPROVEMENT STATUS
2008	Below Average	At-Risk	TBD	Not Met	N/A
2007	Below Average	At-Risk	N/A	Not Met	N/A
2006	Below Average	Below Average	N/A	Not Met	N/A

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF MIDDLE SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	BELOW AVERAGE	AT-RISK
0	0	11	31	4

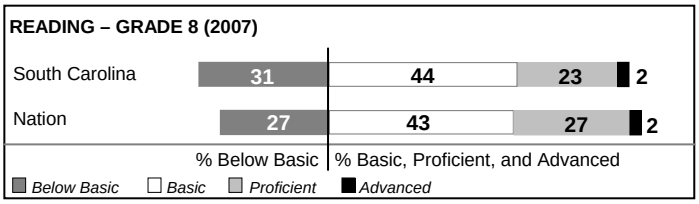
** Ratings are calculated with data available by 03/02/2009. Schools with Students like Ours are Middle Schools with poverty indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this school.*

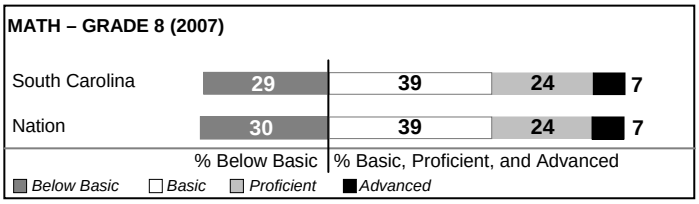
PACT PERFORMANCE

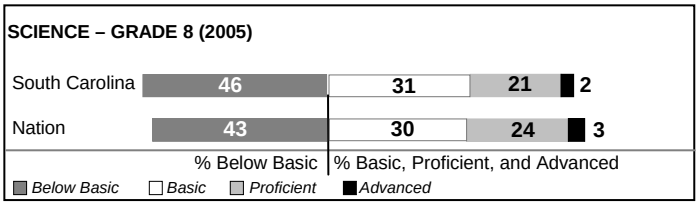


NAEP PERFORMANCE*

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







END OF COURSE TESTS - 2008

% of students scoring 70 or above on:	Our Middle School	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours
Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2	98.1%	96.5%
English 1	0%	94.4%
Physical Science	0%	76.9%
All Subjects	98.1%	95.2%

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
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NI Newly Identified **CSI** Continuing School Improvement **CA** Corrective Action **RP** Plan to Restructure **R** Restructure **DELAY** School Improvement Status **HOLD** School Improvement Status

South Middle [Lancaster County]

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Middle School
Students (n=697)				
Students enrolled in high school credit courses (grades 7 & 8)	9.6%	Up from 6.9%	18.1%	19.4%
Retention rate	1.0%	Down from 1.2%	1.7%	1.8%
Attendance rate	95.7%	Up from 95.2%	95.7%	95.8%
Eligible for gifted and talented	10.1%	Up from 8.7%	14.3%	15.3%
With disabilities other than speech	14.2%	Up from 12.7%	14.5%	12.9%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent &/or criminal offenses	1.3%	Up from 0.7%	0.6%	0.7%
Annual dropout rate	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=57)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	59.6%	Up from 49.1%	52.6%	55.0%
Continuing contract teachers	50.9%	Down from 54.5%	73.6%	70.6%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	4.5%	Down from 7.1%	5.8%	5.4%
Teachers returning from previous year	76.8%	Down from 77.0%	84.4%	83.4%
Teacher attendance rate	94.6%	Down from 95.7%	94.8%	94.9%
Average teacher salary	$43,801	Up 8.1%	$44,530	$44,706
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	6.7%	Up from 2.2%	1.7%	2.9%
School				
Principal's years at school	3.0	Up from 2.0	3.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	18.4 to 1	Down from 19.8 to 1	19.1 to 1	20.1 to 1
Prime instructional time	88.8%	Down from 89.5%	88.9%	89.3%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	Down from Excellent	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Character development program	Good	No Change	Good	Good
Dollars spent per pupil*	$6,657	Up 11.9%	$6,959	$7,097
Percent of expenditures for instruction*	72.1%	Down from 74.8%	65.5%	64.4%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries*	65.5%	Down from 69.9%	61.2%	59.4%
% of AYP objectives met	57.1%		66.7%	69.0%

* Prior year audited financial data available.

EVALUATION RESULTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	51	213	170
Percent satisfied with learning environment	74.5%	80.1%	84.0%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	88.2%	83.0%	74.6%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	58.8%	85.3%	79.3%

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

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

South Middle School continues to work towards providing our students with the best educational opportunities available. The following programs or initiatives were implemented during the 2007-2008 school year:

WSMS – Studio SMS began its inaugural year of the WSMS broadcast studio. This studio produces a morning news program highlighting school news, weather, and other features.

Technology for Teachers – Because of the new technology South has incorporated into the classrooms during the year, teachers were offered the opportunity to participate in a yearlong course covering many aspects of cutting-edge technology in the classroom.

Night of Excellence – A showcase of the excellent teaching that commonly occurs in our classrooms, this night provided parents with a firsthand experience of student life at SMS. Seventeen sessions were offered in a variety of subject areas.

Our focus on technology continued to grow. SMARTBoards were installed in every academic classroom this year. In addition, teachers have access to eleven wireless writing slates and six sets of Senteos.

South's students continued to excel in academics throughout the year. Eleven eighth-graders were selected as Junior Scholars, twelve students were recognized at the annual Celebration of Excellence, a seventh-grader won the District Spelling Bee, a sixth-grader was recognized as a Soil Conservation Essay Award winner, an eighth-grader was selected as a Duke TIP Scholar, and several students were honored as District Science Fair winners. Our arts program also continued to flourish with our band and chorus once again being recognized with many accolades that included excellent and superior ratings at solo and ensemble events. Several of our students also received awards at the local art show.

We continued to focus attention on implementing the comprehensive improvement framework associated with Making Middle Grades Work. Sixty eighth-graders were randomly selected and tested using the National Assessment of Educational Progress instrument.

A South Middle science teacher was chosen as the Lancaster County Middle School Teacher of the Year. In addition, eight teachers presented at the South Carolina Middle School Conference. Two teachers also had articles published in national magazines.

South Middle School could not have accomplished so much without the help and support of our parents and community. The PTO and School Improvement Council continue to help ensure that our students receive the best educational opportunities possible.

Joyce Crimminger, Principal
Richie Knight, School Improvement Council Chair

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