SC Annual School Report Card Summary

Buford Middle
Lancaster County
Grades: 6-8 **Enrollment: 437**
Principal: Sheryl H. Wells
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.

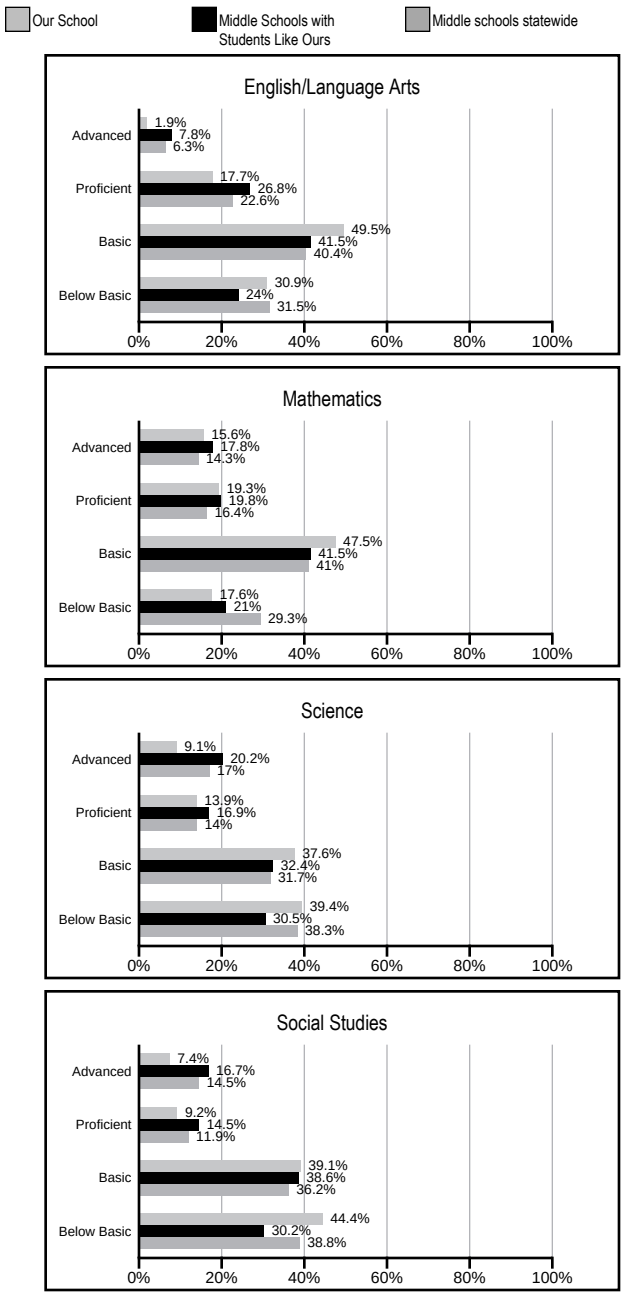
YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING	PALMETTO GOLD/SILVER AWARD	AYP STATUS	NCLB IMPROVEMENT STATUS
2008	Below Average	Below Average	TBD	Not Met	N/A
2007	Below Average	At-Risk	N/A	Not Met	N/A
2006	Below Average	At-Risk	N/A	Not Met	N/A

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF MIDDLE SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	BELOW AVERAGE	AT-RISK
0	2	25	14	1

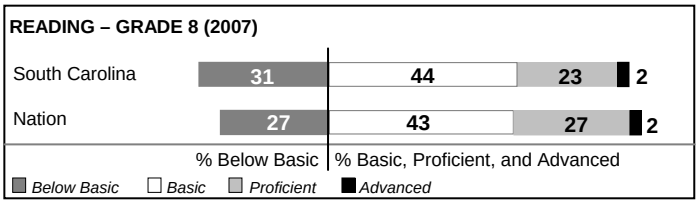
** Ratings are calculated with data available by 03/02/2009. Schools with Students like Ours are Middle Schools with poverty indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this school.*

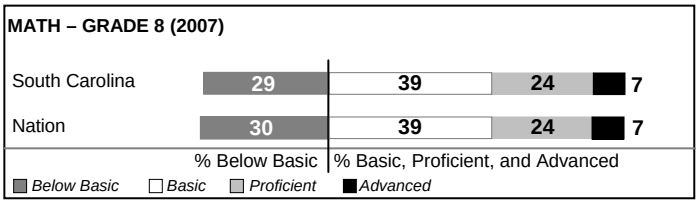
PACT PERFORMANCE

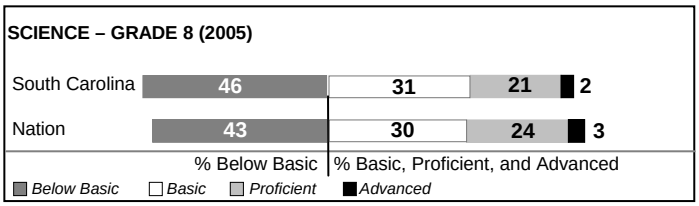


NAEP PERFORMANCE*

** 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	95.9%	98.3%
English 1	0%	97.2%
Physical Science	0%	65.5%
All Subjects	95.9%	97.7%

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

Buford Middle [Lancaster County]

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Middle School
Students (n=437)				
Students enrolled in high school credit courses (grades 7 & 8)	16.2%	Down from 16.6%	27.0%	19.4%
Retention rate	0.7%	Down from 0.8%	1.6%	1.8%
Attendance rate	94.9%	No Change	95.7%	95.8%
Eligible for gifted and talented	12.2%	Up from 10.8%	18.7%	15.3%
With disabilities other than speech	13.1%	Up from 10.8%	13.1%	12.9%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent &/or criminal offenses	8.5%	Up from 1.9%	0.7%	0.7%
Annual dropout rate	0.0%	Down from 0.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=28)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	78.6%	Up from 73.3%	56.3%	55.0%
Continuing contract teachers	78.6%	Down from 86.7%	74.3%	70.6%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	3.7%	Up from 0.0%	4.7%	5.4%
Teachers returning from previous year	88.5%	Down from 89.4%	86.8%	83.4%
Teacher attendance rate	95.1%	Down from 95.5%	95.1%	94.9%
Average teacher salary	$50,603	Up 6.2%	$45,174	$44,706
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	8.6%	Up from 5.3%	0.0%	2.9%
School				
Principal's years at school	3.0	Up from 2.0	3.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	22.5 to 1	Up from 21.4 to 1	21.4 to 1	20.1 to 1
Prime instructional time	86.1%	Down from 87.7%	88.8%	89.3%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	Down from Excellent	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Character development program	Excellent	No Change	Good	Good
Dollars spent per pupil*	$6,049	Up 5.8%	$6,609	$7,097
Percent of expenditures for instruction*	73.7%	Up from 73.6%	63.7%	64.4%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries*	69.9%	Up from 69.4%	59.8%	59.4%
% of AYP objectives met	66.7%		71.4%	69.0%

* Prior year audited financial data available.

EVALUATION RESULTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	32	139	0
Percent satisfied with learning environment	100.0%	82.6%	N/R
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	96.9%	87.7%	N/R
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	93.8%	89.1%	N/R

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

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

Buford Middle School has been "Racing to Success" during the 2007-2008 school year. Our NASCAR theme has been included in every subject area. At the beginning of the year, we challenged our students to "Race to Read." The top 30 racers then traveled to The Dixie Stampede in Myrtle Beach. We had the number 24 car of Jimmy Johnson, the 2008 NASCAR points champion, come to our school so that students and their parents could view an actual NASCAR. We conducted two school-wide reads, in which an entire book is read in one day. The authors of one of the books, Swapping Paint, then traveled to our school to speak to our children about writing for interest. We conducted book clubs for our students and our teachers. We held contests monthly for the top reader. In May, we took our top 50 readers to the Darlington International Speedway for the Plywood 500 Busch race. This concentration on reading increased the number of students that took and passed Accelerated Reader tests by over 300%.

Our teachers were also "Racing to Success." We knew our school budget would limit the amount of activities in which our children would be able to participate. Our teachers began writing grants and seeking outside funding. Buford Middle School raised over $30,000.00 in grants and other initiatives to use for our students. This work was in addition to those who were seeking National Board certification and those taking classes to earn higher degrees. Even with all of this additional work, we had nine teachers nominated through the Celebrate Great Teaching program and one spotlighted in the Lancaster News contest, My Favorite Teacher.

We continued to represent our district well academically. We had seven eighth grade students who were named South Carolina Junior Scholars. We had one sixth grader who was named a Duke TIP scholar. Forty-nine eighth grade students qualified to take Algebra I, with eleven scoring 100 on the S.C. End of Course test in Algebra I. Our students conducted family nights in which authors, dramatic poetry actors, and medieval themes were showcased. Our band held two performances and our chorus held two musical plays, both to sold-out crowds. We continued to give back to the community by raising money for St. Jude's Hospital, Relay for Life, The Cystic Fibrosis Center, The Muscular Dystrophy Foundation, Hope for Lancaster, and Hoops for Hearts.

We will continue to improve the quality of education that Buford Middle School offers to its students. We plan to continue with our focus on reading next year with an emphasis on technological innovations. Working together with parents, students, and the community, we hope our students will continue the race to success.

Sheryl H. Wells – Principal – Buford Middle School
Robin Jewett – School Improvement Council Chair

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