# SC Annual School Report Card Summary

**Chester Park Elementary School of Inquiry**
**Chester**
**Grades: PK-5** **Enrollment: 327**
**Principal: Dena B. Dunlap**
**Superintendent: Mr. Larry B. Heath**
**Board Chair: Dr. Richard Hughes**

## 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.

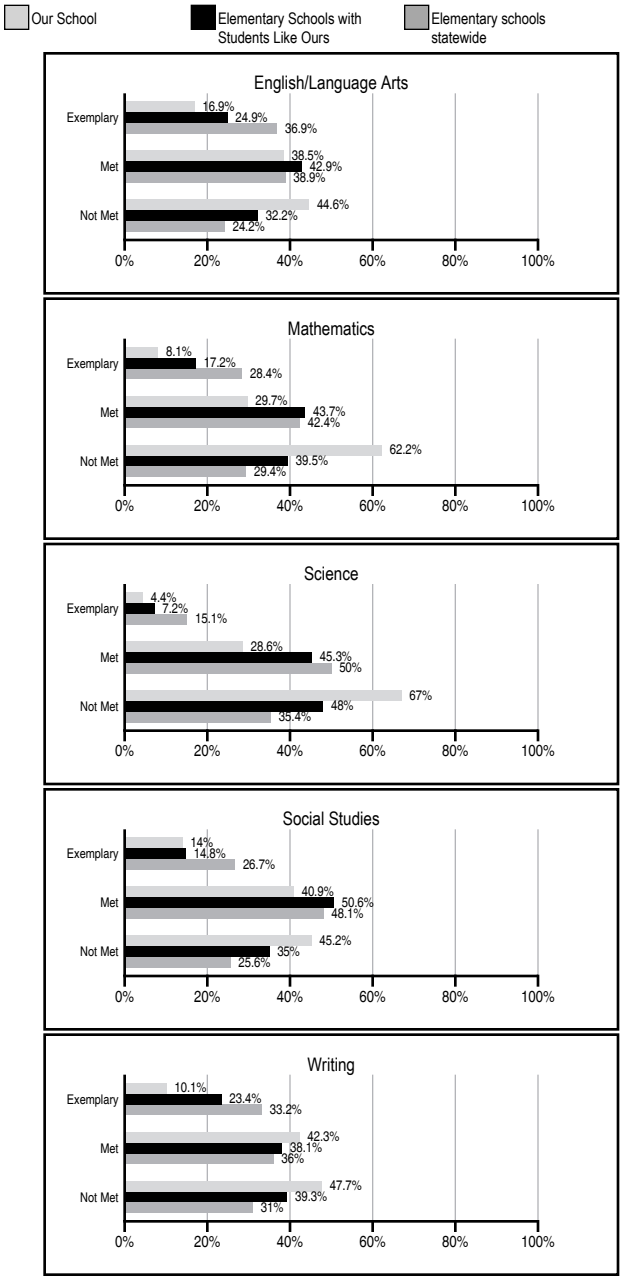
| YEAR | ABSOLUTE RATING | GROWTH RATING | PALMETTO GOLD AND SILVER AWARD | | AYP STATUS | NCLB IMPROVEMENT STATUS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | General Performance | Closing the Gap | | |
| 2009 | Below Average | Below Average | TBD | TBD | Not Met | CA |
| 2008 | At-Risk | At-Risk | N/A | N/A | Not Met | CSI |
| 2007 | At-Risk | At-Risk | N/A | N/A | Not Met | NI |

## ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

| EXCELLENT | GOOD | AVERAGE | BELOW AVERAGE | AT-RISK |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 4 | 87 | 49 | 15 |

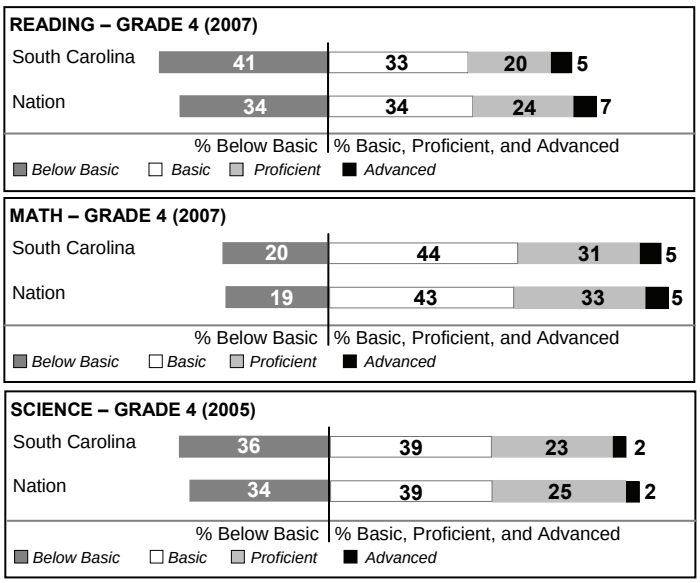
** Ratings are calculated with data available by 06/01/2010. Schools with Students Like Ours are Elementary Schools with Poverty Indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this school.*

## PASS 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 Vision:**
***By 2020 all students will graduate with the knowledge and skills necessary to compete successfully in the global economy, participate in a democratic society and contribute positively as members of families and communities.***

**Abbreviations Key**
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# Chester Park Elementary School of Inquiry [Chester]

## SCHOOL PROFILE

| | Our School | Change from Last Year | Elementary Schools with Students Like Ours | Median Elementary School |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Students (n=327)** | | | | |
| Retention rate | 2.9% | Down from 6.7% | 2.4% | 1.9% |
| Attendance rate | 95.8% | Down from 96.3% | 96.1% | 96.3% |
| Eligible for gifted and talented | 5.4% | Up from 3.5% | 5.3% | 10.0% |
| With disabilities other than speech | 13.6% | Up from 11.4% | 8.4% | 7.7% |
| Older than usual for grade | 0.7% | No Change | 0.8% | 0.5% |
| Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses | 1.2% | Up from 0.5% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| **Teachers (n=27)** | | | | |
| Teachers with advanced degrees | 77.8% | Up from 63.6% | 57.1% | 59.4% |
| Continuing contract teachers | 81.5% | Up from 63.6% | 73.8% | 80.0% |
| Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates | 0.0% | No Change | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Teachers returning from previous year | 77.1% | Up from 76.3% | 83.9% | 85.9% |
| Teacher attendance rate | 94.3% | Up from 93.0% | 95.2% | 95.1% |
| Average teacher salary* | $46,294 | Up 6.1% | $45,762 | $47,149 |
| Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers | 0.0% | No Change | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Professional development days/teacher | 7.9 days | Down from 15.1 days | 11.0 days | 11.1 days |
| **School** | | | | |
| Principal's years at school | 3.0 | Up from 1.0 | 3.0 | 4.0 |
| Student-teacher ratio in core subjects | 18.9 to 1 | Up from 17.9 to 1 | 17.4 to 1 | 18.8 to 1 |
| Prime instructional time | 89.1% | Up from 86.7% | 90.1% | 90.4% |
| Opportunities in the arts | Good | No Change | Good | Good |
| SACS accreditation | Yes | No Change | Yes | Yes |
| Parents attending conferences | 99.9% | Down from 100.0% | 100.0% | 100.0% |
| Character development program | Excellent | No Change | Excellent | Excellent |
| Dollars spent per pupil** | $10,832 | Up 7.7% | $8,175 | $7,458 |
| Percent of expenditures for instruction** | 53.7% | Up from 51.3% | 68.5% | 68.8% |
| Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries** | 51.6% | Up from 48.8% | 62.4% | 63.2% |
| % of AYP objectives met | 76.9% | Up from 53.8% | 100.0% | 100.0% |

* Length of contract = 185+ days.

** Prior year audited financial data available.

## EVALUATION RESULTS

| | Teachers | Students* | Parents* |
|---|---|---|---|
| Number of surveys returned | 31 | 55 | 27 |
| Percent satisfied with learning environment | 93.5% | 71.7% | 88.9% |
| Percent satisfied with social and physical environment | 96.8% | 69.8% | 77.8% |
| Percent satisfied with school-home relations | 67.7% | 75.5% | 85.2% |

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

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## REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

Chester Park Elementary School of Inquiry (CPESI) has experienced a successful 2008-2009 school year, engaging students in inquiry-based learning, increasing parental involvement, and increasing school/community relations. School improvement continues to be our focus. Teachers, staff, parents, and the community have come together to assist our school in raising the level of student achievement.

Our SIC met monthly to discuss projects, Title I, plans for school improvement, and sponsored our first Bring A Parent To School Day. The Parent Teacher Organization provided funds for field trips, student recognitions, created Classroom Moms, and sponsored a Spring Carnival. Teachers and staff provided Family Reading and Family Game Nights, parent workshops, and evening programs. Students were recognized at awards programs each nine weeks for attendance, honor roll, behavior, effort and much more. Home/school communication is important, so a weekly parent newsletter was sent home with the Parent Communication folder each Tuesday. Student agendas provided daily contact between teachers and parents.

Located within the Chester Park Complex, our school serves approximately 326 students in grades Pre-K through 5. As a school of choice, parents chose to have their child(ren) attend the School of Inquiry. Our modified, year-round calendar allowed for intersessions in the Fall and Spring for classes in remediation / enrichment, exposing students to a wide variety of skills and learning experiences. We try to prepare students for real-life experiences with opportunities such as Student Council, Safety Patrol, Junior Achievement, 4-H Club, VIP Boys Club, “Our School Rocks” morning news show, and the Children’s Finance Club. Founders Federal Credit Union opened a student branch at CPESI. Students can make weekly deposits and receive prize incentives for saving their money.

The Leadership/Data Analysis Team assessed the academic needs of our school for improvement using PACT, Dominie, and MAP data. Students were placed into “intervention groups” for reading and math and provided small group instruction by three intervention teachers each day. Before / after school tutoring programs were also available. With the support of an Instructional Coach and Science Coach, teachers were provided on-going staff development during weekly grade-level meetings for planning standards-based lessons and analyzing student assessments. Professional development was provided for administrators, faculty, and staff on Revised Bloom’s Taxonomy, data analysis, and district curriculum support documents. Faculty and staff members also participated in a book study this year to learn strategies for increasing the academic achievement of our African American male population.

We exceeded our goals set for this year in ELA, Math, Social Studies and Science, and met Satisfactory Implementation on our Focused School Renewal Plan. There is so much to be proud of at Chester Park Elementary School of Inquiry, and we will continue to strive to teach our students the skills they need for successful futures.

Dena Dunlap, Principal
Marsha Commodore, SIC Chair

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