SC Annual School Report Card Summary

The Academy for Teaching and Learning Charter
Chester
Grades: K-8 **Enrollment: 292**
Principal: Robyn Welborn and Mary Ann McKeown
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.

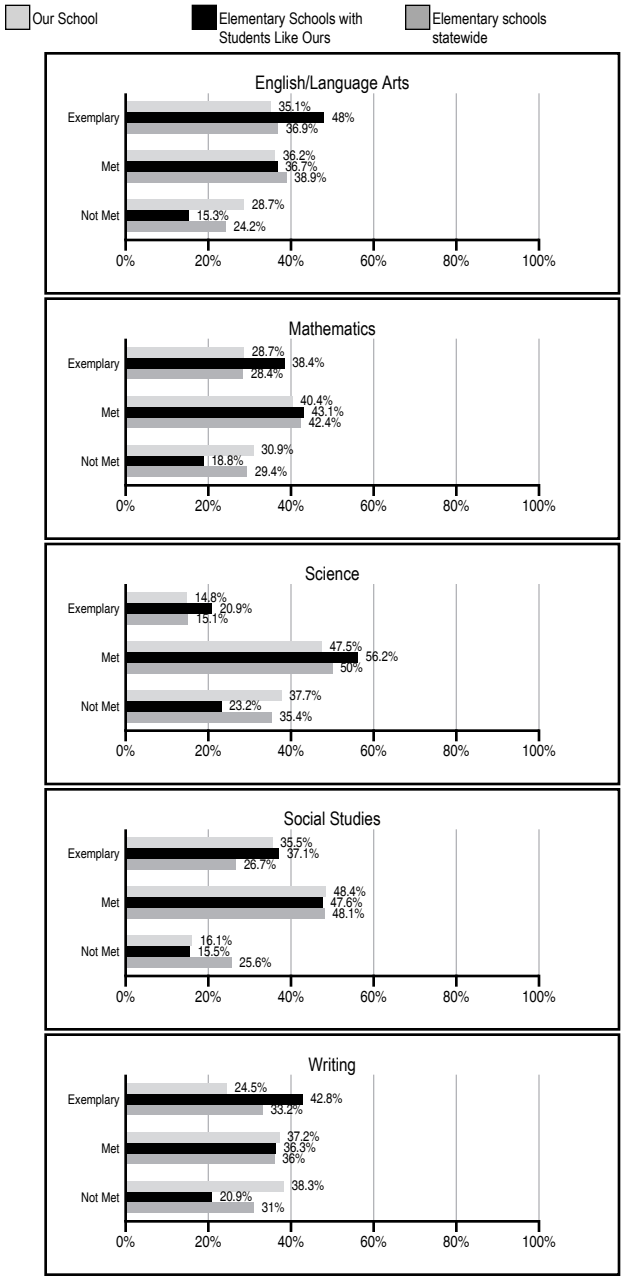
YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING	PALMETTO GOLD AND SILVER AWARD		AYP STATUS	NCLB IMPROVEMENT STATUS
			General Performance	Closing the Gap		
2009	Average	Good	TBD	TBD	Met	N/A
2008	Average	Good	Silver	Silver	Not Met	N/A
2007	Below Average	At-Risk	N/A	N/A	Not Met	N/A

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	BELOW AVERAGE	AT-RISK
20	31	14	0	0

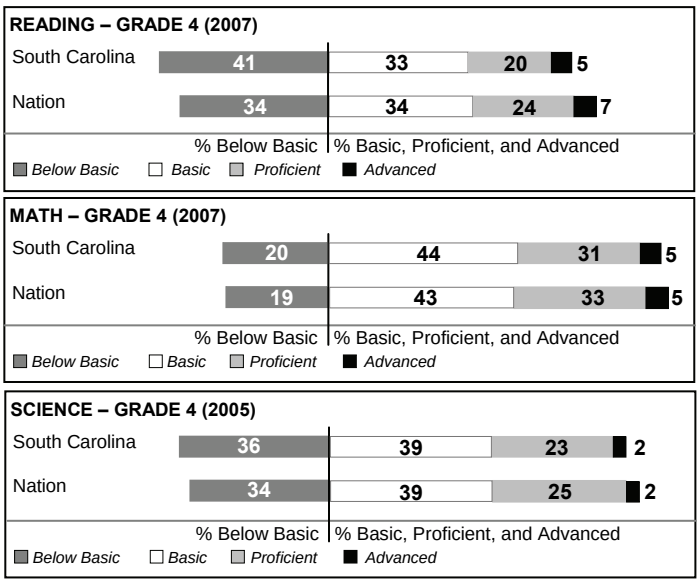
** Ratings are calculated with data available by 06/01/2010. Schools with Students Like Ours are Elementary Schools with Poverty Indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this school.*

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

The Academy for Teaching and Learning Charter

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Elementary Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Elementary School
Students (n=292)				
Retention rate	0.0%	Down from 1.8%	1.3%	1.9%
Attendance rate	96.1%	Up from 95.0%	96.6%	96.3%
Eligible for gifted and talented	10.9%	Up from 10.6%	16.9%	10.0%
With disabilities other than speech	11.3%	Down from 11.6%	7.1%	7.7%
Older than usual for grade	1.9%	Down from 2.0%	0.2%	0.5%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=19)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	63.2%	Down from 63.6%	61.1%	59.4%
Continuing contract teachers	78.9%	Up from 77.3%	84.6%	80.0%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	6.3%	Up from 0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers returning from previous year	N/A	N/A	86.4%	85.9%
Teacher attendance rate	95.8%	Up from 93.1%	95.1%	95.1%
Average teacher salary*	$44,110	Down 6.2%	$48,706	$47,149
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	21.8%	Up from 0.8%	0.0%	0.0%
Professional development days/teacher	8.8 days	Down from 9.1 days	10.2 days	11.1 days
School				
Principal's years at school	3.0	Up from 2.0	4.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	20.0 to 1	No Change	19.7 to 1	18.8 to 1
Prime instructional time	90.3%	Up from 85.9%	90.8%	90.4%
Opportunities in the arts	Poor	Down from Good	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	No	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	100.0%	No Change	100.0%	100.0%
Character development program	Good	Down from Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
Dollars spent per pupil**	$8,725	Up 10.1%	$6,606	$7,458
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	57.9%	Down from 59.4%	70.6%	68.8%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	49.8%	Down from 52.7%	64.8%	63.2%
% of AYP objectives met	100.0%	Up from 76.5%	100.0%	100.0%

* Length of contract = 185+ days.

** Prior year audited financial data available.

EVALUATION RESULTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	22	33	33
Percent satisfied with learning environment	100.0%	96.9%	87.9%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	100.0%	100.0%	93.8%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	100.0%	100.0%	84.4%

*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

The faculty, parents, students, and community members have worked diligently to establish a learning environment that promotes optimal learning. The Academy for Teaching and Learning (ATL) has developed a school mission that values each child and faculty member as an individual and strives to provide support and encouragement that ensures that all members of the school family reach academic and social success. ATL's goals to focus heavily on professional development and reflection on student progress will ensure that all students reach academic and social excellence.

The Academy implemented a systematic approach in gathering student data from various sources (PACT, MAP, formal and informal assessments, and interest inventories) to determine academic remediation and acceleration opportunities. Staff members used the results from the data to reflect on their teaching practices and search for various strategies to reach all learners. Students were provided an additional hour of instruction each day during the school's extended day program. PACT and MAP data showed a positive impact on student achievement.

The Academy has established a strong sense of community for all the students who attend the school. Middle school students are given the opportunity work with younger students in the school's mentoring program. Weekly gatherings are held on Fridays that showcase students' learning and recognize Students of the Week, Perfect Attendance, Honor Roll, and Good Citizens Awards. The school continued to involve every student in service learning projects that help the community. ATL focused on community hunger with several food drives to stock the local food pantry. The school participated in Relay for Life and raised funds to fight cancer. The school continued to implement the components of the Heartwood Character Education curriculum with students.

Students are given a variety of extra-curricular activities during the school's extended day program and during regular school hours. Students have the opportunity to participate in 4-H activities, Junior Achievement, Student Council, YMCA swimming lessons, band, steel drums, chorus, cheerleading, and dance. Each nine weeks, students are given a survey to determine opportunities for enrichment.

Parent involvement continues to drive the school's mission and support faculty and students. Parents are an active component of the success of the school. Parents serve as board members to govern the school and participate on committees that promote student success.

In the future, the Academy for Teaching and Learning will continue to make data driven decisions that identify areas of weakness and focus on professional development to establish "best practices" in teaching. This will give every student at the Academy an opportunity to reach their full potential.

Robyn Welborn
Mary Ann McKeown
Directors

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