



Gilbert Primary

520 Main Street
Gilbert, SC 29054

Grades	PK-2 Primary School	
Enrollment	774 Students	
Principal	Loretta G. Arnette	803-821-1400
Superintendent	Dr. Karen C. Woodward	803-821-1000
Board Chair	G. Edwin Harmon, Ph.D.	803-359-0844

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2009 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

RATINGS OVER 5-YEAR PERIOD

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING
2009	Excellent	Good
2008	Excellent	Good
2007	Excellent	Good
2006	Excellent	Good
2005	Excellent	Good

DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

- Excellent – School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Good – School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Average – School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Below Average – School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- At-Risk – School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision

SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE 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.

SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE 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.

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF PRIMARY SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	At-Risk
2	0	0	0	0

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 03/12/2010. Primary Schools with Students like Ours are primary schools with Poverty Indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this school.

Performance Rating Criteria

Prime instructional time	89.8%
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	20.6 to 1
Teachers with advanced degrees	51.0%
Teachers returning from previous year	84.9%
Percent of parents attending conferences	100.0%
Days of professional development devoted exclusively to knowledge and skills working with children less than eight years old	1.5 days

Types Of Accreditation (More Than One May Apply)

	Not pursuing accreditation
	Conducting a self-study
X	South Carolina Department of Education
X	Southern Association of Colleges and School
	American Montessori Society
	National Association for the Education of Young Children

School Profile

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Primary Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Primary School
Students (n=774)				
First graders who attended full-day kindergarten	100.0%	No Change	100.0%	100.0%
Retention rate	0.9%	Down from 1.6%	2.4%	3.6%
Attendance rate	95.3%	Down from 95.5%	96.0%	95.7%
With disabilities other than speech	3.5%	Up from 2.8%	3.0%	4.2%
Older than usual for grade	0.2%	No Change	0.3%	0.0%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=49)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	51.0%	Up from 47.1%	56.2%	60.7%
Continuing contract teachers	67.3%	Up from 60.8%	75.6%	83.3%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers returning from previous year	84.9%	Up from 83.9%	90.1%	89.6%
Teacher attendance rate	95.2%	Up from 94.8%	94.6%	95.2%
Average teacher salary*	\$43,266	Up 4.2%	\$46,310	\$47,550
Professional development days/teacher	13.0 days	Down from 13.5 days	20.4 days	16.7 days
School				
Principal's years at school	8.0	Up from 7.0	6.0	5.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	20.6 to 1	Down from 22.9 to 1	20.9 to 1	19.3 to 1
Prime instructional time	89.8%	Up from 89.3%	89.7%	89.6%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No Change	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	100.0%	No Change	99.5%	100.0%
Character development program	Excellent	No Change	Excellent	Excellent
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$6,114	Down 3.6%	\$6,450	\$6,858
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	65.7%	Down from 66.2%	69.5%	70.4%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	47.8%	Down from 64.1%	57.0%	63.7%

* Includes current year teachers contracted for 185 or more days.

** Prior year audited financial data are reported.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A--Not Applicable N/AV--Not Available N/C--Not Collected N/R--Not Reported I/S--Insufficient Sample

Report of Principal and School Improvement Council

In 2008–2009 Gilbert Primary School had a productive year of improvement and student progress in a completely renovated facility, with a new kindergarten addition. Our theme, “Welcome to our Garden of Learning,” describes our environment wherein we nurture and grow productive learners.

We continued our efforts to implement Positive Behavior Intervention Supports with strategies and training provided by the State Improvement Grant, with the healthy addition of love and logic. Our discipline referrals decreased significantly as we adjusted referral forms, refined our school-wide expectations, worked to communicate using common language and created common lessons.

We received a score of 99 on the SET Implementation visit we received from the State Department of Education in April.

Our teachers, students and parents worked diligently to monitor student progress in reading and mathematics by tracking progress, setting goals and holding regular conferences. Our second-grade math Measures of Academic Progress test scores improved from 37 percent to more than 51 percent of students meeting target. As we continued to monitor students’ progress and implement Response to Intervention, we saw notable individual growth in students’ reading progress. Tier three interventions worked particularly well.

GPS continues to partner with the community and parents to provide healthy programs and activities that support our educational programs. We sponsored many activities to promote family involvement and support our students such as Back to School Dance, Family Reading Night, Second-Grade Patriotic program, First-Grade History of Gilbert program, Kindergarten Mother Goose program, Farm Day, Family Fitness Night, Family Skate Night, Arts Alive, Grandparents’ Days and Pancake Breakfast. Three times this year we presented our five-week long Love and Logic Parenting Workshops which offer parenting strategies and support to our students’ families.

GPS looks ahead to a new year. Our challenges are to improve the reading level of our below-level first and second graders. Conducting more extensive training with our staff in the area of guided reading should help. In addition, a new mathematics series and concentrated instruction with manipulatives help us improve students’ number sense.

We will continue to nurture healthy children and add more rigorous academic challenges while modeling and fostering healthy relationships and problem-solving skills. We especially thank our Gilbert Primary School family, parents, community, district and school board for partnering with us in our endeavors.

Loretta G. Arnette, Principal
Tammy Reynolds, SIC Chair

Evaluations by Teachers

	Teachers
Number of surveys returned	32
Percent satisfied with learning environment	90.3%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	87.1%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	96.8%

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School Adequate Yearly Progress

YES

Definition: As required by the United States Department of Education, Adequate Yearly Progress specifies that the statewide target is met for "All Students" and for the following subgroups: Racial/Ethnic, Subsidized Meals, Disability, and Limited English Proficiency in the areas of English/Language Arts and Mathematics, as well as meeting the statewide target for "All Students" for attendance or graduation rate.

Teacher Quality and Student Attendance

	Our District	State
Classes in low poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.2%	1.7%
Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	N/A	5.8%

	Our School	State Objective	Met State Objective
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.0%	0.0%	Yes
Student attendance rate	95.3%	94.0%*	Yes

* Or greater than last year