



SC Annual School Report Card Summary

JAMES SIMONS ELEMENTARY

Charleston

Grades: PK-6

Enrollment: 274

Principal: L. Lynn Owings

Superintendent: Dr. Nancy J. McGinley

Board Chair: Mrs. Ruth Jordan

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		
2010	Below Average	Below Average	TBD	TBD	Met	CSI-DELAY
2009	At-Risk	Below Average	N/A	N/A	Not Met	CSI
2008	At-Risk	At-Risk	N/A	N/A	Not Met	NI

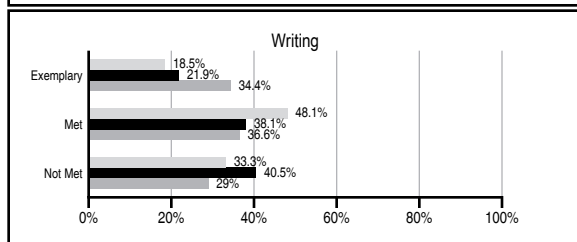
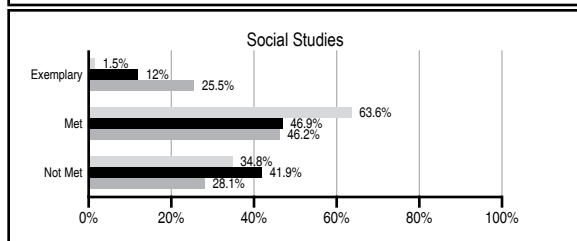
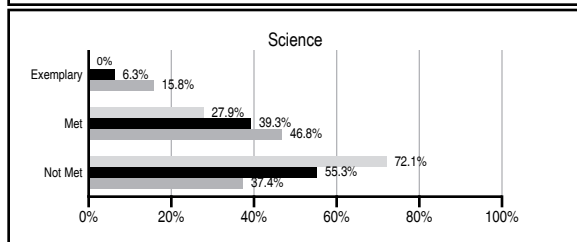
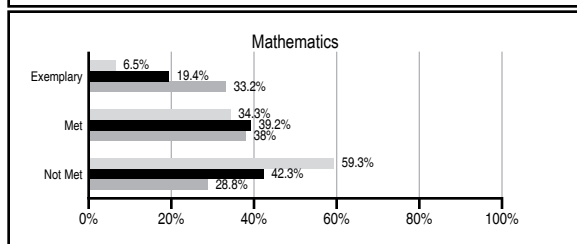
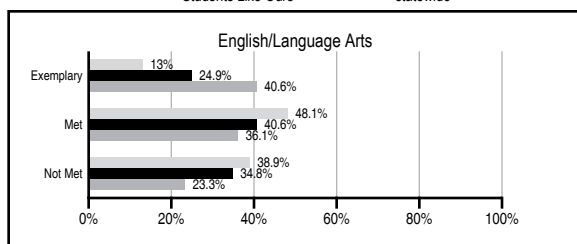
ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	BELOW AVERAGE	AT-RISK
0	4	80	57	23

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 03/09/2011. 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

Our School Elementary Schools with Students Like Ours Elementary schools statewide



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

N/A Not Applicable N/AV Not Available N/C Not Collected N/R Not Reported I/S Insufficient Sample TBD To be determined

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

JAMES SIMONS ELEMENTARY [Charleston]

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Elementary Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Elementary School
Students (n=274)				
Retention rate	2.3%	Up from 1.8%	1.5%	1.2%
Attendance rate	96.2%	Down from 96.7%	95.9%	96.1%
Eligible for gifted and talented	2.8%	Up from 1.2%	4.4%	11.7%
With disabilities other than speech	4.9%	Up from 4.5%	8.4%	8.0%
Older than usual for grade	0.0%	Down from 0.8%	0.8%	0.4%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	1.5%	Up from 0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=26)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	38.5%	Down from 40.0%	60.0%	60.5%
Continuing contract teachers	53.8%	Up from 40.0%	78.8%	84.6%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers returning from previous year	79.7%	Up from 71.7%	83.5%	87.0%
Teacher attendance rate	97.0%	Up from 96.1%	95.4%	95.4%
Average teacher salary*	\$43,405	Up 0.4%	\$45,504	\$47,288
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	1.0%	Down from 17.5%	0.0%	0.0%
Professional development days/teacher	4.0 days	Down from 9.5 days	10.6 days	10.5 days
School				
Principal's years at school	2.0	Up from 1.0	3.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	10.8 to 1	Down from 15.2 to 1	17.1 to 1	19.2 to 1
Prime instructional time	93.1%	Up from 91.8%	90.4%	90.8%
Opportunities in the arts	Poor	Down from Good	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	No	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	88.5%	Down from 100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Character development program	Average	No Change	Excellent	Excellent
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$8,253	Up 1.9%	\$8,757	\$7,548
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	65.4%	Down from 65.7%	68.1%	68.7%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	60.4%	Up from 60.0%	62.5%	65.1%
% of AYP objectives met	100.0%	Up from 76.9%	100.0%	100.0%

* Length of contract = 185+ days.
** Prior year audited financial data available.

EVALUATION RESULTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	8	22	15
Percent satisfied with learning environment	87.5%	90.9%	80.0%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	87.5%	90.9%	80.0%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	50.0%	86.4%	78.6%

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

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

James Simons Elementary School is a Title I school located in the inner-city of Charleston that serves children pre-kindergarten to grade six. The enrollment is 280 with a poverty index of approximately 94%. Our staff is passionate about teaching and learning and has created a positive, nurturing school environment.

Initiatives underway for improvement include a rigorous and differentiated curriculum, with an emphasis on small, flexible groups designed to meet children at their functioning level and accelerate achievement. Specialized instructional intervention is in place in both reading and math for students as needed. Professional development is an integral part of our school week. Weekly activities include standards-based instructional guidance in all content areas, monitoring mastery of taught material, and the implementation of data-driven instructional decision-making in all content areas.

Our highly qualified teachers and staff are committed to challenging students on all levels with the common goal of improving student achievement.

Increased student leadership and decision-making is in place through Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS), Safety Patrols, and Student Council. The PBIS model is practiced school-wide with student recognition and incentives for appropriate choices in school. Our goal for PBIS is not only to improve immediate behavior, but to provide students with life skills necessary for positive and productive decision-making.

Collaboration with community agencies continues in an effort to provide assistance for specific student and family needs. Parents are provided information and resources to enhance student learning. Communication with parents includes student agenda books, daily homework folders, monthly calendar of events, newsletters, phone calls, e-mails, report cards, monthly progress checks, notes, and conferences.

Efforts to increase parental involvement include vigorously recruiting parents to attend school events, volunteer, and participate in the many decision-making teams. We believe that community involvement is a necessary component of school success, and we will continue working toward strengthening our bonds and partnerships with local faith-based organizations and businesses.

Lynn Owings, Principal
Tiffany Taylor, School Improvement Council Chairperson
Shone White, School Improvement Council Vice Chairperson

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.