



SC Annual School Report Card Summary

SC CONNECTIONS ACADEMY

SC Public Charter

Grades: K-12

Enrollment: 1,639

Principal: Allison R. Reaves

Superintendent: Wayne Brazell

Board Chair: Don McLaurin

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	Average	Good	TBD	TBD	Not Met	NI
2009	Average	Average	N/A	N/A	Not Met	N/A
2008	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

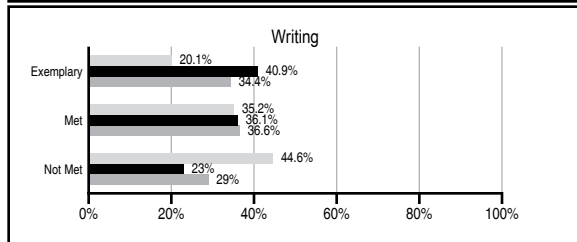
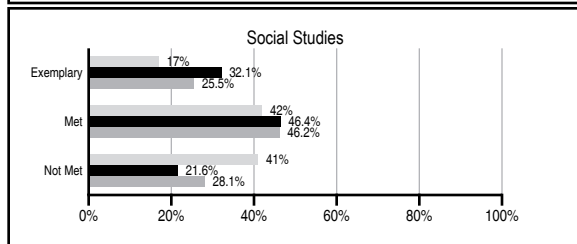
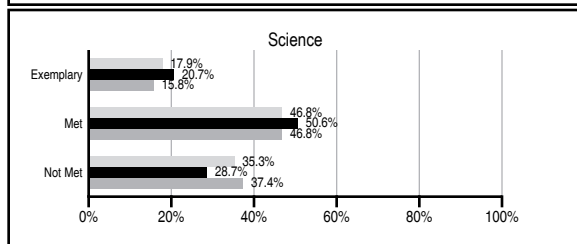
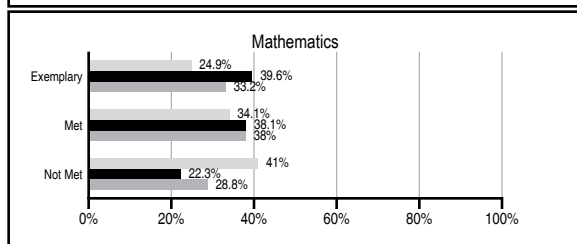
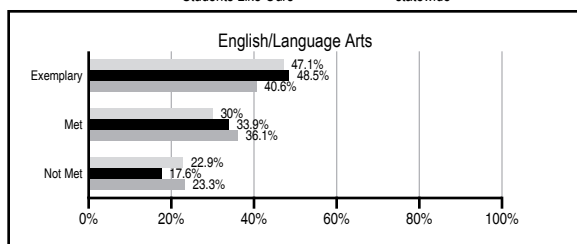
ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	BELOW AVERAGE	AT-RISK
24	38	30	0	0

* 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.

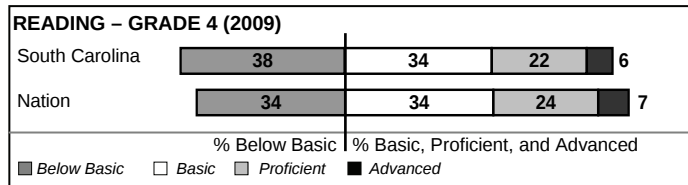
PASS PERFORMANCE

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

SC CONNECTIONS ACADEMY [SC Public Charter]

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Elementary Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Elementary School
Students (n=1,639)				
Retention rate	1.9%	Down from 6.2%	1.2%	1.2%
Attendance rate	96.0%	Down from 96.8%	96.2%	96.1%
Eligible for gifted and talented	12.6%	Down from 15.6%	16.1%	11.7%
With disabilities other than speech	9.1%	Up from 8.0%	7.5%	8.0%
Older than usual for grade	8.3%	Up from 7.4%	0.3%	0.4%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=46)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	45.7%	Down from 46.2%	62.4%	60.5%
Continuing contract teachers	8.7%	Down from 30.8%	86.8%	84.6%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	4.5%	Down from 14.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers returning from previous year	N/A	N/A	89.7%	87.0%
Teacher attendance rate	96.8%	N/R	95.5%	95.4%
Average teacher salary*	\$33,611	Down 10.2%	\$48,105	\$47,288
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	29.9%	Down from 35.8%	0.0%	0.0%
Professional development days/teacher	17.3 days	Up from 11.4 days	10.8 days	10.5 days
School				
Principal's years at school	1.0	No Change	5.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	N/R	N/R	19.9 to 1	19.2 to 1
Prime instructional time	92.2%	N/R	90.9%	90.8%
Opportunities in the arts	Poor	Down from Fair	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	Up from No	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	100.0%	No Change	100.0%	100.0%
Character development program	Below Average	No Change	Excellent	Excellent
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$5,330	N/A	\$6,958	\$7,548
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	54.0%	N/A	69.2%	68.7%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	17.1%	N/A	66.3%	65.1%
% of AYP objectives met	90.5%	Up from 89.5%	100.0%	100.0%

* Length of contract = 185+ days.

** Prior year audited financial data available.

EVALUATION RESULTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	29	19	52
Percent satisfied with learning environment	100.0%	100.0%	94.2%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	89.7%	100.0%	79.2%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	100.0%	94.4%	92.3%

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

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

South Carolina Connections Academy (SCCA) is a pioneering, public virtual charter school that opened during the 2008-2009 school year as a member of the South Carolina Public Charter School District. SCCA offers a premier online education to children in grades K-12 regardless of where they reside in the state. Our curriculum meets national and state standards while simultaneously meeting the personal needs of all of our students. Students progress through the program under the guidance of their Learning Coach (typically a parent or guardian) in conjunction with their highly qualified South Carolina certified teachers. Regular interaction occurs via phone, email, Field Trips and live web conferences. Student work is then submitted online for teacher review. Our user-friendly Learning Management System (LMS) includes coursework, a daily planner, a grade book, attendance recorder, communication tools, a virtual library, messages boards, and supplemental learning programs. The LMS provides all the necessary information, at your fingertips, to successfully learn anywhere there is an internet connection. This unique system sets us apart from all other virtual charter schools.

SCCA offers advanced curriculum to Gifted and Talented students in grades 3 through 8 Science, Math, and Language Arts. These students participate in a Literature Study course using the Junior Great Books series. Teachers in our Special Education Department serve their students using the inclusion model to meet their needs in the least restrictive environment. Students required to receive speech services participate in Virtual Speech sessions. Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Speech services are also provided through contracted, certified providers.

Our high school program includes approximately 545 students across the state. The selection of courses we offer is varied and challenging. Students are able to study Foreign Languages such as Mandarin Chinese, Latin, French and Spanish. We also offer 20 Advanced Placement courses and a variety of college preparatory electives. Our graduation requirements are more rigorous than the state mandates. SCCA requires all students to successfully complete two years of foreign languages or humanities. In addition, a full year of health and a full year of American Government are required.

In an effort to create a sense of community, various field trips were planned statewide. This allowed students, parents, and teachers to interact face-to-face. Over thirty opportunities were held during the 2009-2010 school year, including museum, zoo, and aquarium tours; environmental awareness activities; an Arts Festival featuring student work; Charter Day at the Capitol; a Field Day; and Graduation.

Allison Reaves, SCCA Principal

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