SC Annual School Report Card Summary

JAMES SIMONS ELEMENTARY
Charleston
Grades: PK-6 **Enrollment: 205**
Principal: L. Lynn Owings
Superintendent: Dr. Nancy J. McGinley
Board Chair: Mr. Chris Fraser

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.

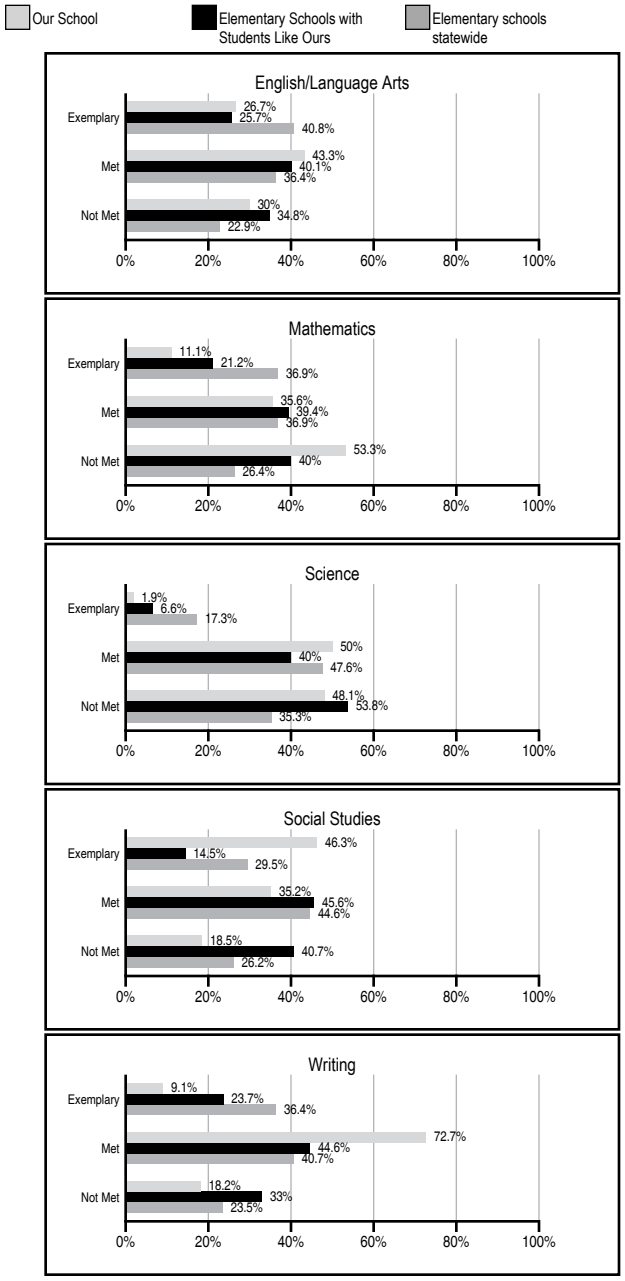
YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING	PALMETTO GOLD AND SILVER AWARD		AYP STATUS	NCLB IMPROVEMENT STATUS
			General Performance	Closing the Gap		
2011	Average	Good	TBD	TBD	Not Met	CA
2010	Below Average	Below Average	N/A	N/A	Met	CSI-DELAY
2009	At-Risk	Below Average	N/A	N/A	Not Met	CSI

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	BELOW AVERAGE	AT-RISK
0	5	75	49	23

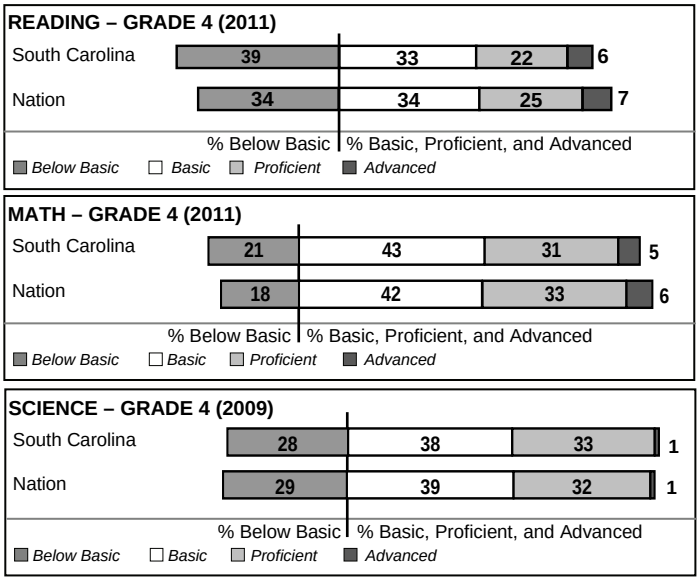
** Ratings are calculated with data available by 11/09/2011. Schools with Students Like Ours are Elementary Schools with Poverty Indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this school.*

PASS PERFORMANCE



NAEP PERFORMANCE*

** Performance reported for SC and nation, data not available at school level. Percentages at NAEP Achievement Levels.*



SC 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.

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
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JAMES SIMONS ELEMENTARY [Charleston]

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Elementary Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Elementary School
Students (n=205)				
Retention rate	2.3%	No Change	1.5%	1.1%
Attendance rate	95.7%	Down from 96.2%	96.0%	96.2%
Served by gifted and talented program	3.1%	Up from 2.8%	5.1%	13.4%
With disabilities other than speech	5.6%	Up from 4.9%	4.3%	4.1%
Older than usual for grade	0.0%	No Change	0.6%	0.3%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	1.5%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=28)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	39.3%	Up from 38.5%	61.9%	62.5%
Continuing contract teachers	71.4%	Up from 53.8%	81.8%	88.2%
Teachers returning from previous year	80.3%	Up from 79.7%	84.2%	87.8%
Teacher attendance rate	98.1%	Up from 97.0%	95.2%	95.2%
Average teacher salary*	$42,043	Down 3.1%	$45,188	$46,773
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	1.1%	Up from 1.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Professional development days/teacher	4.1 days	Up from 4.0 days	10.6 days	10.5 days
School				
Principal's years at school	3.0	Up from 2.0	3.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	12.6 to 1	Up from 10.8 to 1	17.5 to 1	19.9 to 1
Prime instructional time	93.8%	Up from 93.1%	90.2%	90.4%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	Up from Poor	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	No	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	100.0%	Up from 88.5%	100.0%	100.0%
Character development program	Good	Up from Average	Excellent	Excellent
Dollars spent per pupil**	$10,889	Up 31.9%	$8,611	$7,447
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	64.1%	Down from 65.4%	67.6%	68.4%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	60.5%	Up from 60.4%	63.9%	65.8%
% of AYP objectives met	76.9%	Down from 100.0%	76.9%	90.5%

* Length of contract = 185+ days.

** Prior year audited financial data available.

EVALUATION RESULTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	19	26	11
Percent satisfied with learning environment	100.0%	88.5%	70.0%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	100.0%	88.0%	81.8%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	52.6%	84.6%	90.9%

*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

James Simons Elementary School is a Title I school located in the inner city of Charleston serving children pre-kindergarten to grade six. The enrollment is 225 with a poverty index of approximately 96%. Our staff holds very high standards for themselves as well as each student. They are passionate about teaching and learning and have created a positive, nurturing school environment.

Initiatives underway for improvement include 21st Century technology enhancements in every classroom, 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.

Students in all grades have increased literacy and numeracy skills as measured by the Dominie Reading Assessment and Measures of Academic Progress (MAP). School-wide results on the Dominie indicate an average increase of 5 reading levels overall. MAP data shows an average increase of nine points in Reading and ten points in Math school-wide. A Response to Intervention Model (RTI) is fully implemented at JSE. The 2011 evaluation of RTI at James Simons resulted in an exemplary status.

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 2010-2011 school level evaluation for PBIS resulted in a perfect score of 100. Office referrals have decreased by 40% from 2009-2010 to 2010-2011.

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, weekly courier, monthly calendar of events, newsletters, phone calls, e-mails, report cards, monthly progress checks, notes and conferences. James Simons Elementary is fortunate to be part of the Charleston Promise Neighborhood pilot. The Charleston Promise Neighborhood is a nonprofit organization modeled after the highly successful Harlem Children's Zone project and is designed to ensure that every child and family has supports they need to thrive. The goal of CPN is to transform families within a generation.

Efforts to increase parental involvement include vigorously recruiting parents to attend school events, volunteer, and participate 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 as well as businesses.

Principal – L. Lynn Owings
School Improvement Council Chair – Tiffany Taylor

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