

SC Annual School Report Card Summary

CHOICES Charter School
Darlington County School District
Grades: 6-11 **Enrollment: 40**
Principal: Ralph Porter
Superintendent: Dr. Rainey Knight
Board Chair: Charles Govan

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		ESEA/FEDERAL ACCOUNTABILITY RATING SYSTEM	
			General Performance	Closing the Gap	ESEA Grade	Accountability Indicator
2012	At-Risk	At-Risk	TBD	TBD	I	N/A
2011	At-Risk	At-Risk	N/A	N/A	Not Met	N/A
2010	At-Risk	At-Risk	N/A	N/A	Not Met	N/A

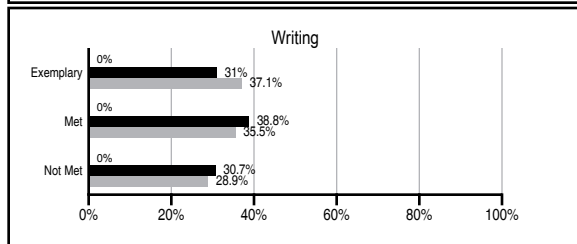
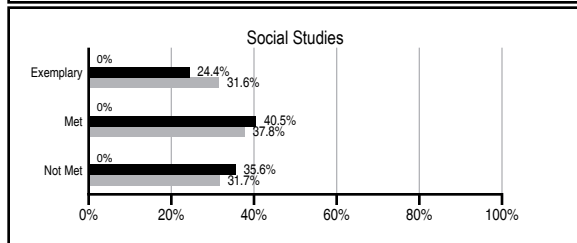
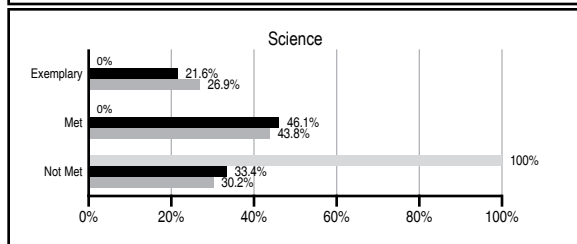
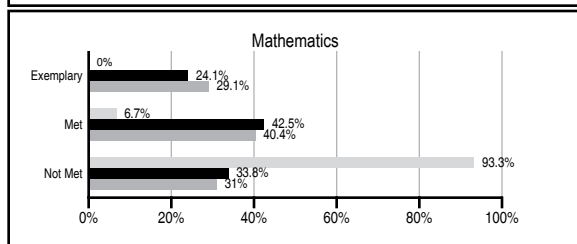
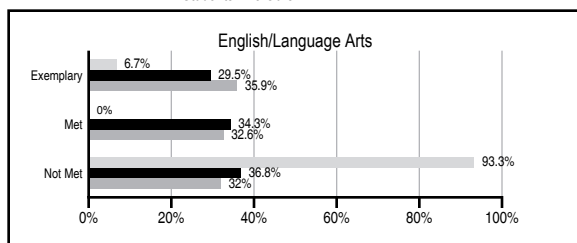
ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF MIDDLE SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	BELOW AVERAGE	AT-RISK
2	5	45	4	2

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 11/07/2012. Schools with Students Like Ours are Middle Schools with Poverty Indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this school.

PASS PERFORMANCE

Our School Middle Schools with Students Like Ours Middle schools statewide



NAEP PERFORMANCE*

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

READING - GRADE 8 (2011)

South Carolina	28	45	25	2
Nation	25	43	29	3
% Below Basic % Basic, Proficient, and Advanced				
Below Basic Basic Proficient Advanced				

MATH - GRADE 8 (2011)

South Carolina	30	38	25	7
Nation	28	39	26	8
% Below Basic % Basic, Proficient, and Advanced				
Below Basic Basic Proficient Advanced				

SCIENCE - GRADE 8 (2009)

South Carolina	45	32	22	1
Nation	38	33	28	1
% Below Basic % Basic, Proficient, and Advanced				
Below Basic Basic Proficient Advanced				

END OF COURSE TESTS - 2012

% of students scoring 70 or above on:	Our Middle School	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours
Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2	N/A	96.8
English 1	N/A	94.5
Physical Science	N/A	N/A
US History and the Constitution	N/A	N/A
All Subjects	N/A	96.4

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

CHOICES Charter School [Darlington County School District]

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Middle School
Students (n=40)				
Students enrolled in high school credit courses (grades 7 & 8)	0.0%	No Change	21.5%	22.9%
Retention rate	2.3%	Up from 2.1%	1.0%	0.8%
Attendance rate	89.2%	Down from 91.0%	96.0%	96.2%
Served by gifted and talented program	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
With disabilities other than speech	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
Older than usual for grade	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.0%	Down from 6.3%	0.5%	0.5%
Annual dropout rate	4.8%	Up from 0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=3)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	N/A	N/A	60.5%	61.3%
Continuing contract teachers	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
Teachers returning from previous year	N/A	N/A	84.4%	86.7%
Teacher attendance rate	N/R	N/R	95.1%	95.2%
Average teacher salary*	I/S	I/S	\$45,452	\$46,422
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	100.0%	No Change	1.8%	2.0%
Professional development days/teacher	10.0 days	Up from 9.0 days	10.0 days	10.0 days
School				
Principal's years at school	10.0	Up from 9.0	5.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	14.0 to 1	Down from 14.7 to 1	22.4 to 1	22.0 to 1
Prime instructional time	N/R	N/R	89.4%	90.1%
Opportunities in the arts	Poor	No Change	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	100.0%	No Change	98.2%	98.8%
Character development program	Average	Down from Excellent	Good	Good
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$8,399	Down 14.0%	\$7,335	\$7,245
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	74.0%	Up from 73.0%	61.8%	63.1%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	58.4%	Down from 61.4%	59.0%	60.9%
ESEA composite index score	N/A	N/A	85.2	88.1

* Length of contract = 185+ days.

** Prior year audited financial data available.

EVALUATION RESULTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	N/A	N/A	N/A
Percent satisfied with learning environment	N/A	N/A	N/A
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	N/A	N/A	N/A
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	N/A	N/A	N/A

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

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

“CHOICES” is in its 10th year as a charter school with charter agreements with both Florence District One and Darlington County. “CHOICES” target population is student’s ages 12 yrs to 17yrs which have been expelled from school or dropped out. Our goal is to provide an education that will transition them to become life-long learners and to possibly return to regular traditional school if that is possible and appropriate. “CHOICES” provides a foundation for continuous learning through classroom instruction, service learning, project-based learning, and on-site construction training. Character training is the cornerstone for “CHOICES” as the students are given the opportunity to discover the greatest possible understanding of self. They are exposed to individual, personalized learning with a strong emphasis on work ethics and job skills. The mission of “CHOICES” Charter School is to provide a leaning environment that links school to work experiences by making the right choices and staying in school. “CHOICES” originated by the retired Police Chief of Florence who saw a need for a school for divergent learners who were roaming the streets and demonstrating behavior problems that were getting them expelled from school. This is the only other alternative after expulsion other than the streets or incarceration. “CHOICES” is physically located in Darlington County adjacent to Florence County in the middle of 130 acres of forest on Black Creek. The property is owned by Central United Methodist Church and “CHOICES” actually leases 8 acres for one dollar per month for the actual school location. Student enrollment has remained small, beginning with 30 students and capping off at 45 students. There is one certified teacher and teacher’s assistant per 15 students with additional assistance provided by retired professional people in the community. “CHOICES” has incorporated a Pre-GED component for students that cannot return to High School and will pursue the GED test when they turn 17yrs of age. “Choices” has adopted a progressive discipline system that ensures good communications between schools relative to student behavior.

Respectfully submitted by: Ralph Porter Executive Director and retired Police Chief.

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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