

Sandhills Primary School

140 Lewis Rast Road
Swansea, SC 29160

**South Carolina
State Report Card**

State and federal laws require public schools to release report cards to the public each year. This year, the report card has been updated to reflect changes in reporting directed by the SC Education Oversight Committee. Schools will not be rated for state accountability purposes until Fall 2017 when the state will transition to a single accountability system. The following reports student performance in school year 2014-15.

Grades: 1-2 Primary**Enrollment:** 529 students**School Phone:** 803-490-7002**School Website:** <http://sps.lexington4.net/>**Principal:** Leslie Hightower**Superintendent:** Linda G. Lavender, Ph.D**Board Chair:** Daniel Martin**Profile of the SC Graduate****World Class Knowledge**

- Rigorous standards in language arts and math for career and college readiness
- Multiple languages, science, technology, engineering, mathematics (STEM), arts and social sciences*

World Class Skills

- Creativity and innovation
- Critical thinking and problem solving
- Collaboration and teamwork
- Communication, information, media and technology
- Knowing how to learn

Life and Career Characteristics

- Integrity
- Self-direction
- Global perspective
- Perseverance
- Work ethic
- Interpersonal skills

WORLD CLASS SKILLS & LIFE AND CAREER CHARACTERISTICS

Our school is helping all students develop the world class skills and life and career characteristics of the Profile of the Graduate by ...

Sandhills Primary School is helping all students develop the world class skills and life and career characteristics of the Profile of the SC Graduate by providing a nurturing academic setting for young learners. Our purpose is to lay a foundation for students to be career, college and citizenship ready where diversity, risk taking and student interests are honored. Foundations, such as learning to read and applying math skills, are the basis for our children's work. Our teacher teams have aligned our math and language arts curriculum to the new S.C. curriculum standards. Teachers are preparing our students with world-class knowledge by providing quality instructional and collaborative opportunities. Life and career characteristics, such as perseverance and self-direction, are embedded in our classrooms and hands-on materials. We believe families are partners in our work and each month invite parents to work with us exploring Covey's Seven Habits of Highly Effective Families. In addition, students engage in monthly guidance sessions and daily opportunities to discover how to utilize these habits of mind to become effective citizens. Next year promises to be another exciting year for our children. Students will have the opportunity to participate in Project Launch, a curriculum designed to expose children to science, technology, engineering, and math skills that are aligned to the S.C. Curriculum Standards. Project Launch also embeds skills such as creativity, innovation, problem solving, and teamwork. Gardening will also be an important part of our science and math curriculum. Next year, each class will be outfitted with a flower and a vegetable garden paid for with money from grants. Students will learn skills such as observation, tracking, measurement, and more. Students also learn characteristics such as patience and caring for living things. We will also continue our family literacy sessions through our PALS program. Our student-driven leadership teams will recycle, greet families, publish news, and generate real-world projects for all students at SPS. As always, our staff are committed to professional development. We will continue to frame our learning around quality instruction and the developmental needs of students. Sandhills Primary is a place where we teach to the heart and mind, and the entire school community helps children grow in preparation for the future. Leslie Hightower, Principal Ana Landaverde, SIC Chairperson

* 21st Century core courses in Social Sciences include History, Geography, Economics, Government and Civics.

OPPORTUNITIES**For students to meet the profile of the SC Graduate**

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Primary Schools with students like ours
Students (n = 529)			
Percent of students eligible for free- or reduced-price lunch and/or Medicaid-eligible (poverty index)	84.8	Down from 87.7%	N/A
Attendance Rate	94.4	Up from 94.0%	94.4
With disabilities	19.1	Up from 17.8%	11.3
Out of school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.0	No change	0.0
Percentage of students retained	0.0	No change	1.4
Teachers (n = 28)			
Percentage of teachers with advanced degrees	78.6	Up from 64.3%	64.0
Percentage of teachers on continuing contract	85.7	Down from 92.9%	85.1
Teachers returning from previous year	N/A	N/A	91.9
Teacher attendance rate	94.6	Up from 93.2%	94.5
Average teacher salary*	\$47,062	Down 0.0%	\$47,689
Professional development days devoted exclusively to knowledge and skills needed to work with children less than 8 years old/teacher	12.7 days	Down from 15.1 days	12.7 days
Percentage of teacher vacancies for more than 9 weeks	0.0	N/A	0.8
School			
Principal's years at school	1.0	Down from 4.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	23.7 to 1	Up from 22.1 to 1	22.1 to 1
Prime instructional time	87.7	Up from 85.7%	87.7
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No change	Good
Opportunities in foreign languages	Poor	N/A	Poor
AdvancEd (SACS) accreditation	Yes	No change	Yes
Parents attending conferences	98.1	Down from 99.1%	100.0
Character development program	Good	Up from Fair	Excellent
Avg. age of books / electronic media in the school library	13.0	N/A	14.8
Number of resources available per student in the school library media center	20.7	N/A	25.6
Bandwidth capacity per student	<25 Mbps	N/C	N/A
District-issued learning devices per student	0.1	N/C	0.8
District-issued technology devices per teacher	1.4	N/C	2.0
Percentage of classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.0	Down from 2.8%	0.0
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$7,008	Up 0.3%	\$6,994
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	61.7	Up from 61.5%	65.0

* Includes current year teachers contracted for 190 days or more.

** 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

OPPORTUNITIES**Evaluations by Teachers**

Evaluations by Teachers		Teachers
Number of surveys returned		23
Percent satisfied with learning environment		100.0
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment		100.0
Percent satisfied with school-home relations		86.4

State Ratings History of School

Year	Absolute Rating	Growth Rating
2014	N/A	N/A
2013	N/A	N/A
2012	N/A	N/A

Based on state law, schools will not be rated for state accountability purposes until Fall 2017.

Types of Accreditation (More than one may apply)

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

Additional Resources

SC State Content Standards

[Family-Friendly Guides to the SC Content Standards](#)

[2014-15 Accountability Manual](#)

[Report Card Data Files](#)

[ESEA Data Files](#)

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