



SC Annual School Report Card Summary

Gray Court-Owings Middle

Laurens 55

Grades: 6-8

Enrollment: 209

Principal: Marilyn Ramsey

Superintendent: Edgar C. Taylor

Board Chair: Rev. Charlie Short

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/SILVER AWARD	AYP STATUS	NCLB IMPROVEMENT STATUS
2008	Average	Average	TBD	Not Met	N/A
2007	Average	At-Risk	Silver	Not Met	N/A
2006	Average	Average	N/A	Not Met	N/A

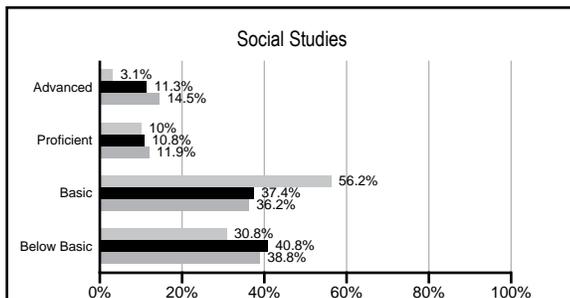
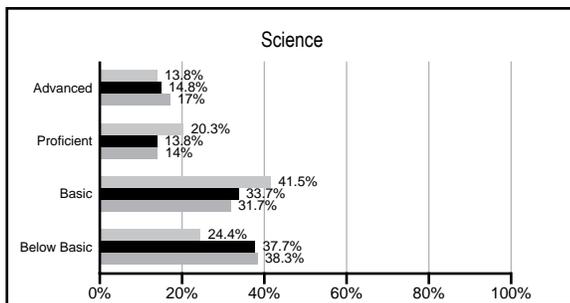
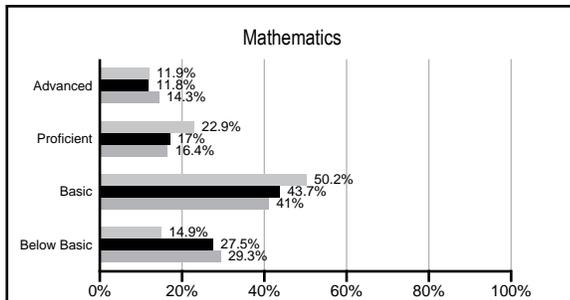
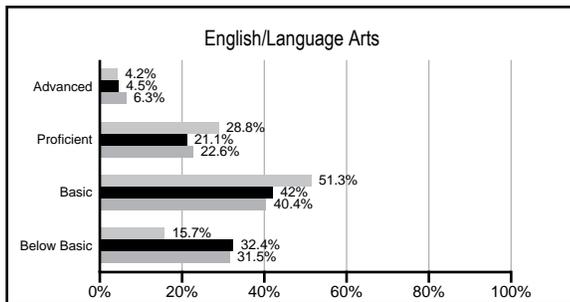
ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF MIDDLE SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	BELOW AVERAGE	AT-RISK
0	0	8	28	5

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 03/02/2009. Schools with Students like Ours are Middle Schools with poverty indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this school.

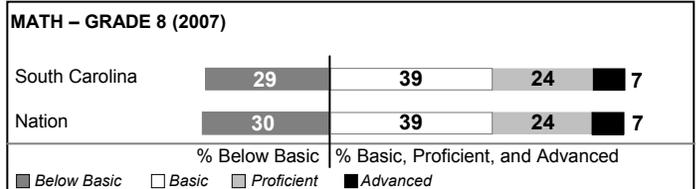
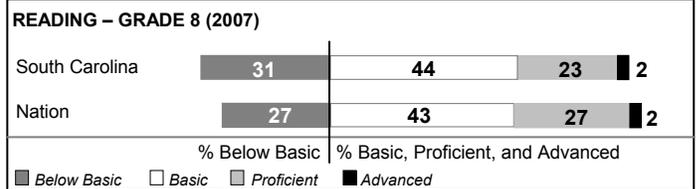
PACT PERFORMANCE

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.



END OF COURSE TESTS - 2008

% of students scoring 70 or above on:	Our Middle School	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours
Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2	100.0%	97.0%
English 1	0%	94.7%
Physical Science	0%	66.7%
All Subjects	100.0%	95.5%

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 Goal: TBD

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

Gray Court-Owings Middle [Laurens 55]

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Middle School
Students (n=209)				
Students enrolled in high school credit courses (grades 7 & 8)	7.2%	Up from 5.2%	16.1%	19.4%
Retention rate	0.5%	Down from 1.2%	1.7%	1.8%
Attendance rate	96.6%	Up from 96.5%	95.6%	95.8%
Eligible for gifted and talented	7.0%	Up from 6.3%	13.3%	15.3%
With disabilities other than speech	16.2%	Up from 10.4%	14.3%	12.9%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent &/or criminal offenses	0.0%	No Change	0.6%	0.7%
Annual dropout rate	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=15)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	40.0%	Up from 26.9%	52.6%	55.0%
Continuing contract teachers	86.7%	Up from 65.4%	73.3%	70.6%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	0.0%	Down from 4.3%	5.1%	5.4%
Teachers returning from previous year	66.9%	Down from 81.6%	83.2%	83.4%
Teacher attendance rate	96.9%	Up from 94.3%	94.8%	94.9%
Average teacher salary	\$42,798	Up 4.3%	\$44,234	\$44,706
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	4.9%	Up from 2.2%	2.1%	2.9%
School				
Principal's years at school	10.0	Up from 9.0	3.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	18.6 to 1	Down from 22.7 to 1	19.4 to 1	20.1 to 1
Prime instructional time	92.2%	Up from 90.2%	88.9%	89.3%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No Change	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Character development program	Excellent	No Change	Good	Good
Dollars spent per pupil*	\$6,450	Up 7.1%	\$6,918	\$7,097
Percent of expenditures for instruction*	58.2%	Down from 59.1%	65.0%	64.4%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries*	54.7%	Down from 55.1%	61.5%	59.4%
% of AYP objectives met	88.2%		66.7%	69.0%

* Prior year audited financial data available.

EVALUATION RESULTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	17	63	55
Percent satisfied with learning environment	94.1%	87.3%	79.2%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	94.1%	83.9%	80.0%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	76.5%	95.2%	74.5%

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

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

At Gray Court-Owings Middle School, we have just completed our first year as a middle school. One might say that we “down-sized” and changed our name, but our mission has remained the same: to create a community of learners who are responsible and productive citizens.

We have focused on academic achievement by providing quality instruction in all content areas, by incorporating Thinking Maps into the curriculum, and by providing remediation and enrichment through the use of technology. We have worked to help our students reach their potential and to continuously strive to reach new goals.

Our teachers participated in numerous staff development opportunities. Under the direction of our literacy coach, all teachers were trained to be “literacy leaders.” We implemented school-wide reading and selected Chicken Boy as our first novel to launch the initiative. Also, teachers learned about the benefits of single gender education through professional reading, classroom observations, and workshops. These led to conducting parent surveys, leading a parent night, and experimenting with single gender breakfast and a small class of all boys.

To encourage physical activity for our students, we kicked off a program called Wellness Wednesdays. Students chose to participate in intramurals or walking workouts. This program also allowed teachers to have some additional content-specific planning time. What a fun time for everyone!

Incentives were provided to encourage student attendance. Our Super Bowl competition and March Madness created lots of excitement about the importance of school attendance. Students enjoyed jumping on inflatables, playing volleyball against the teachers, and having Renaissance celebrations as a result of their accomplishments.

Our School Improvement Council (SIC) has provided valuable input and insight. Through Open House, Parent Night, science fair, band/choral performances, and athletic events, parents and the community have had opportunities to become an integral part of our school family. Vulcan Materials, our business partner, continued to support our school throughout the year. We appreciate the way that the parents, teachers, students, and the community have worked together.

We will continue to strive for excellence. Working together everyone achieves more!

Marilyn Ramsey, Principal
Jenny Abercrombie, SIC Chair

Comprehensive detail, including definitions of rating, 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.

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