



Palmetto Academy of Learning and Success

3530 Pampas Dr.

Myrtle Beach, SC 29577

Grades	K-8 Elementary School	
Enrollment	147 Students	
Principal	Courtney Fancher	843-839-1725
Superintendent	Dr. Cynthia Elsberry	843-488-6700
Board Chair	Will Garland	843-358-8002

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2012 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD



RATINGS OVER 5-YEAR PERIOD

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING
2012	Excellent	Excellent
2011	Excellent	Average
2010	N/A	N/A
2009	N/A	N/A
2008	N/A	N/A

DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

- Excellent – School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Good – School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Average – School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Below Average – School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- At-Risk – School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision

SOUTH CAROLINA 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.

<http://ed.sc.gov>
<http://www.eoc.sc.gov>

Percent of Student PASS Records Matched for Purpose of Computing Growth Rating

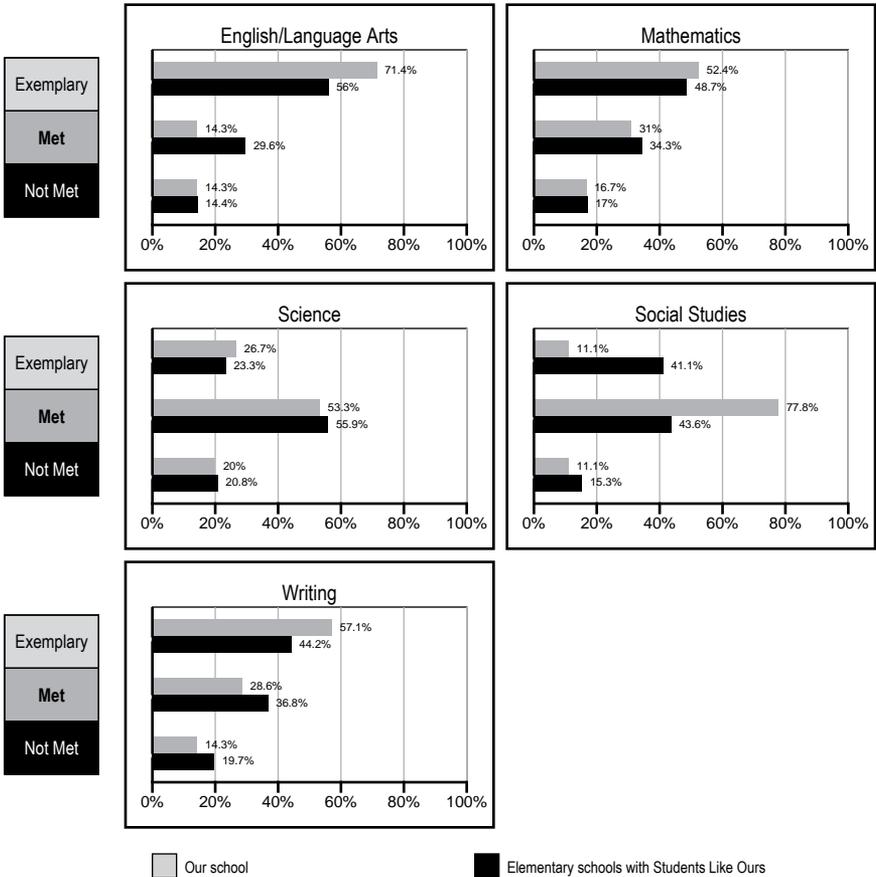
Percent of students tested in 2011-12 whose 2010-11 test scores were located | 92.3%

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	At-Risk
44	15	3	1	0

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 11/07/2012.

Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (PASS)



* Elementary schools with Students Like Ours are elementary schools with poverty indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for the school.

Definition of Critical Terms

Exemplary	"Exemplary" means the student demonstrated exemplary performance in meeting the grade level standard.
Met	"Met" means the student met the grade level standard.
Not Met	"Not Met" means that the student did not meet the grade level standard.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A–Not Applicable N/AV–Not Available N/C–Not Collected N/R–Not Reported I/S–Insufficient Sample

School Profile

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Elementary Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Elementary School
Students (n=147)				
First graders who attended full-day kindergarten	100.0%	N/R	100.0%	100.0%
Retention rate	1.4%	Up from 0.0%	0.9%	1.0%
Attendance rate	94.9%	Down from 95.0%	97.0%	96.6%
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%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=12)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	16.7%	Down from 18.2%	62.3%	63.0%
Continuing contract teachers	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
Teachers returning from previous year	N/A	N/A	90.1%	88.7%
Teacher attendance rate	N/R	N/R	95.2%	95.1%
Average teacher salary*	\$35,050	Up 0.4%	\$48,311	\$47,210
Professional development days/teacher	10.4 days	N/R	9.8 days	10.5 days
School				
Principal's years at school	2.0	Up from 0.0	4.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	12.9 to 1	N/R	20.9 to 1	20.0 to 1
Prime instructional time	N/R	N/R	91.5%	90.5%
Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	Up from Poor	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	No	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	98.4%	Up from 0.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Character development program	Average	N/R	Excellent	Excellent
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$8,132	N/A	\$6,781	\$7,247
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	61.0%	N/A	69.3%	68.2%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	51.4%	N/A	67.3%	65.7%

* Includes current year teachers contracted for 185 or more days.

** Prior year audited financial data are reported.

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Report of Principal and School Improvement Council

Palmetto Academy of Learning and Success, a Palmetto Gold recipient, is a public charter school located in the Market Common area of Myrtle Beach. The mission of PALS is to create a small, diverse learning environment that accommodates each student’s individual differences, learning styles, and development while promoting high expectations for all students. By providing meaningful and innovative learning experiences, instruction for multiple learning styles, access to technology, and encouraging family and community involvement PALS is committed to guiding students in the development of both their character and academic potential in preparation for their success as lifelong learners. The staff at PALS is committed to the reinforcement of PALS’ rigorous curriculum and high expectations for all students with more than 75% of the staff members holding or actively pursuing advanced degrees and 60% of the elementary classroom teachers holding certifications as reading specialists. PALS serves students from kindergarten through eighth grade and maintains class sizes of only 18 students per class. PALS’ eighth graders moving on to high school have had the opportunity to earn 4 high school credits – English I honors, algebra I, geometry, and computer science/keyboarding. PALS also offers a full day Gifted & Talented pullout program with an average student to teacher ratio of 10:1. Students in kindergarten through second grade also receive gifted & talented instruction each week from an endorsed gifted and talented teacher. This small, diverse learning environment with highly qualified teachers attracts families seeking academically rigorous curriculum and whole-child development. The 2011-2012 school year was filled with many significant accomplishments for PALS! PALS was awarded a 3 year grant totaling over \$225,000 that finalized this school year. The school also had two groups of teachers who were awarded \$1,000 each for innovative projects and PALS’ teachers had over 10 projects (which totaled more than \$4,000 in materials) funded through community support. PALS started a local chapter of both the National Junior Honors Society and the Junior BETA club. Students had the opportunity to participate in sports and more than 10 afterschool clubs. The PALS’ Science Competition Team took first place in the Tower competition at the Science Olympiad and placed in numerous other events. Each class participated in a community service project such as: a canned food drive, pet supply drive, cards & letters to nursing homes, letters to veterans, beach sweeps, and recycling programs. Our students also had the unique opportunity to meet and greet local veterans when they welcomed home our local veterans after an Honor Flight with cards, letters, pictures, and flags. We are looking forward to an equally exciting and rewarding 2012-2013 school year!

Courtney Fancher
 Stephanie Meridith Executive Director Board of Director’s’ President

Evaluations by Teachers, Students and Parents

	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 elementary school grade level and their parents were included.

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ESEA/Federal Accountability Rating System

In July 2012, the South Carolina Department of Education was granted a waiver from several accountability requirements of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). This waiver allowed SC to replace the former pass/fail system with one that utilizes more of the statewide assessments already in place and combine these subject area results with graduation rate (in high schools) to determine if each school met the target or made progress toward the target. This analysis results in a letter grade for the school rather than the pass/fail system of previous years. For a detailed review of the matrix for each school and districts that determined the letter grade, please use the following link: <http://ed.sc.gov/data/esea/> or request this information from your child's district or school.

Overall Weighted Points Total	97.9
Overall Grade Conversion	A

Index Score	Grade	Description
90-100	A	Performance substantially exceeds the state's expectations.
80-89.9	B	Performance exceeds the state's expectations.
70-79.9	C	Performance meets the state's expectations.
60-69.9	D	Performance does not meet the state's expectations.
Less than 60	F	Performance is substantially below the state's expectations

Accountability Indicator for Title I Schools

Palmetto Academy of Learning and Success school has been designated as a:

- Title I Reward School for Performance - among the highest performing Title I schools in a given year.
- Title I Reward School for Progress – one of the schools with substantial progress in student subgroups.
- Title I Focus School – one of the schools with the highest average performance gap between subgroups.
- Title I Priority School – one of the 5% lowest performing Title I schools.
- Title I School – does not qualify as Reward, Focus or Priority School.
- Non-Title I School – therefore the designations above are not applicable.

Teacher Quality and Student Attendance

	Our District	State
Classes in low poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	4.3%	2.6%
Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	3.0%	5.1%

	Our School	State Objective	Met State Objective
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	46.3%	0.0%	No
Student attendance rate	94.9%	94.0%*	Yes

* Or greater than last year

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Performance By Group

Subgroups	ELA Mean	Math Mean	Science Mean	Social Studies Mean	ELA % Tested	Math % Tested
Grades 3-5						
All Students	695.9	664.0	628.6	639.2	97.9	98.9
Male	685.5	658.4	627.6	643.8	95.5	97.7
Female	704.9	669.0	629.5	635.0	100.0	100.0
White	696.9	667.7	633.2	644.4	100.0	100.0
African American	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Disabled	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Subsidized meals	690.2	649.8	612.9	631.1	95.2	97.6
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	630.0	630.0	630.0	630.0	95.0	95.0

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PASS Performance By Grade Level

	Grade	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Not Met	% Met	% Exemplary	% Met or Exemplary
English/Language Arts							
2011	3	17	94.1	9.1	9.1	81.8	90.9
	4	17	94.1	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	100
	5	18	100	25	25	50	75
	6	18	100	11.8	23.5	64.7	88.2
	7	8	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
8	7	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	
2012	3	18	100	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	100
	4	18	94.4	28.6	14.3	57.1	71.4
	5	16	100	7.1	28.6	64.3	92.9
	6	17	94.1	7.7	23.1	69.2	92.3
	7	15	100	15.4	23.1	61.5	84.6
8	10	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	
Mathematics							
2011	3	17	100	8.3	25	66.7	91.7
	4	17	100	6.7	40	53.3	93.3
	5	18	100	33.3	41.7	25	66.7
	6	18	100	23.5	41.2	35.3	76.5
	7	8	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
8	7	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	
2012	3	18	100	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	100
	4	18	100	26.7	33.3	40	73.3
	5	16	100	21.4	35.7	42.9	78.6
	6	17	94.1	15.4	53.8	30.8	84.6
	7	15	100	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	100
8	10	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	
Science							
2011	3	9	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
	4	17	100	13.3	53.3	33.3	86.7
	5	9	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
	6	9	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
	7	8	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
8	3	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	
2012	3	10	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
	4	18	100	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	60
	5	9	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
	6	7	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
	7	15	100	15.4	38.5	46.2	84.6
8	5	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	

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PASS Performance By Grade Level

	Grade	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Not Met	% Met	% Exemplary	% Met or Exemplary
Social Studies							
2011	3	8	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
	4	17	100	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	100
	5	9	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
	6	9	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
	7	8	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
	8	4	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
2012	3	8	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
	4	18	100	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	86.7
	5	7	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
	6	9	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
	7	15	100	23.1	23.1	53.8	76.9
	8	5	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
Writing							
2011	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	18	100	25	16.7	58.3	75
	6	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	7	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	8	8	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
2012	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	15	100	14.3	28.6	57.1	85.7
	6	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	7	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	8	10	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S

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