



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:	K-8 Middle	Principal:	Courtney Fancher
Enrollment:	319 students	Superintendent:	Dr. Rick Maxey
School Phone:	843-293-1725	Board Chair:	Joe DeFeo
School Website:	http://www.palmettoacademy.com/		



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

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

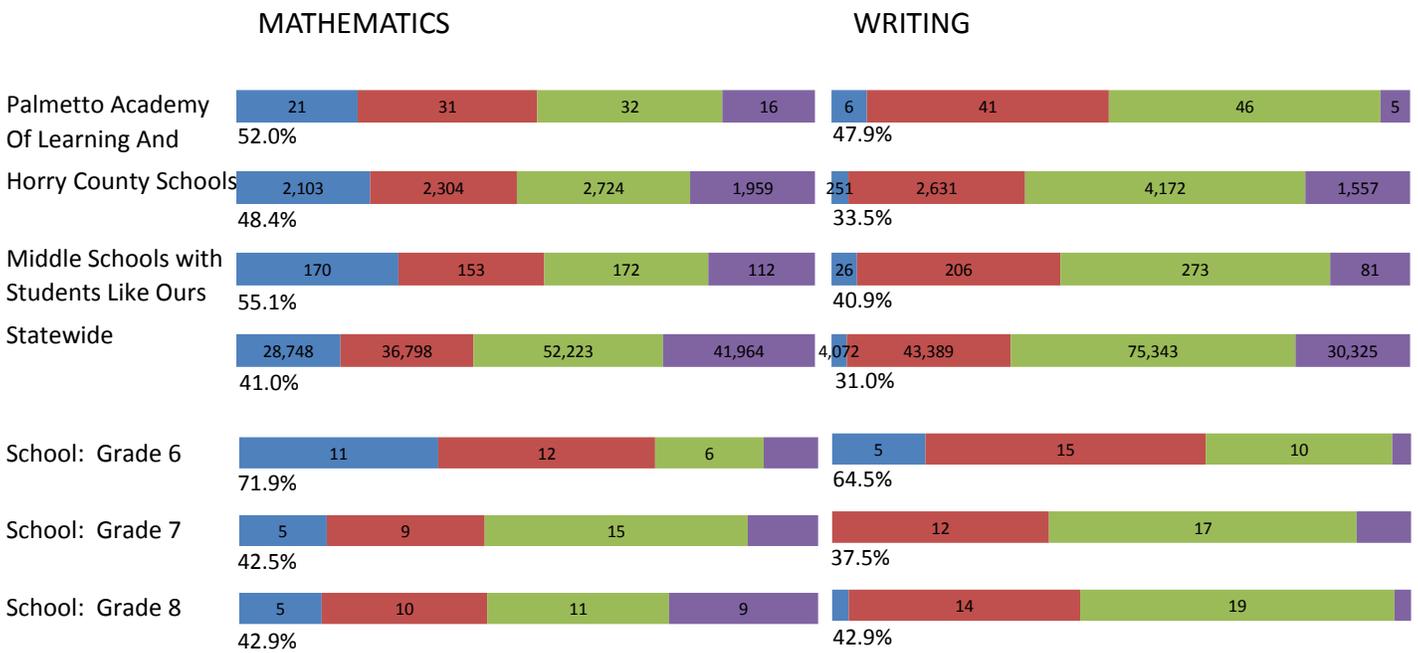
WORLD CLASS SKILLS & LIFE AND CAREER CHARACTERISTICS

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

Palmetto Academy of Learning and Success is helping all students develop the world class skills and life and career characteristics of the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate by providing a safe, caring, and academically challenging learning environment. We provide this environment through the implementation of our school mission that strives “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, Palmetto Academy of Learning and Success is committed to guiding students in the development of both their character and academic potential in preparation for their success as life long learners.” 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 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 almost half 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 complete three high school level honors classes, English I, Algebra I, Geometry, and a high school level computer science/keyboarding class. PALS also offers a full day gifted & talented pullout program with an average student to teacher ratio of 10:1 for students who have been identified as qualifying for gifted and talented services. All students in kindergarten through second grade also receive gifted & talented instruction each week from a certified gifted and talented teacher. This small, diverse learning environment with highly qualified teachers attracts families seeking academically rigorous curriculum and whole-child development. PALS continues to offer a local chapter of both the National Junior Honors Society and the Junior BETA club. Students have the opportunity to participate in sports (basketball, soccer, cheerleading, softball, baseball, volleyball) and more than 10 afterschool clubs. The PALS’ Science Competition Team routinely places in numerous events at the Science Olympiad competition. Each class also participates in a community service project each year. At PALS we believe that school, family, and community all share the educational responsibility of our young. Thank you for all of your support in helping in the development of our future South Carolina graduates and world leaders! We are looking forward to an exciting and rewarding 2015-2016 school year! Ms. Fancher, Executive Director Ms. Meredith, Board of Directors

KNOWLEDGE

The ACT Aspire assessment was given to students in grades 3-8 in Spring 2015. Students were assessed in the subject areas of Reading, English, Mathematics and Writing



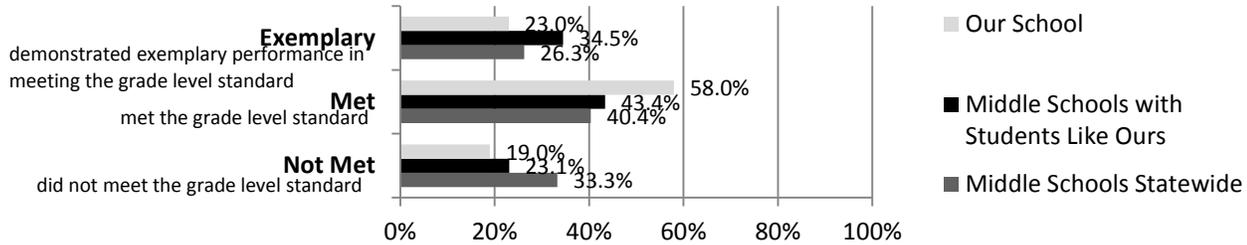
Abbreviations for Missing Data

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

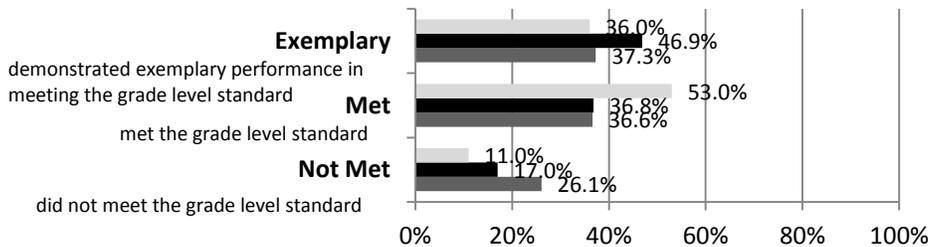
KNOWLEDGE

The SC Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (SCPASS) was given to students in grades 4 - 8 in Spring 2015. Students were assessed in the subject areas of Science and Social Studies.

Science



Social Studies



Science SCPASS		
Our School: Percent Met and Above for each grade level		
6th grade	7th grade	8th grade
87.5	69.7	85.7

Social Studies SCPASS		
Our School: Percent Met and Above for each grade level		
6th grade	7th grade	8th grade
93.8	81.8	91.4

Note: Results include SC-Alt assessment results.

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

End of Course Tests		
Percent of tests with scores of 70 or above on:	Our School	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours
Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2	76.5	97.7
English 1	85.3	96.9
Biology 1	N/A	88.6
US History and the Constitution	N/A	82.3
All Subjects	80.9	97.4

Middle Schools with Students Like Ours are middle schools with poverty indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for the school.

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OPPORTUNITIES

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Middle Schools with students like ours
Students (n = 319)			
Percent of students participating in Medicaid, SNAP, or TANF; homeless, foster, or migrant students (poverty index)	44.7	Down from 52.3%	N/A
Percent of students (grade 7 & 8) enrolled in HS credit courses	95.8	Down from 98.3%	42.1
Attendance Rate	96.1	Down from 97.0%	96.3
With disabilities	7.5	Up from 6.1%	9.7
Out of school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.0	No change	0.4
Percentage of students served by gifted and talented programs	24.6	Up from 20.0%	34.3
Percentage of students retained	1.9	Up from 0.6%	0.5
Annual dropout rate	0.0	No change	0.0
Teachers (n = 22)			
Percentage of teachers with advanced degrees	45.5	Up from 33.3%	66.7
Percentage of teachers on continuing contract	68.2	Up from 47.6%	83.0
Teachers returning from previous year	81.2	Down from 81.8%	88.1
Teacher attendance rate	97.0	Down from 97.5%	94.4
Average teacher salary*	\$37,750	Up 4.1%	\$48,066
Professional development days / teacher	12.8 days	Up from 11.3 days	10.6 days
Percentage of teacher vacancies for more than 9 weeks	0.0	N/A	0.5
School			
Principal's years at school	5.0	Up from 4.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	14.5 to 1	Up from 13.8 to 1	22.7 to 1
Prime instructional time	91.8	Down from 94.4%	89.7
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No change	Good
Opportunities in foreign languages	Poor	N/A	Poor
AdvancEd (SACS) accreditation	No	No change	Yes
Parents attending conferences	99.7	Up from 99.4%	99.7
Character development program	Good	No change	Good
Avg. age of books / electronic media in the school library	N/A	N/A	11.7
Number of resources available per student in the school library media center	N/A	N/A	18.4
Bandwidth capacity per student	N/A	N/C	N/A
Percent of classrooms with wireless access	N/A	N/C	N/A
District-issued learning devices per student	N/A	N/C	0.7
District-issued technology devices per teacher	N/A	N/C	1.7
Percentage of classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	2.8	Down from 4.2%	0.7
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$8,667	Up 2.5%	\$6,866
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	41.4	Down from 42.8%	61.9
Percent of expenditures for teachers' salaries**	44.4	Up from 43.6%	63.2

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

** Prior year audited financial data are reported.

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OPPORTUNITIES**Evaluations by Teachers, Students, and Parents****Evaluations by Teachers, Students, and Parents**

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	23	N/A	N/A
Percent satisfied with learning environment	100.0	I/S	I/S
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	100.0	I/S	I/S
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	100.0	I/S	I/S

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

State Ratings History of School

Year	Absolute Rating	Growth Rating
2014	Good	Below Average
2013	Excellent	Excellent
2012	Excellent	Excellent

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

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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