



# SC Annual School Report Card Summary

Gray Court-Owings Middle  
 Laurens 55  
 Grades: 6-8 Enrollment: 209  
 Principal: Marilyn Ramsey  
 Superintendent: Dr. Billy R. Strickland  
 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](http://www.ed.sc.gov) and [www.eoc.sc.gov](http://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		AYP STATUS	NCLB IMPROVEMENT STATUS
			General Performance	Closing the Gap		
2009	Average	Average	TBD	TBD	Met	N/A
2008	Average	Average	Silver	N/A	Not Met	N/A
2007	Average	At-Risk	N/A	N/A	Not Met	N/A

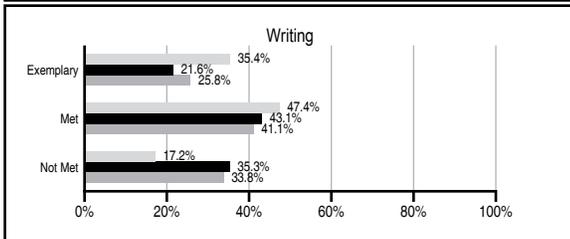
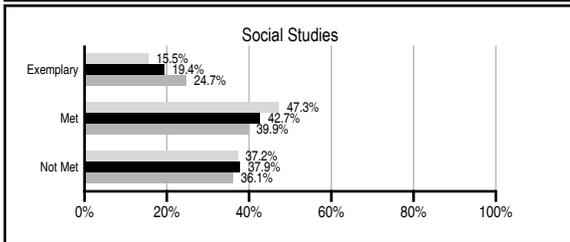
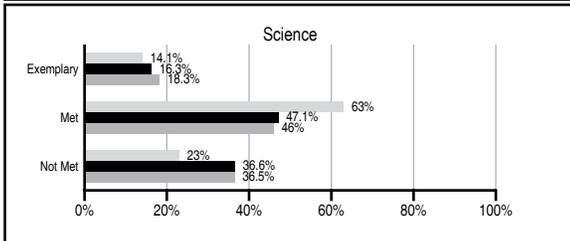
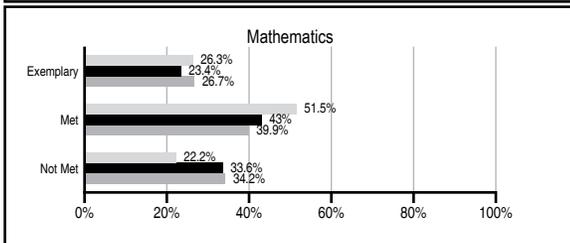
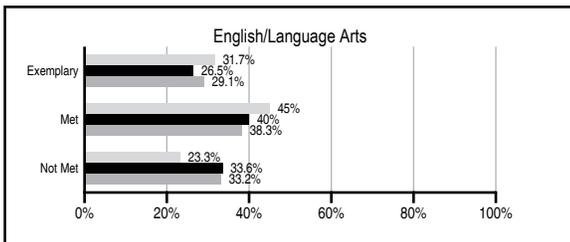
## ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF MIDDLE SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS\*

EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	BELOW AVERAGE	AT-RISK
0	2	33	8	0

\* Ratings are calculated with data available by 06/01/2010. Schools with Students Like Ours are Middle Schools with Poverty Indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this school.

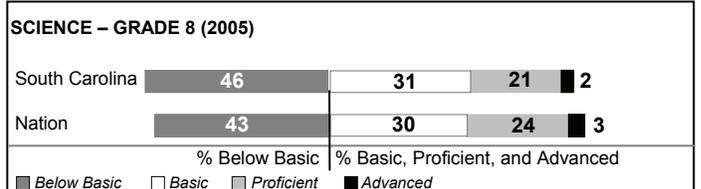
## PASS PERFORMANCE

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.



## END OF COURSE TESTS - 2009

% 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	95.8
English 1	N/A	94.7
Physical Science	N/A	94.8
US History and the Constitution	N/A	N/A
All Subjects	100.0	95.3

## 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 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  
 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
<b>Students (n=209)</b>				
Students enrolled in high school credit courses (grades 7 & 8)	4.1%	Down from 7.2%	18.4%	21.6%
Retention rate	0.5%	No Change	1.7%	1.2%
Attendance rate	96.4%	Down from 96.6%	95.6%	95.9%
Eligible for gifted and talented	7.4%	Up from 7.0%	14.1%	14.8%
With disabilities other than speech	17.1%	Up from 16.2%	13.6%	12.6%
Older than usual for grade	6.2%	No Change	3.5%	2.5%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.0%	No Change	0.9%	0.6%
Annual dropout rate	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Teachers (n=16)</b>				
Teachers with advanced degrees	43.8%	Up from 40.0%	55.5%	56.9%
Continuing contract teachers	75.0%	Down from 86.7%	72.0%	72.7%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	0.0%	No Change	5.3%	5.3%
Teachers returning from previous year	71.8%	Up from 66.9%	81.4%	82.9%
Teacher attendance rate	97.7%	Up from 96.9%	95.3%	95.2%
Average teacher salary*	\$43,475	Up 1.6%	\$45,893	\$46,599
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	5.1%	Up from 4.9%	3.4%	2.4%
Professional development days/teacher	14.6 days	Up from 13.1 days	10.3 days	10.8 days
<b>School</b>				
Principal's years at school	11.0	Up from 10.0	3.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	17.2 to 1	Down from 18.6 to 1	19.5 to 1	20.1 to 1
Prime instructional time	93.9%	Up from 92.2%	90.1%	89.9%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No Change	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	90.7%	Down from 99.1%	98.1%	97.8%
Character development program	Excellent	No Change	Good	Good
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$7,938	Up 23.1%	\$7,741	\$7,645
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	48.7%	Down from 58.2%	64.3%	63.4%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	47.6%	Down from 54.7%	59.3%	57.0%
% of AYP objectives met	100.0%	Up from 88.2%	90.5%	90.5%

\* Length of contract = 185+ days.

\*\* Prior year audited financial data available.

## REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

And the winner is ... Gray Court-Owings Middle School! We proudly accepted the Palmetto Silver Award for outstanding student achievement on the Palmetto Achievement Challenge Test (PACT). This honor serves as evidence that we have high expectations for our students and push them to excel academically. Every day we promote reading through our school-wide reading program. Novels, poems, and current event articles are used to create interest and stimulate thinking. In order to prepare our students for the real world of work and economics, students had opportunities to participate in the Stock Market Game and in the publication of a school newspaper. The winners of the Stock Market Game, The Oreos, were treated to dinner with Mayor Carter of Gray Court. Other students interviewed faculty members, researched the history of Gray Court-Owings School and shared recipes and beauty tips in the student published newspaper. Who said school couldn't be fun? A new initiative for Gray Court-Owings Middle School was single gender education. We had our first sixth grade class of females only. They enjoyed it so much that they opted to stay together as a group for one more year. An important aspect of learning involves the building of character and service to others. Our school community rallied to support Relay for Life, showing how much they cared for Mrs. Swartzel, an eighth grade teacher who was diagnosed with cancer early in the school year. Several boys even sported "Fight Like a Girl" t-shirts! Our faculty and staff is truly the best! Three of our teachers received grants from Wal-Mart, South Carolina Middle School Association, and Donors Choose. Mrs. Adams, Ms. Rose, and Mrs. Swartzel received National Board Certification. Two of our science teachers were accepted to attend the Roper Mountain Science Institute. Without the support of our parents and community, we would not experience the success that we have. Parents have attended Open House, athletic events, and band and choral concerts. They have volunteered and served as chaperones on numerous field trips. Vulcan Materials, our business partner, has rewarded students for their attendance in school and provided other support for our faculty and staff. Several community members have mentored young adults, encouraging them to do their best and reach for the stars! Together we strive to accomplish our mission: to create a community of learners who are responsible and productive citizens. Marilyn Ramsey, Principal; Patti Owens, SIC Chairperson

## EVALUATION RESULTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	19	56	39
Percent satisfied with learning environment	100.0%	87.5%	89.5%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	100.0%	85.7%	78.9%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	73.7%	83.9%	82.1%

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

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