



# SC Annual School Report Card Summary

**ALSTON MIDDLE**  
Dorchester 2

Grades: 6-8

Enrollment: 869

Principal: Sam Clark

Superintendent: Joseph R. Pye

Board Chair: Frances Townsend

## 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 |            |                         |
| 2010 | Good            | Good          | TBD                            | TBD             | Not Met    | N/A                     |
| 2009 | Average         | Average       | N/A                            | N/A             | Not Met    | N/A                     |
| 2008 | Average         | Below Average | N/A                            | N/A             | Not Met    | N/A                     |

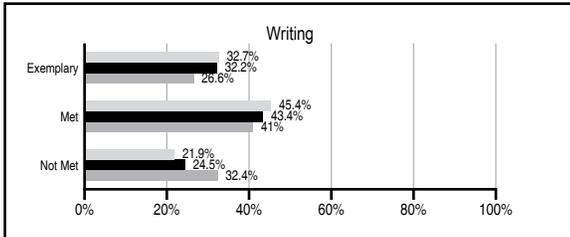
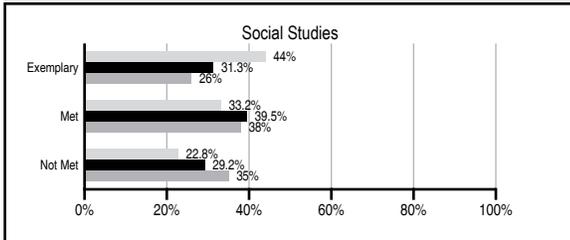
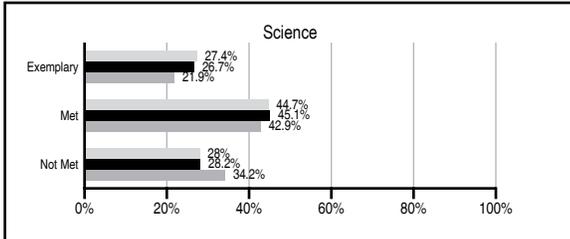
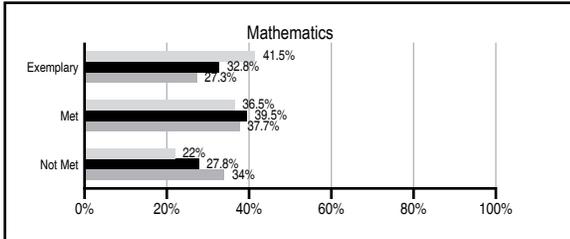
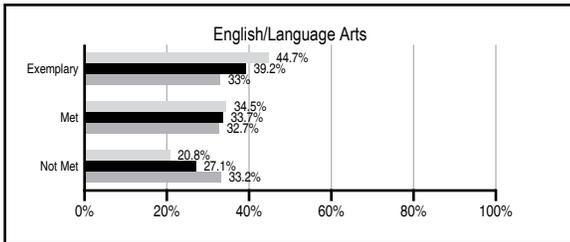
## ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF MIDDLE SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS\*

| EXCELLENT | GOOD | AVERAGE | BELOW AVERAGE | AT-RISK |
|-----------|------|---------|---------------|---------|
| 4         | 16   | 29      | 0             | 1       |

\* Ratings are calculated with data available by 03/09/2011. Schools with Students Like Ours are Middle Schools with Poverty Indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this school.

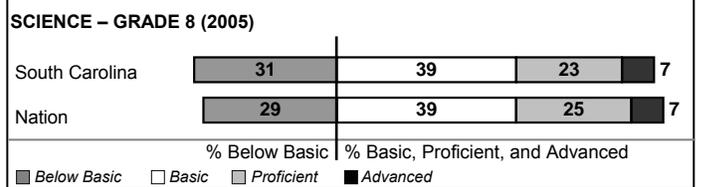
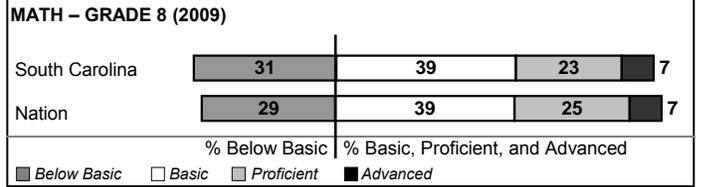
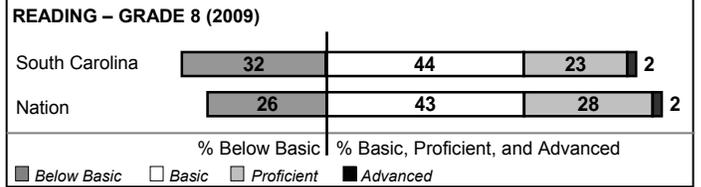
## PASS PERFORMANCE

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 - 2010

| % 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             | 96.9                                   |
| English 1                             | 98.6              | 95.8                                   |
| Physical Science                      | N/A               | 25.9                                   |
| US History and the Constitution       | N/A               | N/A                                    |
| All Subjects                          | 99.2              | 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

# ALSTON MIDDLE [Dorchester 2]

## SCHOOL PROFILE

|  | Our School | Change from Last Year | Middle Schools with Students Like Ours | Median Middle School |
|--|------------|-----------------------|--|----------------------|
| <b>Students (n=869)</b>  |            |                       |  |                      |
| Students enrolled in high school credit courses (grades 7 & 8)               | 51.7%      | Up from 25.4%         | 35.1%                                  | 24.2%                |
| Retention rate   | 1.3%       | Down from 3.4%        | 0.7%                                   | 0.7%                 |
| Attendance rate  | 95.5%      | Up from 95.3%         | 95.9%                                  | 95.9%                |
| Eligible for gifted and talented   | 15.9%      | Up from 15.3%         | 19.8%                                  | 16.4%                |
| With disabilities other than speech  | 11.5%      | Down from 12.1%       | 11.8%                                  | 12.0%                |
| Older than usual for grade   | 2.2%       | Down from 3.4%        | 2.0%                                   | 2.2%                 |
| Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses | 1.0%       | Down from 6.9%        | 1.0%                                   | 0.5%                 |
| Annual dropout rate  | 0.2%       | No Change             | 0.0%                                   | 0.0%                 |
| <b>Teachers (n=56)</b>   |            |                       |  |                      |
| Teachers with advanced degrees   | 58.9%      | Up from 51.7%         | 59.2%                                  | 58.5%                |
| Continuing contract teachers   | 85.7%      | Up from 63.3%         | 82.9%                                  | 80.0%                |
| Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates                          | 3.8%       | Down from 5.6%        | 4.1%                                   | 4.0%                 |
| Teachers returning from previous year  | 75.8%      | Up from 67.3%         | 85.6%                                  | 84.6%                |
| Teacher attendance rate  | 93.7%      | Down from 93.9%       | 95.6%                                  | 95.4%                |
| Average teacher salary*  | \$44,208   | Up 0.6%               | \$47,145                               | \$46,561             |
| Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers                              | 0.7%       | Down from 2.4%        | 0.0%                                   | 1.3%                 |
| Professional development days/teacher  | 8.4 days   | Down from 8.7 days    | 10.1 days                              | 10.2 days            |
| <b>School</b>  |            |                       |  |                      |
| Principal's years at school  | 15.0       | Up from 14.0          | 4.0                                    | 4.0                  |
| Student-teacher ratio in core subjects                                       | 23.7 to 1  | Up from 21.9 to 1     | 22.1 to 1                              | 21.1 to 1            |
| Prime instructional time   | 87.5%      | Down from 87.6%       | 90.4%                                  | 90.4%                |
| Opportunities in the arts  | Excellent  | No Change             | Good                                   | Good                 |
| SACS accreditation   | Yes        | No Change             | Yes                                    | Yes                  |
| Parents attending conferences  | 96.9%      | Up from 96.4%         | 98.6%                                  | 98.1%                |
| Character development program  | Excellent  | Up from Good          | Good                                   | Good                 |
| Dollars spent per pupil**  | \$7,220    | Down 2.9%             | \$7,217                                | \$7,802              |
| Percent of expenditures for instruction**                                    | 61.0%      | Up from 59.0%         | 64.3%                                  | 63.8%                |
| Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**                               | 58.0%      | Up from 53.3%         | 60.4%                                  | 60.0%                |
| % of AYP objectives met  | 90.5%      | No Change             | 92.9%                                  | 92.3%                |

\* Length of contract = 185+ days.

\*\* Prior year audited financial data available.

## EVALUATION RESULTS

|  | Teachers | Students* | Parents* |
|--|----------|-----------|----------|
| Number of surveys returned                             | 59       | 237       | 112      |
| Percent satisfied with learning environment            | 91.2%    | 83.9%     | 83.8%    |
| Percent satisfied with social and physical environment | 94.9%    | 85.7%     | 85.6%    |
| Percent satisfied with school-home relations           | 84.7%    | 88.6%     | 80.6%    |

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

## REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

Alston Middle School proudly serves more than 860 students with a teaching staff of 61 fully certified teachers. The mission of Alston Middle School is to provide every student with the skills necessary to become productive citizens. The pursuit of that mission is supported by outstanding parental and community involvement.

Our staff is focused on academic excellence and continuous improvement for every student. This year, our students participated in periodic, standards-based "benchmark" assessments in math, language arts, science, and social studies that provided data on each student's academic growth. The data from these assessments gave teachers information on skills that helped them challenge each student. Alston's parents are involved in a wide variety of activities that support our students such as volunteering, being a part of PTSA, School Improvement Council, or coaching athletic teams.

Alston's students continue to excel in academics, the arts, and athletics. Our academic teams compete in regional and state competitions such as Quest and Math Counts. An Alston 8th grader was the runner-up in the Lowcountry Math Counts, and another 8th grader was the runner-up in the Post and Courier's Spelling Bee. This year we had our first Robotics Team. An increasing number of Alston students take the PSAT and are recognized as "Duke Tip Scholars." Ten band students qualified for "All Region Band." Twenty-two of our orchestra students received Superior or Excellent at the state level. Chorus, theater arts, and visual arts students collaborated in producing "Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory." A 7th grade student was the state's "Entrepreneur of the Year." The Tiger Football and Basketball Teams won the District Two Championship, while all of our other teams posted winning records.

Service to the community is an important aspect of our school. Our staff had the largest increase among Dorchester Two's middle schools in support of the Trident United Way, and our students set contribution records in the Heart Association's "Hoops for the Heart." One of our counselors received "The Heart Award" from the SC Commission on Higher Education for developing the Alston Leadership Program and the Aesthetically Green Environmental Students (AGES) recycling club. A 6th grade student was recognized as the state's "Recycler of the Year."

Alston continues to pursue "Adequate Yearly Progress" as established by No Child Left Behind. Our plan for meeting those goals includes continued use of common assessments to measure student learning, use of the "Inclusion Model" of scheduling students with special needs, use of the "Voyager" program to support students who are served in resource classes, use of our "Compass" computer labs to help with differentiated instruction, and use of the Professional Learning Communities planning sessions for improving and maintaining our focus on student learning.

Sam Clark, Principal  
Rene Seith, SIC Chair

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.

### 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