



SC Annual School District Report Card Summary

SC Public Charter School District
 Grades: PK-12 Enrollment: 9,167
 Superintendent: Dr. Wayne Brazell
 Board Chair: Don McLaurin

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 AND SILVER AWARD		AYP STATUS	NCLB IMPROVEMENT STATUS
			General Performance	Closing the Gap		
2011	At-Risk	Below Average	N/A	N/A	Not Met	NI
2010	Below Average	Average	N/A	N/A	Not Met	N/A
2009	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF DISTRICTS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	BELOW AVERAGE	AT-RISK
3	10	9	0	1

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 11/09/2011. Districts with Students Like Ours are Districts with Poverty Indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this district.

PASS

PASS	2011 Reading	2011 Math	2011 Science	2011 Social Studies	2011 Writing
	% Met or above	% Met or above			
District	73.3%	60.1%	62.7%	60.7%	68.2%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	76.2%	75.0%	70.7%	73.9%	74.9%
Average District	74.3%	73.6%	69.0%	73.0%	73.1%

PASS	2011 Reading	2011 Math	2011 Science	2011 Social Studies	2011 Writing
	% Exemplary	% Exemplary	% Exemplary	% Exemplary	% Exemplary
District	41.3%	22.8%	17.6%	23.6%	30.5%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	42.0%	36.3%	24.1%	33.5%	35.2%
Average District	40.4%	35.5%	23.3%	33.3%	33.7%

HSAP

HSAP: 2nd Year Students	Passed 2 Subtests (%)	Passed 1 Subtest (%)	Passed No Subtests (%)
District	61.4%	23.7%	14.9%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	80.2%	11.4%	8.4%

HSAP Passage Rate by Spring 2011 (%)

District	83.6%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	92.2%

End of Course Test Passage Rate (%)

District	55.5%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	67.8%

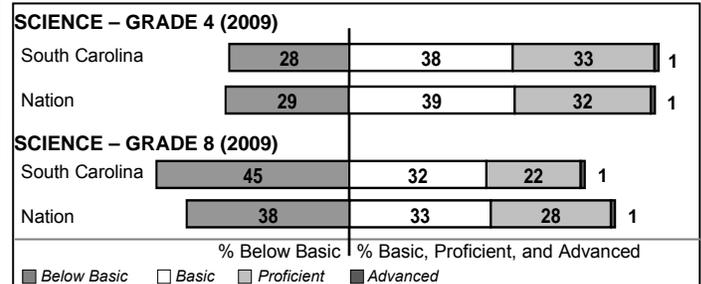
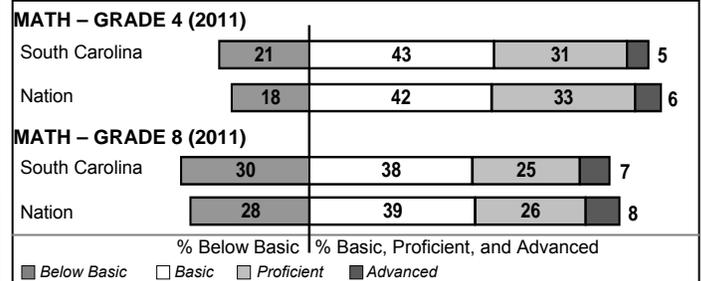
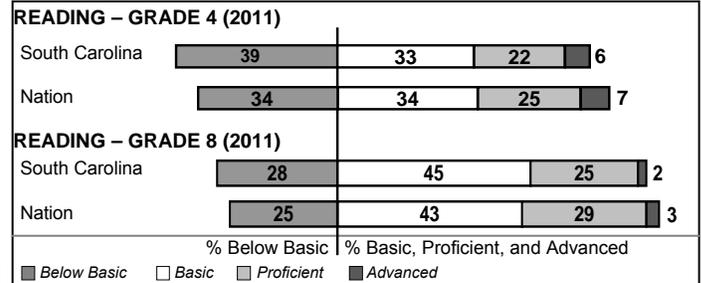
On-Time Graduation Rate (%)

District	15.5%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	74.2%

** Districts with Students Like Ours are districts with Poverty Indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this district.

NAEP*

* Performance reported for SC and nation, data not available at school level. Percentages at NAEP Achievement Levels.



SC 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.

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 CDI Continuing District Improvement CA Corrective Action RP Plan to Restructure R Restructure DELAY District Improvement Status HOLD District Improvement Status

SC Public Charter School District

DISTRICT PROFILE

	Our District	Change from Last Year	Districts with Students Like Ours	Median District
Students (n=9,167)				
Retention rate	5.4%	Up from 1.3%	1.7%	2.3%
Attendance rate	95.6%	Up from 89.0%	95.7%	95.8%
Served by gifted and talented program	4.6%	Up from 3.7%	19.0%	14.0%
With disabilities other than speech	6.6%	Down from 8.4%	7.2%	7.4%
Older than usual for grade	11.1%	Down from 16.5%	2.2%	3.0%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.2%	Up from 0.0%	0.9%	0.5%
Enrolled in AP/IB programs	4.4%	Up from 3.5%	18.6%	12.2%
Successful on AP/IB exams	N/A	N/A	52.8%	52.9%
Eligible for LIFE Scholarship	20.7%	N/R	31.7%	30.3%
Enrolled in adult education GED or diploma programs	N/A	N/A	83	66
Completions in adult education GED or diploma programs	N/A	N/A	58	35
Annual dropout rate	5.3%	Down from 10.1%	3.1%	2.8%
Teachers (n=289)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	50.9%	Down from 53.1%	61.4%	61.2%
Continuing contract teachers	56.1%	Up from 16.7%	86.3%	85.6%
Teachers returning from previous year	N/A	N/A	91.9%	90.3%
Teacher attendance rate	98.1%	Up from 98.0%	95.6%	95.2%
Average teacher salary*	\$35,679	Down 4.8%	\$47,560	\$46,166
Vacancies for more than nine weeks	3.1%	Up from 1.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	24.7%	Up from 20.7%	1.3%	2.0%
Professional development days/teacher	9.9 days	Down from 11.0 days	11.3 days	12.2 days
District				
Superintendent's years at district	2.0	Up from 1.0	4.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	36.5 to 1	N/R	22.0 to 1	21.7 to 1
Prime instructional time	93.3%	Up from 86.4%	90.6%	90.1%
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$217	N/A	\$8,655	\$9,140
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	N/A	N/A	55.4%	53.5%
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	N/A	N/A	59.1%	56.5%
Opportunities in the arts	Poor	No Change	Excellent	Excellent
Number of schools	11	Up from 7	14	9
Portable classrooms	3.9%	Up from 0.0%	1.4%	1.4%
Number of schools with SACS accreditation	3.0	No Change	13.0	8.0
Parents attending conferences	96.0%	Down from 100.0%	96.0%	96.6%
Average administrator salary	\$70,787	Down 21.1%	\$78,044	\$78,000
Number of charter schools	N/A	N/A	0	0
% of AYP objectives met	41.9%		93.9%	93.1%

* Length of contract = 185+ days.

** Prior year audited financial data available.

RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT FACILITIES STUDENT PERFORMANCE

	PASS	HSAP	End-of-Course Tests
Passage Rate	N/A	N/A	N/A

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

State of the District Report

The 2010-2011 school year was the third year for the district and another growth year. The district went from just over 6,000 students in six schools to well over 9,000 students in eleven schools: five virtual schools and six brick and mortar schools. The district also prepared for the opening of two more schools in August 2011: East Point Academy, a Chinese language immersion school in Cayce and SC Whitmore School, a virtual high school dedicated to serving at-risk students from across the state.

As the lowest funded public school district in the United States with more than one school, the district faced significant financial hardship in 2010-2011. Total annual recurring funding from all sources amounted to less than \$4,000 per student, making school operations anything but normal. Consistent with state law and the philosophy of decentralized governance of public charter schools, the district office retained just under two percent of the funding for these schools as the charter authorizer and provider of district services, allowing the parent-centered governing Boards of each school to apply the balance for school operations. In contrast, state funding for the 2011-2012 academic year will provide sustainability.

In 2010-2011, the district emphasized five major initiatives. The first area was increasing support for special needs students, which constitute over ten percent of the district population. The second area was implementing PowerSchool and data management in general. The third area was increasing the number of students taking standardized state testing, which is challenging for the families of virtual students who must frequently drive to testing centers around the state for live test taking under strict district-monitored conditions. The fourth area of emphasis was on personnel hiring and training for the schools, which are all new and all growing. The schools are required by law to adhere to the same teacher qualification and credential requirements as all other public schools in the state but with the prospect of low teacher pay as the lowest funded district in the United States. The final initiative centered on a service grant from the National Association of Charter School Authorizers that included a comprehensive review of how the district authorizes, monitors, and reauthorizes charter schools as compared against national standards and practices. The review centered on strengthening schools with the ultimate goal of strengthening academic outcomes.

As school choice options for all parents in the state, charter schools do not select their students. Instead, students select charter schools, often based on recommendations from educators in traditional public school settings. As a result, the demographics of the district in terms of ethnicity and poverty mirror the state averages. Some of our schools, such as Palmetto Scholars Academy in Charleston, York Preparatory Academy, and Spartanburg Charter School, exemplified the best attributes of academic success in serving their students as shown in outstanding PASS scores. For other schools in the district, this year was a building year for future success.

Superintendent Wayne Brazell, Ph. D.

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