



# SC Annual School Report Card Summary

**ALSTON MIDDLE**  
**Dorchester 2**  
**Grades: 6-8** Enrollment: 865  
**Principal: Thad Schmenk**  
**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		
2011	Good	Good	TBD	TBD	Not Met	N/A
2010	Good	Good	Silver	N/A	Not Met	N/A
2009	Average	Average	N/A	N/A	Not Met	N/A

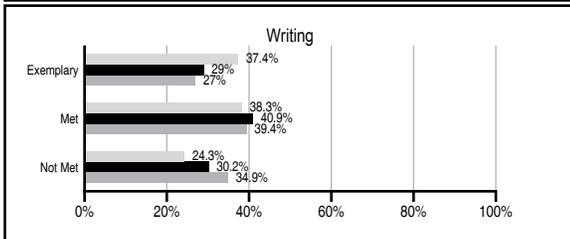
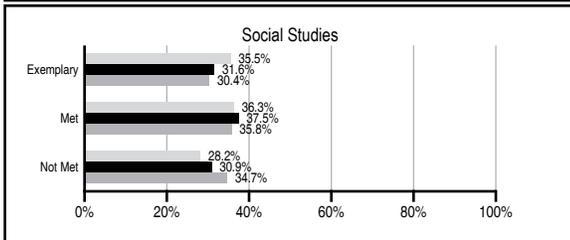
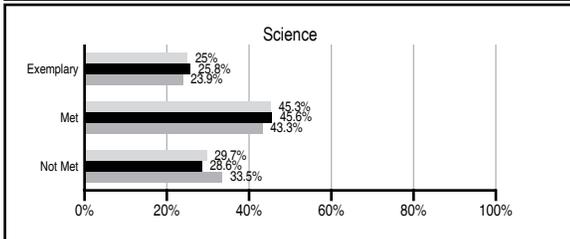
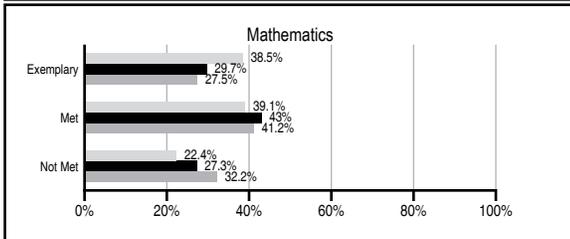
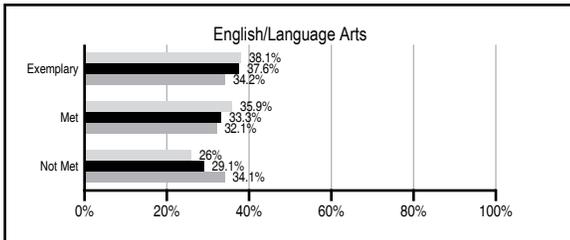
## ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF MIDDLE SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS\*

EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	BELOW AVERAGE	AT-RISK
3	14	36	0	0

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

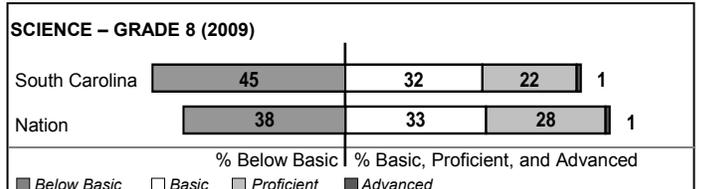
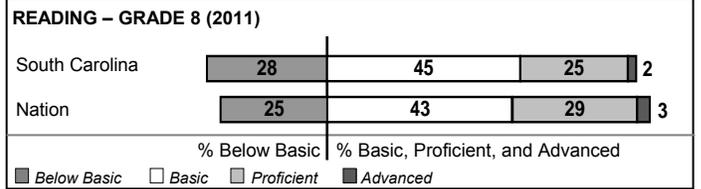
## PASS PERFORMANCE

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 - 2011

% 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	97.7
English 1	97.3	96.6
Biology 1/Applied Biology 2	N/A	N/A
Physical Science	0.0	78.9
US History and the Constitution	N/A	N/A
All Subjects	97.8	97.1

## 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 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=865)</b>				
Students enrolled in high school credit courses (grades 7 & 8)	45.8%	Down from 51.7%	30.9%	24.5%
Retention rate	0.6%	Down from 1.3%	0.7%	0.7%
Attendance rate	94.9%	Down from 95.5%	95.9%	95.9%
Served by gifted and talented program	17.1%	Up from 15.9%	20.1%	17.8%
With disabilities other than speech	6.0%	Down from 11.5%	9.8%	9.2%
Older than usual for grade	1.9%	Down from 2.2%	1.5%	1.5%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.9%	Down from 1.0%	0.5%	0.4%
Annual dropout rate	0.3%	Up from 0.2%	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Teachers (n=55)</b>				
Teachers with advanced degrees	52.7%	Down from 58.9%	61.4%	60.0%
Continuing contract teachers	80.0%	Down from 85.7%	86.2%	82.6%
Teachers returning from previous year	80.9%	Up from 75.8%	87.8%	85.6%
Teacher attendance rate	94.4%	Up from 93.7%	95.4%	95.3%
Average teacher salary*	\$43,270	Down 2.1%	\$46,642	\$46,300
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.0%	Down from 0.7%	0.0%	1.2%
Professional development days/teacher	9.6 days	Up from 8.4 days	9.6 days	9.9 days
<b>School</b>				
Principal's years at school	16.0	Up from 15.0	4.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	23.9 to 1	Up from 23.7 to 1	22.5 to 1	21.5 to 1
Prime instructional time	88.5%	Up from 87.5%	90.1%	90.1%
Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	No Change	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	97.5%	Up from 96.9%	99.5%	98.1%
Character development program	Excellent	No Change	Good	Good
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$6,800	Down 5.8%	\$7,363	\$7,634
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	60.6%	Down from 61.0%	64.4%	64.0%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	59.6%	Up from 58.0%	62.2%	61.2%
% of AYP objectives met	71.4%	Down from 90.5%	81.0%	80.5%

\* Length of contract = 185+ days.

\*\* Prior year audited financial data available.

## EVALUATION RESULTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	59	234	70
Percent satisfied with learning environment	94.8%	64.9%	78.3%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	94.9%	72.5%	81.2%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	86.2%	83.7%	91.2%

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

## REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

The community, staff and students of Alston Middle School are proud of their school's heritage of preparing the children of Summerville for lives of success and service for more than a century. A true "neighborhood" school of over 865 students that is served by a staff of 58 fully certified teachers, Alston Middle School earned an unprecedented fourth PALMETTO SILVER AWARD for student achievement as well as being recognized as the first middle school in Dorchester District Two to earn the BANNER AWARD for its TIGER PRIDE positive behavior and interventions system. Alston is fully accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and School.

The wonderful staff of Alston Middle School is dedicated to the academic achievement and growth and development of every child. To this end Alston's students compete in a number of challenging competitions in academics, fine arts and athletics. Our students do well in regional and statewide competitions. This year an Alston student won second place in Composition at Trident Tech's Quest Competition. The number of Duke TIP Scholars continues to grow and Alston had the greatest absolute academic improvement in District Two based on the 2010 PASS Test scores. Our students perform at the top of all students who take the high school end-of-course exams. Our orchestra students experienced exponential growth as 16 of them earned Superior or Excellent ratings at the state level. The State PTSA Reflections Competition honored a dozen of our students in Literature and Dance. An Alston piano student was recognized among the state's top pianists and performed at the SPOLETO FESTIVAL. Another of our pianists won the Outstanding Ribbon for her perfect score in Charleston Southern University's Achievement Day. Alston fields athletic teams in boys' and girls' basketball, football, volleyball, wrestling, softball and baseball. PTSA is a vital part of the success of Alston Middle School in supporting students with activities, recognitions and rewards for a myriad of causes. PTSA plays an indispensable role in financial support of the Reflections Program, Teacher Mini-Grants, TIGER PRIDE PBIS Program, as well as our Media Center. Our School Improvement Council works with PTSA and supports activities such as our unique recycling program and our "Parent Leader" Open House for parents of our three "feeder schools."

Meeting the challenge of the Adequate Yearly Progress goal of the No Child Left Behind law is a major focus for Alston. In order to meet the NCLB criteria we have instituted "benchmark" testing in the four core academic areas. Teachers use that data to monitor their students' mastery of content at regular intervals. Teachers and administrators meet regularly in "Professional Learning Communities" to analyze data and to develop effective strategies for achievement. Our Compass Labs meet individual students' needs for advanced and struggling students. Voyager curriculum is used to support students with identified learning disabilities. In-school tutorial and acceleration time are part of Alston's daily schedule as "SID" (Student Individual Development) time. In addition, READ 180 is used to help students who are not reading at grade level. The Core Arts Program continues to enhance student achievement.

Alston students are being prepared for exciting and successful futures!

Sam Clark, Principal

Lisa Hamilton, SIC Co-Chair Nakeesha Carter, SIC Co-Chair

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