



## Laurens 55 School District

1029 West Main Street

Laurens, South Carolina

<b>Grades</b>	PK-12 District	
<b>Enrollment</b>	5,562 Students	
<b>Superintendent</b>	Dr. Billy R. Strickland	864-984-3568
<b>Board Chair</b>	Mrs. Susan Calhoun-Ware	864-682-5902

# THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2013 ANNUAL DISTRICT REPORT CARD

## RATINGS OVER 5-YEAR PERIOD

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING
<b>2013</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Good*</b>
2012	Average	Excellent
2011	Below Average	Excellent
2010	Average	Below Average
2009	Below Average	Average

\* The District's 2013 Growth Rating was raised one level because of substantial improvement in the achievement of students belonging to historically underachieving groups of students. The Growth Rating may or may not have been affected by the performance of these groups in prior years.

## DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

- Excellent – School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Good – School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Average – School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Below Average – School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- At-Risk – School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision

## SOUTH CAROLINA 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.

<http://ed.sc.gov>  
<http://www.eoc.sc.gov>

**Percent of Student PASS Records Matched for Purpose of Computing Growth Rating**

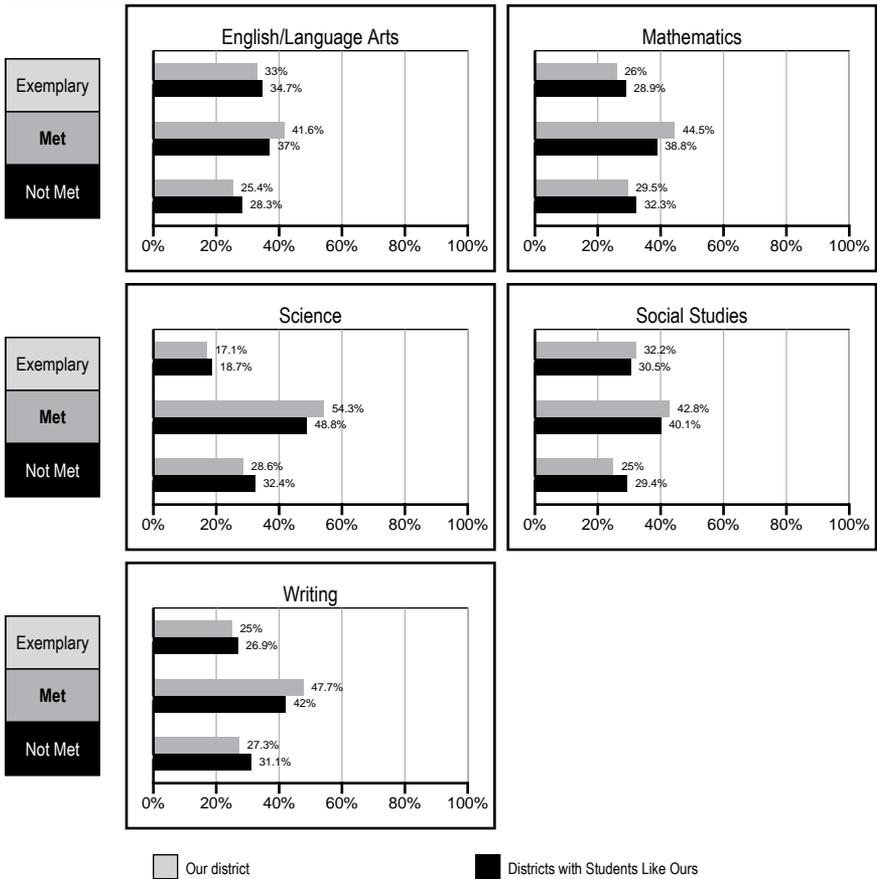
Percent of students tested in 2012-13 whose 2011-12 test scores were located | 98.1%

**ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF DISTRICTS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS\***

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	At-Risk
5	8	10	0	0

\* Ratings are calculated with data available by 01/16/2014.

**Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (PASS)**



\* Districts with Students Like Ours are districts with poverty indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for the district.

**Definition of Critical Terms**

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

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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

High School Assessment Program (HSAP) Exam Passage Rate: Second Year Students

Percent	Our District			Districts with Students Like Ours		
	2011	2012	2013	2011	2012	2013
Passed both subtests	78.8%	77.2%	76.3%	75.2%	77.1%	79.1%
Passed one subtest	12.5%	15.0%	12.2%	13.4%	13.4%	12.1%
Passed no subtests	8.8%	7.9%	11.5%	11.4%	9.6%	9.2%

End of Course Tests

Percent of tests with scores of 70 or above on:	Our District	Districts with Students Like Ours
Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2	87.5%	81.0%
English 1	80.4%	71.1%
Biology 1/Applied Biology 2	79.1%	71.0%
US History and the Constitution	61.3%	49.6%
All Subjects	78.0%	68.6%

Four-Year Cohort Graduation Rate

	Our District		Districts with Students Like Ours	
	2012	2013	2012	2013
Number of Students in Four-Year Cohort	383	363	387	387
Number of Graduates in Cohort	274	268	292	303
Rate	71.5%	73.8%	76.2%	78.6%

Five-Year Graduation Rate

	Our District		Districts with Students Like Ours	
	2012	2013	2012	2013
Number of Students in Cohort	440	368	410	389
Number of Graduates in Cohort	309	279	316	304
Rate	70.2%	75.8%	78.2%	78.6%

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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

District Profile

	Our District	Change from Last Year	Districts with Students Like Ours	Median District
<b>Students (n=5,562)</b>				
First graders who attended full-day kindergarten	97.0%	Down from 99.1%	99.6%	99.2%
Retention rate	2.7%	Down from 3.9%	2.7%	1.9%
Attendance rate	95.9%	No Change	95.7%	95.8%
Served by gifted and talented program	11.6%	N/A	11.6%	12.0%
With disabilities	16.5%	N/A	13.8%	12.7%
Older than usual for grade	8.0%	N/A	6.1%	4.8%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.1%	No Change	0.4%	0.7%
Enrolled in AP/IB programs	15.1%	Up from 13.9%	9.3%	14.0%
Successful on AP/IB exams	36.5%	Up from 33.3%	49.3%	50.5%
Eligible for LIFE Scholarship	28.3%	Up from 25.6%	34.5%	31.8%
Enrolled in adult education GED or diploma programs	110	Up from 96	33	50
Completions in adult education GED or diploma programs	39	Down from 58	27	37
Annual dropout rate	4.2%	Down from 4.7%	2.6%	2.3%
<b>Teachers (n=336)</b>				
Teachers with advanced degrees	56.8%	Down from 60.8%	61.8%	61.4%
Continuing contract teachers	78.3%	Down from 86.6%	84.2%	80.0%
Teachers returning from previous year	91.9%	Down from 92.0%	91.2%	90.4%
Teacher attendance rate	94.9%	Up from 93.9%	94.8%	94.8%
Average teacher salary*	\$45,989	Up 2.2%	\$46,664	\$47,587
Vacancies for more than nine weeks	0.0%	No Change	0.2%	0.2%
Professional development days/teacher	13.4 days	Down from 15.5 days	10.4 days	10.3 days
<b>District</b>				
Superintendent's years at district	4.0	Up from 3.0	4.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	23.7 to 1	Down from 24.1 to 1	21.1 to 1	22.2 to 1
Prime instructional time	89.4%	Up from 88.3%	89.2%	89.4%
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$8,071	Down 0.9%	\$9,097	\$9,101
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	54.0%	Up from 53.1%	52.0%	52.0%
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	57.0%	Up from 54.9%	54.0%	56.0%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No Change	Excellent	Excellent
Number of schools	11	No Change	10	11
Number of magnet schools	0	No Change	0	0
Portable classrooms	1.3%	Down from 1.4%	0.5%	0.9%
Average age in years of school facilities	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Number of schools with SACS accreditation	11.0	No Change	10.0	10.0
Parents attending conferences	100.0%	No Change	100.0%	100.0%
Average administrator salary	\$83,978	Up 3.9%	\$79,306	\$79,389

\* Includes current year teachers contracted for 185 or more days.

\*\* Prior year audited financial data are reported.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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

**Performance By Student Groups**

	HSAP Passage Rate by Spring 2013		End of Course Tests Passage Rate		On-time Graduation Rate, 2013	
	n	%	t	%	n	%
All Students	327	91.4%	1719	78.0%	363	73.8%
<b>Gender</b>						
Male	181	89.0%	860	77.4%	194	71.6%
Female	146	94.5%	859	78.5%	169	76.3%
<b>Racial/Ethnic Group</b>						
White	197	92.9%	1043	82.5%	218	71.6%
African American	110	89.1%	555	71.5%	125	76.0%
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	19	89.5%	116	67.2%	18	88.9%
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Disability Status</b>						
Disabled	40	52.5%	157	45.2%	43	27.9%
<b>Migrant Status</b>						
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>English Proficiency</b>						
Limited English Proficient	18	88.9%	101	69.3%	17	94.1%
<b>Socio-Economic Status</b>						
Subsidized meals	211	90.0%	1119	74.0%	225	68.4%

NOTE: n=number of students on which percentage is calculated; t=number of tests taken.

**HSAP Passage Rate by Spring 2013**

	Our District	Districts with Students Like Ours
Percent	91.4%	91.1%

**College Admissions Tests**

SAT	Critical Reading		Math		Writing		Total			
	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013		
District	445	458	471	481	426	426	1342	1365		
State	477	479	487	484	458	460	1422	1423		
Nation	491	491	505	503	481	480	1477	1474		
ACT	English		Math		Reading		Science		Total	
	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013
District	17.2	17.7	19.1	19.6	18.6	18.5	18.5	18.4	18.5	18.7
State	19.1	19.3	20.1	20.1	20.1	20.5	19.9	20.1	19.9	20.1
Nation	20.5	20.2	21.1	20.9	21.3	21.1	20.9	20.7	21.1	20.9

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**School District Governance**

Board Membership	7 trustees elected to single-member seats
Fiscal Authority	District Board/Legislative Delegation
Average Number of Hours of Training Annually	17.1 per board member
Percent New Trustees Completing Orientation	100.0%

**District Superintendent's Report**

Laurens School District 55 continues to excel despite ongoing financial restrictions. Through the continued efforts of students and staff to adhere to cost-saving measures, the district remains in a stable financial position. Grant awards provided over \$800,000 for additional student resources.

The district's instructional program provides quality learning opportunities to meet the needs of our diverse student population. Classroom instruction, hands-on learning, technology resources, fine arts opportunities, and a full range of extracurricular activities help to enrich and expand the learning process for students. The graduating class of 2013 earned nearly \$3 million in scholarship funds.

Professional growth is an important component in our district's commitment of having a highly qualified teacher in every classroom. Employees participated in over 11,000 hours of professional development training provided by the district mostly in after-hours mini-courses.

The district's safety and security processes and procedures were reviewed and upgraded. The installation of buzzer entry systems and security cameras serve as additional safety measures for providing a safe environment for students and staff.

Six of the district's schools were named recipients of Palmetto Gold and Silver Awards in recognition of academic achievement and closing achievement gaps.

The district continues to implement a five-year capital needs plan for the purpose of maintaining buildings and equipment in a safe manner and planning for the repair and/or replacement of buildings and equipment.

One of the chief functions of the seven-member District 55 Board of Trustees is to consider policy development. The board provides for the allocation of human, instructional, financial, and other resources to support the district's vision, mission, belief, and goals.

These are exciting times in District 55, and the support of this community is fundamental to our continued success.

Billy R. Strickland, Ed.D.  
Superintendent

**ESEA/Federal Accountability Rating System**

South Carolina uses new Annual Measures of Objectives (AMOs) that are based on actual school performance as measured by student test scores on the state standards assessments and end-of-course exams.

<b>Overall Weighted Points Total</b>	<b>75.6</b>
<b>Overall Grade Conversion</b>	<b>C</b>
Points Total - Elementary Grades	<b>80.2</b>
Points Total - Middle Grades	<b>79.1</b>
Points Total - High School Grades	<b>50.1</b>

<b>Index Score</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>Description</b>
90-100	A	Performance substantially exceeds the state's expectations.
80-89.9	B	Performance exceeds the state's expectations.
70-79.9	C	Performance meets the state's expectations.
60-69.9	D	Performance does not meet the state's expectations.
Less than 60	F	Performance is substantially below the state's expectations

**Accountability Indicator (Title I Schools)**

Three schools were identified as Title I Reward School.

<b>School</b>	<b>Status</b>
E B Morse Elementary	Focus
Laurens Elementary	Reward-Performance
Waterloo Elementary	Reward-Performance

**Accountability Indicator Definitions**

Title I Reward Schools for Performance are among the highest performing Title I schools in a given year.

Title I Reward Schools for Progress are Title I schools that demonstrates the most substantial progress in identified subgroups of students.

Title I Focus Schools are Title I schools with the highest average performance gap between subgroups.

Title I Priority Schools are the 5% lowest performing Title I schools.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

## Performance By Group

Subgroups	ELA Mean	Math Mean	Science Mean	Social Studies Mean	ELA % Tested	Math % Tested	Graduation Rate
<b>Grades 3-5</b>							
All Students	656.4	644.2	618.7	635.5	100.0	100.0	N/A
Male	651.5	645.2	618.2	637.7	100.0	100.0	N/A
Female	661.4	643.2	619.1	633.3	100.0	100.0	N/A
White	668.3	653.4	630.1	645.2	100.0	100.0	N/A
African American	637.6	628.2	600.1	619.2	100.0	100.0	N/A
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	638.4	635.5	604.8	620.9	100.0	100.0	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Disabled	617.9	603.1	587.3	600.2	100.0	100.0	N/A
Limited English Proficient	631.2	629.3	599.9	617.8	100.0	100.0	N/A
Subsidized meals	647.5	635.3	610.1	627.5	100.0	100.0	N/A
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	635.0	635.0	635.0	635.0	95.0	95.0	N/A
<b>Grades 6-8</b>							
All Students	642.0	637.9	626.6	637.3	99.7	99.8	N/A
Male	637.7	636.4	626.7	639.0	99.7	99.7	N/A
Female	646.5	639.6	626.4	635.5	99.7	100.0	N/A
White	650.6	646.3	636.4	644.3	99.6	99.9	N/A
African American	628.4	623.5	609.8	626.7	99.7	99.7	N/A
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	626.6	626.0	608.7	620.4	100.0	100.0	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Disabled	608.3	600.8	583.1	602.3	98.9	99.4	N/A
Limited English Proficient	627.7	627.8	608.3	624.1	100.0	100.0	N/A
Subsidized meals	633.0	629.4	618.5	629.0	99.7	99.8	N/A
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	628.0	628.0	628.0	628.0	95.0	95.0	N/A
<b>Grades 9-12</b>							
All Students	227.7	226.5	75.6	72.3	99.0	98.2	71.5
Male	222.6	224.5	74.0	73.9	99.0	98.5	69.7
Female	233.2	228.7	77.4	70.5	99.0	97.9	73.5
White	231.2	231.0	77.7	74.0	98.4	98.0	74.3
African American	221.0	217.2	70.9	69.5	100.0	99.2	67.2
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	N/A	N/A	75.8	N/A	N/A	N/A	66.7
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Disabled	197.8	195.9	61.4	N/A	98.2	94.5	37.3
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	64.7
Subsidized meals	223.7	221.4	73.4	70.8	98.4	97.9	64.8
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	226.0	223.0	77.0	73.0	95.0	95.0	74.1

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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**PASS Performance By Grade Level**

	Grade	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Not Met	% Met	% Exemplary	% Met or Exemplary
<b>English/Language Arts</b>							
<b>2012</b>	3	440	100	21.8	26.5	51.8	78.2
	4	421	99.8	27.6	43.3	29.1	72.4
	5	413	100	28.6	49	22.4	71.4
	6	448	100	30.8	31.5	37.8	69.2
	7	461	100	34.3	37.3	28.4	65.7
	8	455	100	25.8	40.9	33.3	74.2
<b>2013</b>	3	431	100	22.4	32.3	45.3	77.6
	4	428	100	21.9	41.8	36.4	78.1
	5	420	100	16.6	53.1	30.3	83.4
	6	420	99.5	30.4	47.4	22.2	69.6
	7	434	99.8	24.8	42.6	32.6	75.2
	8	432	99.8	36.5	34.3	29.2	63.5
<b>Mathematics</b>							
<b>2012</b>	3	440	100	31.4	34.7	34	68.6
	4	420	99.8	27	43.6	29.4	73
	5	413	100	30.2	50.3	19.6	69.8
	6	448	100	24.9	44.5	30.5	75.1
	7	461	99.8	30.3	47.4	22.3	69.7
	8	455	100	30.8	47.9	21.2	69.2
<b>2013</b>	3	431	100	38.9	30.8	30.3	61.1
	4	428	100	19.4	48.2	32.4	80.6
	5	420	100	25.8	46.7	27.5	74.2
	6	420	99.8	33.8	48.6	17.6	66.2
	7	434	99.8	29.8	44.6	25.6	70.2
	8	432	99.8	30.4	49.6	20	69.6
<b>Science</b>							
<b>2012</b>	3	220	100	42.5	38.7	18.9	57.5
	4	420	99.8	30.1	61.5	8.3	69.9
	5	210	100	37.3	48.8	13.9	62.7
	6	224	99.6	29.8	57.2	13	70.2
	7	459	100	25.5	49.9	24.6	74.5
	8	226	100	22.5	42.7	34.9	77.5
<b>2013</b>	3	218	100	40	45.9	14.1	60
	4	428	100	27.8	57	15.2	72.2
	5	210	100	28.7	61.4	9.9	71.3
	6	212	99.5	32.2	55.4	12.4	67.8
	7	431	100	24.4	55	20.5	75.6
	8	220	100	24.6	48.8	26.6	75.4

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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**PASS Performance By Grade Level**

	Grade	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Not Met	% Met	% Exemplary	% Met or Exemplary
<b>Social Studies</b>							
<b>2012</b>	3	220	100	23.7	41.4	34.9	76.3
	4	420	99.8	22.1	57.8	20.1	77.9
	5	203	98	47.7	39.9	12.4	52.3
	6	228	99.1	24.2	53.5	22.3	75.8
	7	461	100	29.9	41.5	28.6	70.1
	8	229	100	18.6	42.3	39.1	81.4
<b>2013</b>	3	213	100	26.2	52	21.8	73.8
	4	428	100	20.9	52.1	27	79.1
	5	210	100	31.3	39.8	28.9	68.7
	6	209	99.5	22.7	53.6	23.7	77.3
	7	432	100	25.4	31.2	43.4	74.6
	8	212	99.5	29.9	32.4	37.7	70.1
<b>Writing</b>							
<b>2012</b>	3	N/A	N/AV	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
	4	N/A	N/AV	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
	5	415	99.5	33.3	47.5	19.3	66.8
	6	N/A	N/AV	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
	7	N/A	N/AV	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
	8	456	99.6	23.9	39.3	36.8	76.1
<b>2013</b>	3	431	98.8	36.7	40.2	23.1	63.3
	4	431	98.8	24.8	49.1	26	75.2
	5	416	99.8	28.5	47.3	24.3	71.5
	6	413	99.5	26.8	53.3	19.9	73.2
	7	434	97.7	19.7	46.9	33.4	80.3
	8	426	98.8	26.3	50.2	23.4	73.7

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**Two-Year HSAP Trend Data**

	School Year	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Below Basic	% Basic	% Proficient	% Advanced	District % Proficient or Advanced*
<b>English/Language Arts</b>								
All Students	2012	387	98.4	11.1	33.7	31.8	23.4	55.3
	2013	399	99.0	13.5	33.2	34.2	19.1	53.3

<b>Mathematics</b>								
All Students	2012	387	98.4	19.2	31.6	22.6	26.6	49.2
	2013	397	98.2	21.1	33.2	24.2	21.6	45.8

**Teacher Quality and Student Attendance**

	Our District	State
Classes in low poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	N/A	2.3%
Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.0%	4.9%

	Our District	State Objective	Met State Objective
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.8%	0.0%	No
Student attendance rate, grades K-8	95.9%	94.0%*	Yes

\* Adjusted to account for natural variation in performance.

\*\* Or greater than last year

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