

SC Annual School District Report Card Summary

Pickens County School District
 Grades: PK-12 Enrollment: 16,172
 Superintendent: Dr. Kelly Pew, Ph. D.
 Board Chair: Judy Edwards

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		ESEA/FEDERAL ACCOUNTABILITY RATING SYSTEM	
			General Performance	Closing the Gap	ESEA Grade	Accountability Indicator
2013	Good	Below Average	N/A	N/A	B	N/A
2012	Good	Good	N/A	N/A	B	N/A
2011	Average	Good	N/A	N/A	Not Met	CA

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF DISTRICTS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	BELOW AVERAGE	AT-RISK
7	6	0	0	1

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 01/16/2014. 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	2013 Reading	2013 Math	2013 Science	2013 Social Studies	2013 Writing
	% Met or above	% Met or above			
District	80.3%	75.7%	79.2%	79.5%	80.4%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	79.4%	76.2%	76.0%	78.6%	77.5%
Average District	76.9%	73.4%	73.0%	75.7%	74.5%

PASS	2013 Reading	2013 Math	2013 Science	2013 Social Studies	2013 Writing
	% Exemplary	% Exemplary	% Exemplary	% Exemplary	% Exemplary
District	47.0%	38.2%	28.4%	41.2%	39.9%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	45.1%	38.9%	26.2%	40.4%	37.9%
Average District	41.7%	35.6%	23.9%	36.9%	33.8%

HSAP

HSAP: 2nd Year Students	Passed 2 Subtests (%)	Passed 1 Subtest (%)	Passed No Subtests (%)
District	85.3%	10.1%	4.6%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	84.5%	9.9%	5.6%

HSAP Passage Rate by Spring 2013 (%)

District	93.2%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	92.0%

End of Course Test Passage Rate (%)

District	76.7%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	76.8%

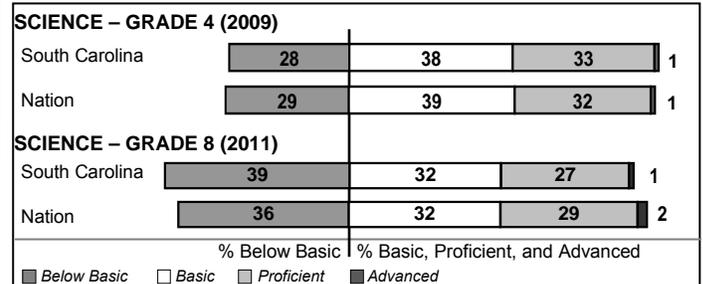
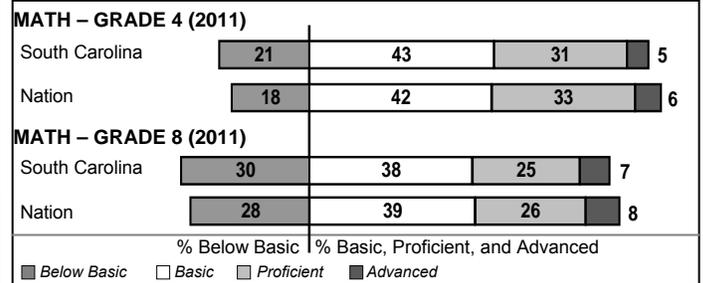
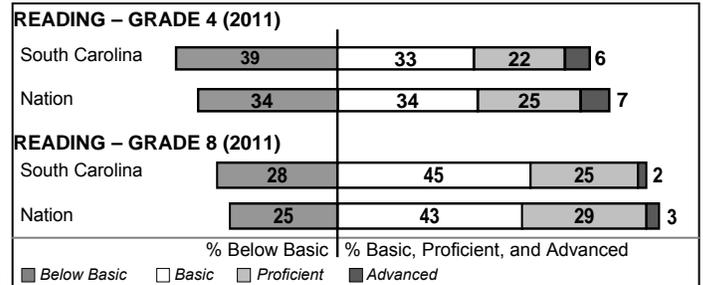
On-Time Graduation Rate (%)

District	76.8%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	76.2%

** 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

Pickens County School District

DISTRICT PROFILE

	Our District	Change from Last Year	Districts with Students Like Ours	Median District
Students (n=16,172)				
Retention rate	1.5%	Up from 1.4%	1.6%	1.9%
Attendance rate	95.7%	Up from 95.6%	95.8%	95.8%
Served by gifted and talented program	19.0%	N/A	18.0%	12.0%
With disabilities	12.3%	N/A	11.8%	12.7%
Older than usual for grade	4.1%	N/A	3.7%	4.8%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.8%	Up from 0.5%	0.7%	0.7%
Enrolled in AP/IB programs	26.5%	Up from 19.3%	22.3%	14.0%
Successful on AP/IB exams	66.1%	Up from 64.6%	47.7%	50.5%
Eligible for LIFE Scholarship	56.6%	Up from 50.5%	38.5%	31.8%
Enrolled in adult education GED or diploma programs	155	Down from 180	120	50
Completions in adult education GED or diploma programs	150	Up from 122	120	37
Annual dropout rate	3.3%	Down from 4.1%	3.0%	2.3%
Teachers (n=1,039)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	63.7%	Down from 63.9%	62.3%	61.4%
Continuing contract teachers	88.4%	Down from 89.9%	80.1%	80.0%
Teachers returning from previous year	92.9%	Up from 92.0%	91.5%	90.4%
Teacher attendance rate	94.7%	Down from 95.1%	94.8%	94.8%
Average teacher salary*	\$48,015	Up 1.6%	\$48,714	\$47,587
Vacancies for more than nine weeks	0.0%	Down from 0.1%	0.1%	0.2%
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.5%	Up from 0.1%	1.6%	1.8%
Professional development days/teacher	12.5 days	Down from 15.6 days	10.7 days	10.3 days
District				
Superintendent's years at district	1.0	Up from 0.0	6.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	22.5 to 1	Down from 22.8 to 1	22.6 to 1	22.2 to 1
Prime instructional time	88.7%	Down from 88.9%	89.6%	89.4%
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$7,745	Up 0.2%	\$8,677	\$9,101
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	56.0%	Down from 56.6%	55.5%	52.0%
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	59.0%	No Change	59.0%	56.0%
Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	No Change	Excellent	Excellent
Number of schools	26	No Change	20	11
Portable classrooms	2.0%	Down from 3.1%	1.0%	0.9%
Number of schools with SACS accreditation	26.0	Down from 27.0	19.0	10.0
Parents attending conferences	99.4%	Down from 100.0%	99.7%	100.0%
Average administrator salary	\$78,656	Up 3.0%	\$81,245	\$79,389
Number of charter schools	0	No Change	1	0
ESEA composite index score	83.7	Down from 88.9	86.4	81.0

* 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

CHARTER SCHOOLS IN DISTRICT

School Name	Absolute Rating	Growth Rating	ESEA Grade
There are no charter schools in this district.			

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

2012-2013 was a year of achievement for the School District of Pickens County in facilities, academics and finances. The year began with three schools--Daniel High School, Easley High School, and Liberty Middle School--moving into new or newly renovated facilities. In academics, it was a year of growth. On the ACT, SDPC students earned an average score of 23.1, better than the South Carolina public school average of 19.9, and the national average of 21.1. On the SAT, SDPC's average was 1541 – 43 points above national average. Our students' scores were the second highest in SC, first among county-wide districts, and first among districts in the Upstate. On End-of-Course Exams, SDPC students' mean scores in every subject increased from 2011, showing overall positive growth. SDPC students also, scored higher than their SC peers in every subject area on the exams, and their failure rate declined in every subject except English, which remained the same. The percentage of our students passing the HSAP exam on the first attempt increased by 0.7, marking the third year in a row that our pass rate increased. Our on-time graduation rate improved from 72.6 percent in 2011 to 75.2 percent in 2012. The district also unveiled several new instructional programs in 2012-2013. We continued our emphasis on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) with the introduction of the Glider Challenge project in the 8th grade and the Sailboat Challenge in 2nd grade, four graduation coaches were hired to work with middle and high school students to improve the graduation rate, and our Career and Technology center launched the first School-to-Registered-Apprenticeship program in the Upstate. Through a partnership with NASA and Clemson University, our teachers and students had the pleasure of working with astronaut Patrick Forrester on several of our STEM initiatives. Seventeen Pickens County schools were honored with Palmetto Gold and Silver Awards, five of which were awarded both for General Performance and Closing the Achievement Gap. We were also proud to be the home district of the 2013 South Carolina Teacher of the Year, Darleen Sutton. Throughout the year, we maintained a strong financial position, increasing the General Fund's undesignated/unreserved balance by \$1.3 million. The district also received an unqualified opinion by its auditors, which is the best opinion a district can earn.
Dr. Kelly Pew, Ph. D., Superintendent

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