



Discovery School of Lancaster County

1320 Westwood Road
Lancaster, SC 29720

Grades	K-5 Elementary School	
Enrollment	108 Students	
Principal	Thomas H. McDuffie	803-285-8430
Superintendent	Dr. Richard E. Moore	803-286-6972
Board Chair	Mr. Robert Parker	803-286-6972

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2013 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD



RATINGS OVER 5-YEAR PERIOD

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING
2013	Good	Good
2012	Excellent	Excellent
2011	Excellent	Excellent
2010	Excellent	Excellent
2009	Average	Good

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

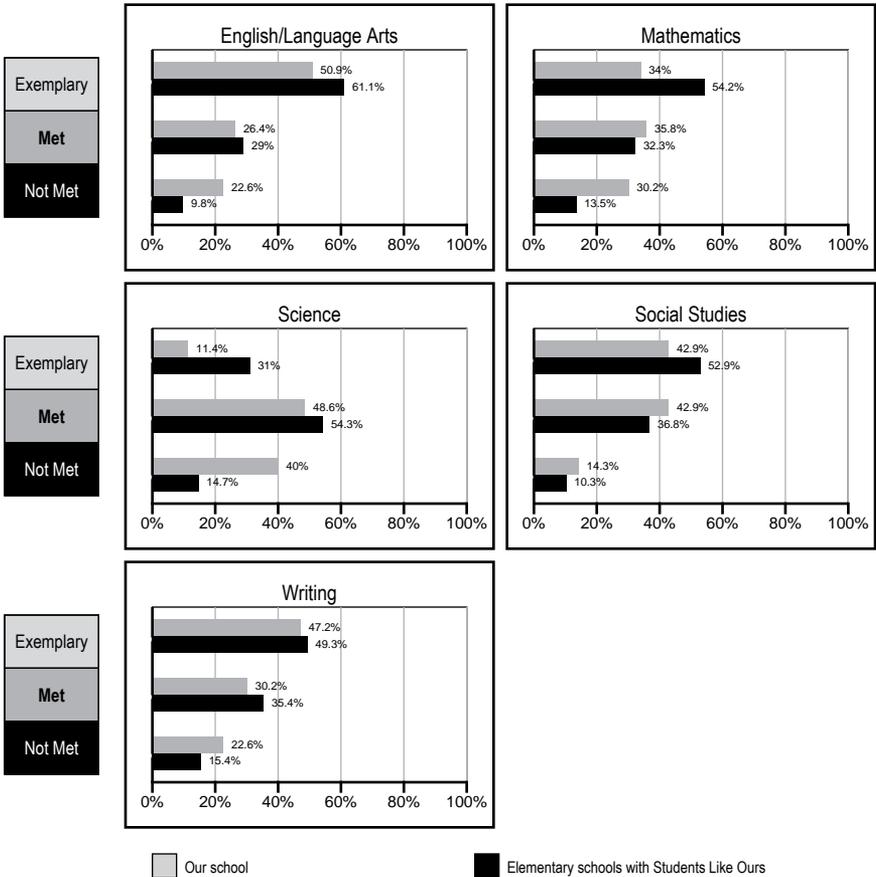
Percent of students tested in 2012-13 whose 2011-12 test scores were located | 100%

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	At-Risk
29	2	0	0	0

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 12/14/2013.

Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (PASS)



* Elementary schools with Students Like Ours are elementary schools with poverty indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for the school.

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

School Profile

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Elementary Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Elementary School
Students (n=108)				
First graders who attended full-day kindergarten	100.0%	No Change	100.0%	100.0%
Retention rate	0.0%	No Change	0.5%	0.9%
Attendance rate	97.3%	Up from 97.2%	96.8%	96.3%
Served by gifted and talented program	16.7%	N/A	14.6%	7.2%
With disabilities	12.0%	N/A	9.9%	12.4%
Older than usual for grade	0.0%	N/A	1.4%	1.9%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=7)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	33.3%	No Change	70.4%	62.5%
Continuing contract teachers	50.0%	Down from 66.7%	90.3%	83.3%
Teachers returning from previous year	57.4%	Down from 64.4%	90.5%	88.3%
Teacher attendance rate	95.3%	Down from 97.4%	94.5%	95.0%
Average teacher salary*	\$37,837	Up 3.3%	\$50,045	\$48,193
Professional development days/teacher	11.4 days	Down from 15.9 days	11.6 days	11.0 days
School				
Principal's years at school	13.0	Up from 12.0	5.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	N/R	N/R	21.1 to 1	20.1 to 1
Prime instructional time	88.9%	Down from 91.5%	90.2%	90.0%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No Change	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	100.0%	No Change	100.0%	100.0%
Character development program	Good	No Change	Excellent	Excellent
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$6,634	Up 1.7%	\$7,010	\$7,364
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	64.0%	Down from 65.3%	69.0%	68.0%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	64.0%	Down from 64.1%	67.0%	66.0%

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

** Prior year audited financial data are reported.

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Report of Principal and School Improvement Council

The mission of Discovery School is for students to be self-motivated problem solvers and lifelong learners, who demonstrate mastery of grade level and Core Knowledge standards. An exemplary faculty and staff provide a safe, nurturing learning environment, supported by parents and the larger community. Along with district and community support and efforts of our business partners, we continue to strive to meet our mission. Our school goals directly relate to Lancaster County Schools' academic goals. At Discovery School, we have established goals focused on raising student achievement through incorporation of Gardner's Theory of Multiple Intelligences and strategies normally used with gifted and talented learners. Discovery School serves 108 students from across Lancaster County in grades K-5. Discovery School contributes to the overall growth of students through an annual school-wide thematic focus. Last year our focus on STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) successfully sparked student interest in these vital areas. Our PTO continues to work toward improving opportunities for our students through a variety of fund-raising efforts. Our Governing Board, Advisory Board, and School Improvement Council continue to work closely with the leadership team at Discovery School to promote student success. Our school is proud to have been recognized in the past year as a Palmetto Gold Award recipient for student achievement. Discovery School is committed to having a high quality instructional team at all levels that is certified and highly qualified. Several of our faculty and staff hold degrees beyond the bachelor level and one has received National Board Certification. Our teachers work within their grade levels to provide quality instruction. Many hours are provided to enhance teaching skills through professional development that primarily focuses on research-based best practices to improve teaching skills, knowledge, and instructional delivery. Discovery School continues to strive toward providing a successful learning environment for all students. With the assistance of a dedicated staff and support of our community and stakeholders, we continue to assure that no child is left behind.

Tom McDuffie, Site Manager
Lou Prete, SIC Chairperson

Evaluations by Teachers, Students and Parents

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	11	18	17
Percent satisfied with learning environment	100%	100%	94.1%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	100%	94.5%	100.1%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	100%	100%	94.1%

* Only students at the highest elementary school grade level and their parents were included.

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ESEA/Federal Accountability Rating System

In July 2013, the South Carolina Department of Education was granted a waiver from several accountability requirements of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). This waiver allowed SC to replace the former pass/fail system with one that utilizes more of the statewide assessments already in place and combine these subject area results with graduation rate (in high schools) to determine if each school met the target or made progress toward the target. This analysis results in a letter grade for the school rather than the pass/fail system of previous years. For a detailed review of the matrix for each school and districts that determined the letter grade, please use the following link: <http://ed.sc.gov/data/esea/> or request this information from your child's district or school.

Overall Weighted Points Total	95.0
Overall Grade Conversion	A

Index Score	Grade	Description
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 for Title I Schools

Discovery School of Lancaster County school has been designated as a:

- Title I Reward School for Performance - among the highest performing Title I schools in a given year.
- Title I Reward School for Progress – one of the schools with substantial progress in student subgroups.
- Title I Focus School – one of the schools with the highest average performance gap between subgroups.
- Title I Priority School – one of the 5% lowest performing Title I schools.
- Title I School – does not qualify as Reward, Focus or Priority School.
- Non-Title I School – therefore the designations above are not applicable.

Teacher Quality and Student Attendance

	Our District	State
Classes in low poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	6.2%	2.3%
Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	3.8%	4.9%

	Our School	State Objective	Met State Objective
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	8.3%	0.0%	No
Student attendance rate	97.3%	94.0%*	Yes

* Or greater than last year

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Performance By Group

Subgroups	ELA Mean	Math Mean	Science Mean	Social Studies Mean	ELA % Tested	Math % Tested
Grades 3-5						
All Students	663.5	645.9	609.6	657.8	98.2	100.0
Male	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Female	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
White	663.9	651.6	610.6	659.8	97.2	100.0
African American	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Disabled	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Subsidized meals	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	635.0	635.0	635.0	635.0	95.0	95.0

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PASS Performance By Grade Level

	Grade	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Not Met	% Met	% Exemplary	% Met or Exemplary
English/Language Arts							
2012	3	18	100	11.1	33.3	55.6	88.9
	4	18	100	11.8	29.4	58.8	88.2
	5	18	100	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	100
	6	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	7	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	8	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2013	3	18	94.4	29.4	23.5	47.1	70.6
	4	18	100	17.6	23.5	58.8	82.4
	5	18	100	16.7	33.3	50	83.3
	6	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	7	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	8	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Mathematics							
2012	3	18	100	33.3	27.8	38.9	66.7
	4	18	100	23.5	35.3	41.2	76.5
	5	18	100	11.1	38.9	50	88.9
	6	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	7	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	8	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2013	3	18	100	55.6	27.8	16.7	44.4
	4	18	100	17.6	41.2	41.2	82.4
	5	18	100	16.7	38.9	44.4	83.3
	6	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	7	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	8	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Science							
2012	3	9	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
	4	18	100	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	76.5
	5	9	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
	6	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	7	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	8	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2013	3	9	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
	4	18	100	29.4	52.9	17.6	70.6
	5	9	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
	6	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	7	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	8	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

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PASS Performance By Grade Level

	Grade	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Not Met	% Met	% Exemplary	% Met or Exemplary
Social Studies							
2012	3	9	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
	4	18	100	5.9	41.2	52.9	94.1
	5	9	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
	6	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	7	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	8	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2013	3	9	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
	4	18	100	11.8	47.1	41.2	88.2
	5	9	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
	6	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	7	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	8	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Writing							
2012	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	18	100	5.6	50	44.4	94.4
	6	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	7	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	8	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2013	3	18	100	22.2	44.4	33.3	77.8
	4	17	100	17.6	29.4	52.9	82.4
	5	18	100	27.8	16.7	55.6	72.2
	6	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	7	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	8	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

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