



East Cooper Montessori Charter School

250 Ponsbury Road
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464

Grades	1-8 Middle School	
Enrollment	256 Students	
Principal	Jody Swanigan	(843) 216-2883
Superintendent	Dr. Nancy J. McGinley	843-937-6319
Board Chair	Mrs. Cindy Bohn Coats	843-529-2457

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2013 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD



RATINGS OVER 5-YEAR PERIOD

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

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

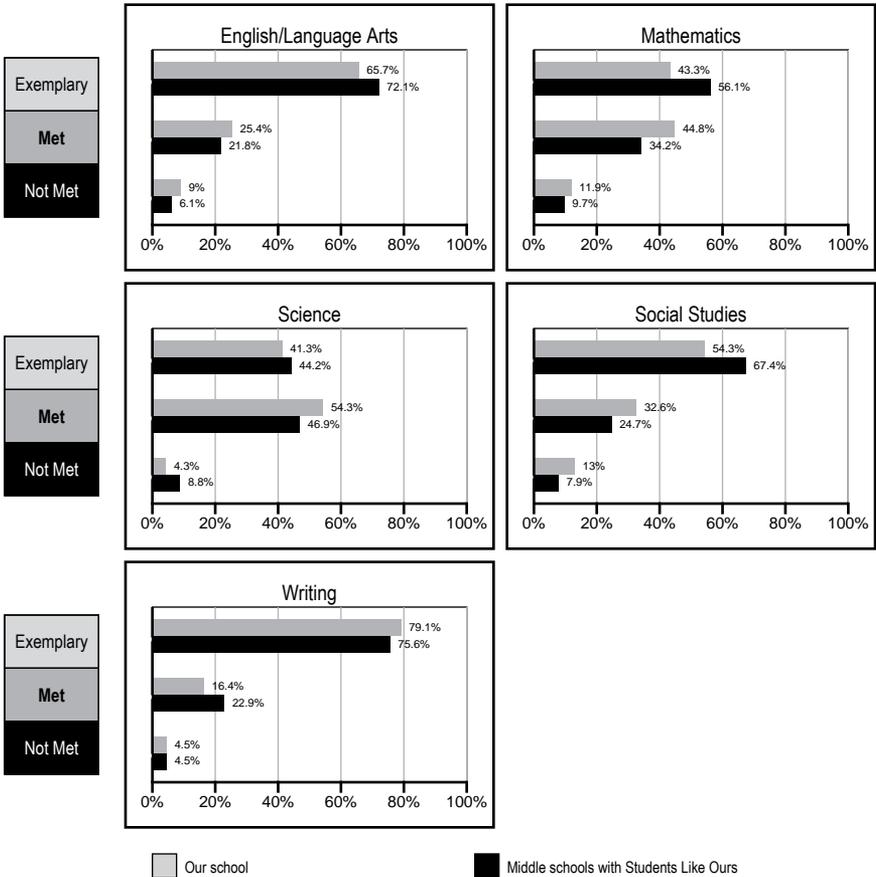
Percent of students tested in 2012-13 whose 2011-12 test scores were located | 100%

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF MIDDLE SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	At-Risk
3	0	0	0	0

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 03/14/2014.

Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (PASS)



* Middle schools with Students Like Ours are middle 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

End of Course Tests

Percent of tests with scores of 70 or above on:	Our Middle School	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours
Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2	94.4%	97.2%
English 1	N/A	N/A
Physical Science	N/A	N/A
US History and the Constitution	N/A	N/A
All Subjects	94.4%	97.2%

School Profile

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Middle School
Students (n=256)				
Students enrolled in high school credit courses (grades 7 & 8)	66.7%	Up from 56.0%	47.1%	24.6%
Retention rate	0.4%	Down from 0.8%	0.0%	0.6%
Attendance rate	96.8%	Down from 96.9%	97.1%	95.9%
Served by gifted and talented program	40.4%	N/A	51.1%	18.5%
With disabilities	11.6%	N/A	8.3%	13.0%
Older than usual for grade	0.0%	N/A	0.0%	4.8%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.6%
Annual dropout rate	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=19)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	31.6%	Down from 33.3%	40.0%	61.5%
Continuing contract teachers	57.9%	Up from 44.4%	57.9%	77.2%
Teachers returning from previous year	94.9%	Up from 86.5%	91.1%	85.9%
Teacher attendance rate	93.1%	Down from 98.3%	93.7%	94.9%
Average teacher salary*	\$42,458	Down 1.3%	\$45,894	\$47,313
Professional development days/teacher	11.2 days	Down from 11.9 days	10.0 days	10.1 days
School				
Principal's years at school	10.0	Up from 9.0	1.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	23.2 to 1	Up from 6.4 to 1	23.2 to 1	22.1 to 1
Prime instructional time	90.8%	Down from 95.4%	90.8%	89.6%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No Change	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	No	No Change	No	Yes
Parents attending conferences	100.0%	No Change	100.0%	99.0%
Character development program	Excellent	Up from Good	Excellent	Good
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$8,608	Up 1.4%	\$8,608	\$7,239
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	66.0%	Up from 64.0%	63.5%	63.0%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	54.0%	Up from 52.4%	57.5%	61.0%

* 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

Guided by the principles of Maria Montessori, East Cooper Montessori Charter School (ECMCS) offers an authentic Montessori education to elementary and middle school students in the Charleston County public school system.

The mission of ECMCS, in part, is to provide a rigorous Montessori education that guides children toward academic excellence and a lifelong love of learning. The school fulfills this aspect of its mission by offering an enriched and cultural curriculum that incorporates and extends district, state, and national standards.

Montessori education is rooted in the natural curiosity of children about life and the world around them. Underlying the Montessori curriculum is a fundamental belief that each child has an instinctive and spontaneous desire to learn and that self-motivation is the only true impulse to learning. Students develop their abilities by posing questions, designing investigations, and gaining skills necessary to pursue their own research interest. Scientific and mathematical aptitudes, appreciation of history and timelines, literacy across disciplines, and the development of a student’s humanity toward the local and global community are all part of the curriculum at ECMCS.

The second part of the school’s mission is to encourage stewardship of the greater community. Starting in the first grade, all of our students devote at least 20 hours to a community service project called the Yearlong Peace Project. Organizations benefitting from the community outreach, just to name a few, include Crisis Ministries, Department of Natural Resources, and East Cooper Community Outreach.

Parent volunteerism is an integral part of the success of ECMCS and sets the example for students. Parents served nearly 4,262 hours on the school board, committees, helping out in the classrooms and researching community resources to support the school’s mission.

The consistent and professional leadership of the Governing Board and school administration remains a cornerstone of its success. The school, like all public schools, must continue to do more with less. Our fiscal conservatism and solid strategic planning has allowed the school to implement its plans of expansion to address the yearly extensive waitlist of students wanting to attend ECMCS. The administration and Governing Board continue to explore options to address future growth and facilities needs to bring Montessori to our wider local community.

The 2012-13 school year was filled with many significant academic accomplishments and the greatest success is seen in the achievement of its students.

Jody Swanigan, Principal

Amy Jajuga, Governing Board Chair

Evaluations by Teachers, Students and Parents

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	13	13	24
Percent satisfied with learning environment	100%	84.6%	100%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	100%	92.4%	100%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	100%	92.3%	95.8%

* Only students at the highest middle 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	98.5
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

East Cooper Montessori Charter School 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	3.1%	2.3%
Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	4.1%	4.9%

	Our School	State Objective	Met State Objective
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	35.2%	0.0%	No
Student attendance rate	96.8%	94.0%*	Yes

* Or greater than last year

Abbreviations for Missing Data

Performance By Group

Subgroups	ELA Mean	Math Mean	Science Mean	Social Studies Mean	ELA % Tested	Math % Tested
Grades 6-8						
All Students	689.1	670.0	659.9	662.3	99.4	99.4
Male	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	100.0	100.0
Female	694.2	666.5	651.0	650.2	98.8	98.8
White	691.6	671.7	662.1	666.5	99.4	99.4
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)	628.0	628.0	628.0	628.0	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	40	100	12.5	15	72.5	87.5
	4	36	100	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	100
	5	30	96.7	6.9	17.2	75.9	93.1
	6	27	100	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	100
	7	14	100	7.1	28.6	64.3	92.9
	8	11	100	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	100
2013	3	35	100	5.7	8.6	85.7	94.3
	4	38	100	13.2	36.8	50	86.8
	5	33	100	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	100
	6	28	96.4	7.4	29.6	63	92.6
	7	25	100	4	24	72	96
	8	14	100	14.3	21.4	64.3	85.7
Mathematics							
2012	3	40	100	15	25	60	85
	4	36	100	11.1	38.9	50	88.9
	5	30	96.7	6.9	55.2	37.9	93.1
	6	27	100	11.1	40.7	48.1	88.9
	7	14	100	7.1	28.6	64.3	92.9
	8	11	100	9.1	18.2	72.7	90.9
2013	3	35	100	11.4	34.3	54.3	88.6
	4	38	100	10.5	47.4	42.1	89.5
	5	33	100	9.1	51.5	39.4	90.9
	6	28	96.4	7.4	63	29.6	92.6
	7	25	100	16	28	56	84
	8	14	100	7.1	42.9	50	92.9
Science							
2012	3	20	100	30	50	20	70
	4	36	100	13.9	75	11.1	86.1
	5	15	100	6.7	73.3	20	93.3
	6	14	100	7.1	71.4	21.4	92.9
	7	14	100	7.1	35.7	57.1	92.9
	8	6	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
2013	3	18	100	22.2	38.9	38.9	77.8
	4	38	100	15.8	71.1	13.2	84.2
	5	17	100	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	100
	6	14	100	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	100
	7	25	100	4	40	56	96
	8	7	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S

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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	20	100	15	45	40	85
	4	36	100	11.1	52.8	36.1	88.9
	5	15	93.3	7.1	57.1	35.7	92.9
	6	13	100	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	100
	7	14	100	14.3	28.6	57.1	85.7
	8	5	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
2013	3	17	100	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	100
	4	38	100	10.5	63.2	26.3	89.5
	5	16	100	12.5	50	37.5	87.5
	6	14	92.9	7.7	69.2	23.1	92.3
	7	25	100	12	20	68	88
	8	7	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
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	30	93.3	7.1	17.9	75	92.9
	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	11	100	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	100
2013	3	35	100	5.7	28.6	65.7	94.3
	4	38	100	18.4	13.2	68.4	81.6
	5	33	100	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	100
	6	28	96.4	3.7	22.2	74.1	96.3
	7	25	100	4	8	88	96
	8	14	100	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	100

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