

Theodore Lester Elementary

3501 E. Palmetto Street
Florence, SC 29501



South Carolina State Report Card

State and federal laws require public schools to release report cards to the public each year. This year, the report card has been updated to reflect changes in reporting directed by the SC Education Oversight Committee. Schools will not be rated for state accountability purposes until Fall 2017 when the state will transition to a single accountability system. The following reports student performance in school year 2014-15.

Grades:	PK-6 Elementary	Principal:	Dr. Gregory J. Mingo
Enrollment:	473 students	Superintendent:	Dr. Randy Bridges
School Phone:	843-664-8459	Board Chair:	S. Porter Stewart
School Website:	https://www.fsd1.org/schools/lester/Pages/default.aspx		



Profile of the SC Graduate

World Class Knowledge

- Rigorous standards in language arts and math for career and college readiness
- Multiple languages, science, technology, engineering, mathematics (STEM), arts and social sciences*

World Class Skills

- Creativity and innovation
- Critical thinking and problem solving
- Collaboration and teamwork
- Communication, information, media and technology
- Knowing how to learn

Life and Career Characteristics

- Integrity
- Self-direction
- Global perspective
- Perseverance
- Work ethic
- Interpersonal skills

* 21st Century core courses in Social Sciences include History, Geography, Economics, Government and Civics.

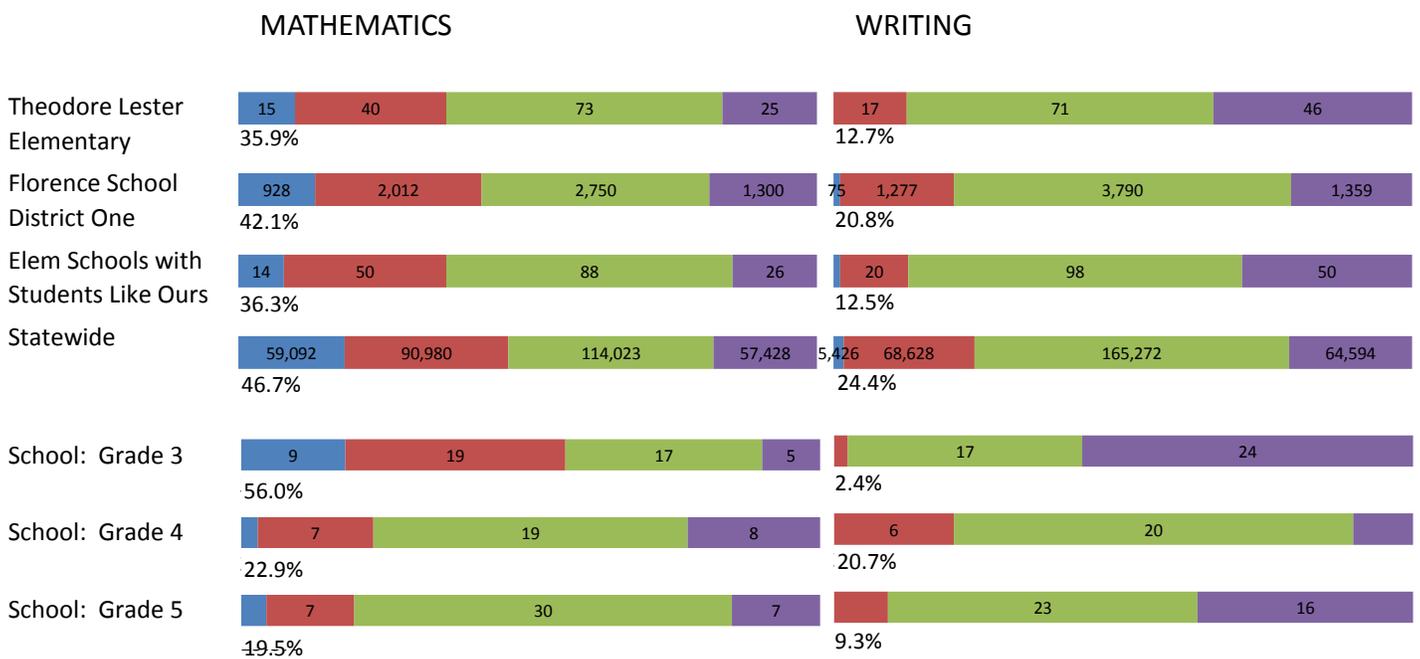
WORLD CLASS SKILLS & LIFE AND CAREER CHARACTERISTICS

Our school is helping all students develop the world class skills and life and career characteristics of the Profile of the Graduate by ...

Theodore Lester Elementary is helping all students develop the world class skills and life and career characteristics of the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate by emphasizing the importance of education and how it impacts the quality of life for all in our global society. We challenge students daily. We strive to ensure that each child reaches his full potential. Our school's theme is "Reaching for the Stars." Our teachers provide a variety of strategies to reach students at their varied levels of achievements. Each day the goal is to move students from their present levels to levels above. They do this by using Reading Recovery, Accelerated Reading, IXL Math, our reading coach, part-time teachers for small group instruction, our Math Academy for after school assistance, Study Island, MAP testing and the use of Focus Groups based on students' RIT scores, and typing and computer skills instruction. All students are encouraged to think critically and creatively. All students are taught the scientific method. All students in grades two through six are required to submit a science project for our annual science fair. It our goal to ensure that all students learn skills and concepts now which will make them competitive in our global economy when they depart from our school system. It is our belief that in order for students to be successful in our global society, they must be well-rounded. We believe that students develop character and interpersonal skills by being involved. We offer opportunities for students to participate in a variety of after school sporting activities. Students are also given the opportunity to participate in performance activities such as chorus, band, violins, and cheerleading. Students learn how to get along with others through weekly lessons on bullying and character traits. We have a Good News Club which meets regularly with students after school. Students are given the opportunity to participate in leadership activities through our student council. They are also given the opportunity to participate in community service activities through our annual plant and bake sales. We have several business partners and civic groups such as the Florence Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta and the Kiwanis Club who play a big role in helping us shape future leaders through their contributions and services. We believe that it takes all of us—the community, parents, teachers and staff, and the students themselves—to prepare each child to become a member of the workforce of the future in our global society.

KNOWLEDGE

The ACT Aspire assessment was given to students in grades 3-8 in Spring 2015. Students were assessed in the subject areas of Reading, English, Mathematics and Writing



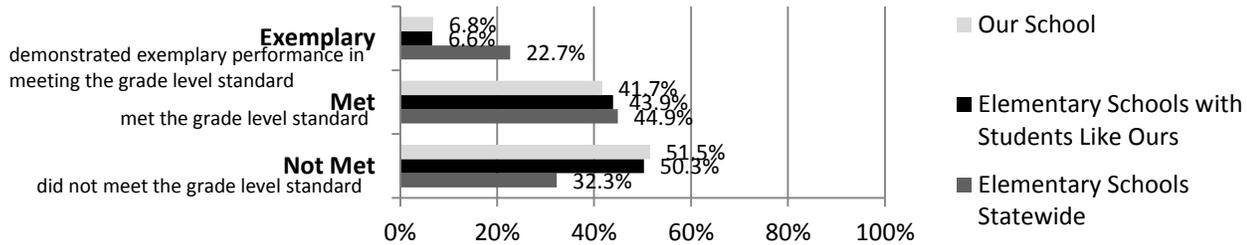
Abbreviations for Missing Data

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

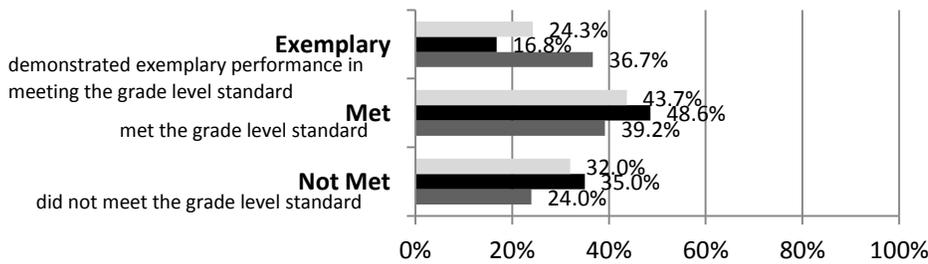
KNOWLEDGE

The SC Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (SCPASS) was given to students in grades 4 - 8 in Spring 2015. Students were assessed in the subject areas of Science and Social Studies.

Science



Social Studies



Science SCPASS	
Our School: Percent Met and Above for each grade level	
4th grade	5th grade
48.6	45.7
Social Studies SCPASS	
Our School: Percent Met and Above for each grade level	
4th grade	5th grade
80.0	50.0

Note: Results include SC-Alt assessment results.

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

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.

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OPPORTUNITIES**For students to meet the profile of the SC Graduate**

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Elementary Schools with students like ours
Students (n = 473)			
Percent of students participating in Medicaid, SNAP, or TANF; homeless, foster, or migrant students (poverty index)	91.8	Down from 94.6%	N/A
Attendance Rate	94.2	Down from 95.9%	95.2
With disabilities	30.0	Down from 31.4%	13.0
Out of school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.0	No change	0.0
Percentage of students served by gifted and talented programs	1.9	Down from 2.1%	3.1
Percentage of students retained	3.4	Down from 3.6%	1.5
Teachers (n = 43)			
Percentage of teachers with advanced degrees	74.4	Up from 73.2%	58.3
Percentage of teachers on continuing contract	86.0	Down from 87.8%	72.9
Teachers returning from previous year	85.7	Down from 90.5%	83.0
Teacher attendance rate	94.4	Down from 94.5%	94.8
Average teacher salary*	\$50,189	Up 2.4%	\$46,202
Professional development days / teacher	16.8 days	Up from 12.9 days	10.5 days
Percentage of teacher vacancies for more than 9 weeks	0.0	N/A	1.8
School			
Principal's years at school	10.0	Up from 9.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	14.1 to 1	Down from 14.6 to 1	18.9 to 1
Prime instructional time	88.1	Down from 89.9%	89.0
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No change	Good
Opportunities in foreign languages	Poor	N/A	Poor
AdvancEd (SACS) accreditation	Yes	No change	Yes
Parents attending conferences	91.6	Down from 100.0%	100.0
Character development program	Excellent	No change	Excellent
Avg. age of books / electronic media in the school library	7.0	N/A	15.6
Number of resources available per student in the school library media center	58.9	N/A	32.4
Bandwidth capacity per student	>100 Mbps	N/C	N/A
Percent of classrooms with wireless access	76-100%	N/C	N/A
District-issued learning devices per student	0.4	N/C	0.8
District-issued technology devices per teacher	1.3	N/C	2.1
Percentage of classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	8.6	Up from 3.9%	0.0
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$12,753	Up 0.8%	\$8,465
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	68.7	Up from 68.6%	64.8
Percent of expenditures for teachers' salaries**	69.6	Down from 70.4%	66.0

* Includes current year teachers contracted for 190 days or more.

** Prior year audited financial data are reported.

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OPPORTUNITIES**Evaluations by Teachers, Students, and Parents****Evaluations by Teachers, Students, and Parents**

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	37	20	18
Percent satisfied with learning environment	81.0	75.0	66.6
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	70.2	75.0	66.7
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	59.4	65.0	38.9

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

State Ratings History of School

Year	Absolute Rating	Growth Rating
2014	Average	Excellent
2013	Average	Average
2012	Average	Good

Based on state law, schools will not be rated for state accountability purposes until Fall 2017.

Additional Resources

SC State Content Standards
[Family-Friendly Guides to the SC Content Standards](#)
[2014-15 Accountability Manual](#)
[Report Card Data Files](#)
[ESEA Data Files](#)

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