



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:	6-8 Middle	Principal:	Mickey Connolly
Enrollment:	724 students	Superintendent:	Dr. Kristi V. Woodall
School Phone:	864-429-1755	Board Chair:	Dr. Wanda All
School Website:	http://unionsms.ss8.sharpschool.com/		



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.

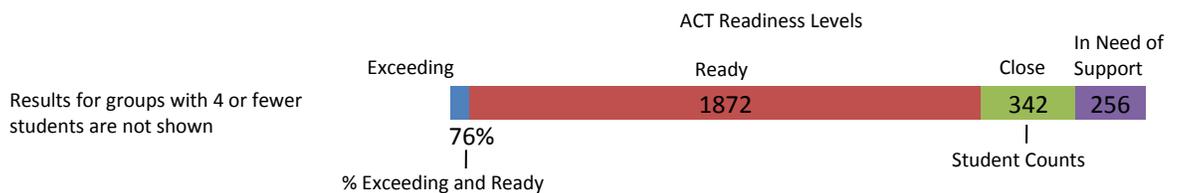
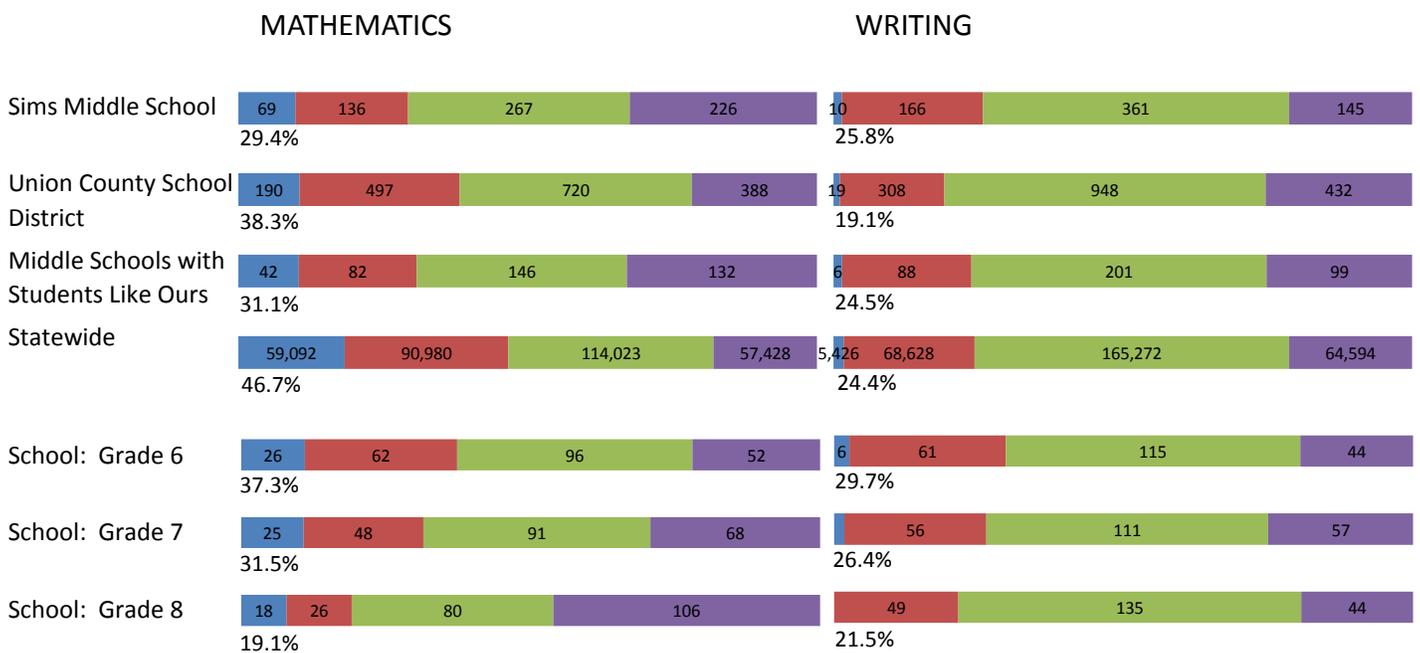
WORLD CLASS SKILLS & LIFE AND CAREER CHARACTERISTICS

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

Sims Middle School is helping all students develop world class skills and life and career characteristics of the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate by providing a safe, caring, and academically challenging learning environment. Our students are provided diverse and rigorous educational experiences with academic excellence as our primary goal. At Sims Middle School, we focus on the whole child as we live out our motto: "Education Today... Independence Tomorrow." The Sims Middle School vision is supported, encouraged, and demonstrated by challenging our students with educational best practices to help them achieve their full potentials in academics, arts, and athletics. Our teachers engage in continuous professional development through Professional Learning Communities (PLC) which assist in strengthening the curriculum. In the classroom environment, teachers are continually implementing new and effective strategies such as: Science kits, STEM, Lyric Café, Literature circles, Moby Max, Project Based Learning (PBL), Multimedia projects, and technology integration of laptops. This past year, we partnered with Boeing to integrate the Gateway to Technology robotics course. We are proud of our strong history of academic achievements. Outside of the classroom, Sims Middle School offers various programs to support the development of the whole child. We emphasize the importance of positive behavior through continuous rewards and celebrations for good behavior. Our guidance counselors present lessons in the classrooms that include: peer relationships, effective social skills, communication, problem-solving, decision-making, conflict resolution, career awareness, substance abuse education, and awareness of cultural diversity in our world. Our student organizations emphasize service-learning by supporting local organizations such as the Salvation Army, Special Olympics, The Miracle League, and Relay for Life. Sims Middle School believes the education responsibility of our youth must be shared by the student, the school, the family, and the community. The development of our future South Carolina graduates and world leaders is because of the support you all have given Sims Middle School. Melissa Gregory, SIC Chairperson Mickey Connolly, Principal

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



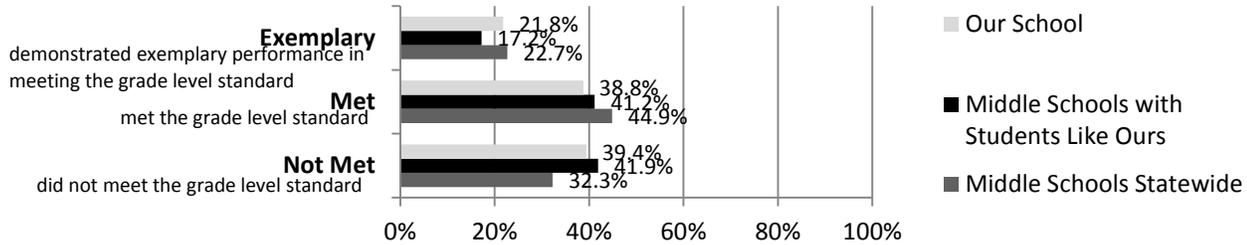
Abbreviations for Missing Data

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

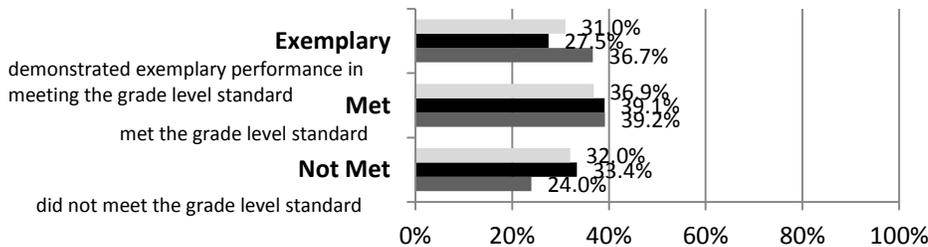
KNOWLEDGE

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		
6th grade	7th grade	8th grade
50.4	71.0	60.7

Social Studies SCPASS		
Our School: Percent Met and Above for each grade level		
6th grade	7th grade	8th grade
70.3	68.0	65.5

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.

End of Course Tests		
Percent of tests with scores of 70 or above on:	Our School	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours
Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2	100.0	95.7
English 1	95	90.9
Biology 1	N/A	69.0
US History and the Constitution	N/A	52.4
All Subjects	97.5	93.3

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.

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OPPORTUNITIES

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Middle Schools with students like ours
Students (n = 724)			
Percent of students participating in Medicaid, SNAP, or TANF; homeless, foster, or migrant students (poverty index)	80.8	No change	N/A
Percent of students (grade 7 & 8) enrolled in HS credit courses	18.8	Up from 15.8%	23.5
Attendance Rate	93.8	Down from 94.4%	95.1
With disabilities	13.6	Down from 14.1%	14.8
Out of school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.0	No change	0.9
Percentage of students served by gifted and talented programs	14.7	Down from 15.4%	15.8
Percentage of students retained	2.5	Up from 1.8%	0.8
Annual dropout rate	0.0	No change	0.0
Teachers (n = 51)			
Percentage of teachers with advanced degrees	62.7	Down from 66.7%	57.8
Percentage of teachers on continuing contract	82.4	Down from 87.0%	72.2
Teachers returning from previous year	81.7	Down from 84.5%	84.5
Teacher attendance rate	94.5	Down from 95.1%	94.7
Average teacher salary*	\$46,481	Down 0.2%	\$46,457
Professional development days / teacher	16.2 days	Up from 15.2 days	11.0 days
Percentage of teacher vacancies for more than 9 weeks	3.8	N/A	0.5
School			
Principal's years at school	10.0	Up from 9.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	19.3 to 1	Up from 18.2 to 1	20.8 to 1
Prime instructional time	87.5	Down from 89.0%	88.5
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	94.5	Up from 93.7%	99.5
Character development program	Good	No change	Good
Avg. age of books / electronic media in the school library	10.0	N/A	14.8
Number of resources available per student in the school library media center	17.7	N/A	25.5
Bandwidth capacity per student	<25 Mbps	N/C	N/A
Percent of classrooms with wireless access	76-100%	N/C	N/A
District-issued learning devices per student	0.7	N/C	0.7
District-issued technology devices per teacher	1.6	N/C	1.9
Percentage of classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	4.9	Down from 8.2%	5.3
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$7,445	Up 2.7%	\$7,867
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	70.0	Up from 69.7%	61.7
Percent of expenditures for teachers' salaries**	71.2	Up from 70.3%	62.6

* 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	54	210	70
Percent satisfied with learning environment	87.1	76.1	77.2
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	80.7	71.7	74.3
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	64.8	90.0	59.2

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

State Ratings History of School

Year	Absolute Rating	Growth Rating
2014	Average	Average
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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