



SC Annual School District Report Card Summary

Cherokee School District
Grades: PK-12 **Enrollment: 9,362**
Superintendent: Dr. William B. James
Board Chair: Mr. Billy Blackwell

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/SILVER AWARD	AYP STATUS	NCLB IMPROVEMENT STATUS
2008	Below Average	Excellent	N/A	Not Met	CDI
2007	Below Average	Below Average	N/A	Not Met	NI
2006	Average	At-Risk	N/A	Not Met	N/A

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF DISTRICTS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	BELOW AVERAGE	AT-RISK
0	0	11	15	0

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 02/17/2009. Districts with Students like Ours are Districts with poverty indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this district.

PACT

PACT	2008 Reading % Basic and above	2008 Math % Basic and above	2008 Science % Basic and above	2008 Social Studies % Basic and above
District	70.6%	72.7%	59.1%	57.5%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	74.8%	75.4%	65.4%	68.9%
Average District	76.0%	76.0%	67.4%	71.3%

PACT	2008 Reading % Proficient & Advanced	2008 Math % Proficient & Advanced	2008 Science % Proficient & Advanced	2008 Social Studies % Proficient & Advanced
District	32.9%	32.4%	26.4%	20.5%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	35.7%	34.1%	33.6%	31.4%
Average District	37.6%	35.1%	36.4%	34.7%

HSAP

HSAP: 2nd Year Students	Passed 2 Subtests (%)	Passed 1 Subtests (%)	Passed No Subtests (%)
District	82.2%	9.2%	8.6%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	78.5%	11.2%	10.3%

HSAP Passage Rate by Spring 2008 (%)

District	94.1%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	93.1%

End of Course Test Passage Rate (%)

District	60.7%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	61.8%

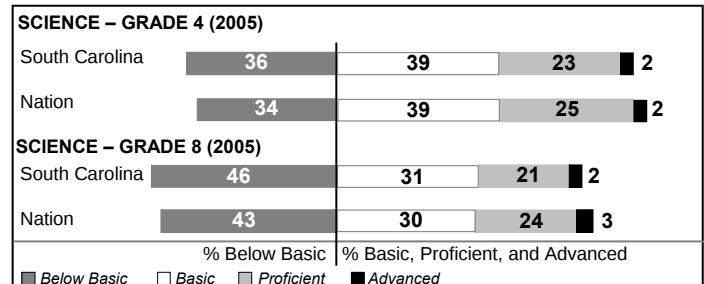
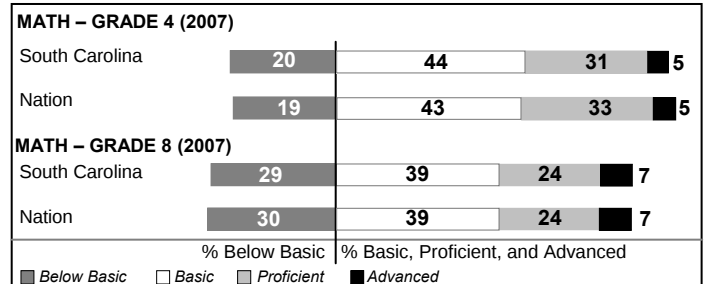
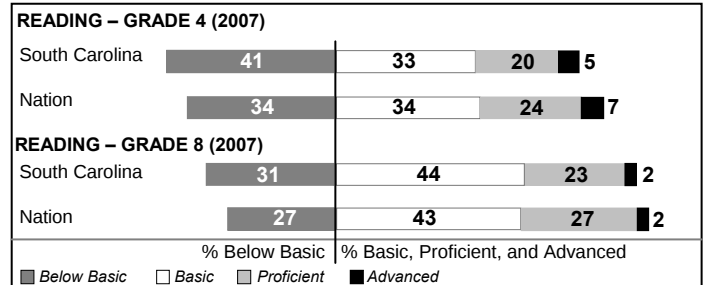
On-Time Graduation Rate (%)

District	78.7%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	77.1%

** 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 GOAL

2010 Goal:

By 2010, SC's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the fastest improving systems in the country.

2020 Goal: TBD

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

Cherokee School District

DISTRICT PROFILE

	Our District	Change from Last Year	Districts with Students Like Ours	Median District
Students (n=9,362)				
Retention rate	2.7%	Down from 3.5%	4.2%	4.0%
Attendance rate	96.0%	Down from 96.2%	95.5%	95.6%
Eligible for gifted and talented	15.6%	Down from 16.0%	12.0%	11.4%
With disabilities other than speech	6.7%	Up from 5.9%	11.4%	10.5%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent &/or criminal offenses	0.2%	Down from 0.4%	0.7%	0.8%
Enrolled in AP/IB programs	9.9%	Down from 10.1%	9.5%	10.3%
Successful on AP/IB exams	42.5%	N/A	56.0%	56.0%
Eligible for LIFE Scholarship	49.4%	Down from 56.2%	30.3%	31.1%
Enrolled in adult education GED or diploma programs	217	Down from 219	52	48
Completions in adult education GED or diploma programs	95	Down from 113	30	27
Annual dropout rate	8.3%	Up from 3.9%	3.6%	3.8%
Teachers (n=688)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	54.8%	Up from 53.3%	55.0%	54.8%
Continuing contract teachers	81.1%	Down from 81.9%	75.8%	73.9%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	2.3%	Up from 1.7%	3.8%	5.0%
Teachers returning from previous year	91.4%	Down from 91.5%	90.1%	88.8%
Teacher attendance rate	94.2%	Down from 94.4%	94.7%	94.9%
Average teacher salary	\$44,452	Up 3.2%	\$45,096	\$45,107
Vacancies for more than nine weeks	0.4%	Up from 0.0%	0.6%	0.5%
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	2.1%	No Change	2.2%	2.5%
District				
Superintendent's years at district	7.0	Up from 6.0	4.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	19.4 to 1	Down from 19.5 to 1	19.6 to 1	20.2 to 1
Prime instructional time	89.0%	Up from 88.9%	88.7%	89.1%
Dollars spent per pupil*	\$8,678	Up 4.5%	\$8,641	\$8,666
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries*	52.5%	Down from 53.4%	54.2%	53.1%
Percent of expenditures for instruction*	55.8%	Down from 56.4%	57.6%	56.5%
Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	No Change	Excellent	Excellent
Number of schools	19	No Change	10	9
Portable classrooms	2.1%	Down from 7.9%	2.6%	4.3%
Average age in years of school facilities	23 Years	Down from 25 Years	26 Years	26 Years
Number of schools with SACS accreditation	19.0	No Change	10.0	8.0
Average administrator salary	\$73,392	Up 0.8%	\$75,683	\$76,032
Number of charter schools	0	No Change	0	0
% of AYP objectives met	65.5%		71.4%	69.7%

* Prior year audited financial data available.

CHARTER SCHOOLS IN DISTRICT

School Name	Absolute Rating	Growth Rating	Adequate Yearly Progress
There are no charter schools in this district.			

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

Cherokee County School District continues to strive for excellence in education. Our students, faculty, staff, administration, and board members have worked together for a common goal by offering quality public education for all students in Cherokee County. This has been a most successful year for education in Cherokee County yet.

The district's commitment to student achievement is evident in the accomplishments of our students this year. The average district SAT score rose 19 points and the AP pass rate is at the national average. PACT and HSAP scores continue to improve.

Students have excelled in academics, athletics, and fine arts. Forty of our middle school students were named Junior Scholars. One of our students was named a National Merit Scholar and the Class of 2008 earned more than \$9 million in scholarships.

Our teachers demonstrated skill using strategies to improve instruction. Standards-based curriculum guides and test analysis were used to promote the use of best practices in the classrooms. Technology was utilized throughout the district to further enhance instruction. Four of our teachers received state recognition as Teacher of the Year in their respective field of education.

The schools on our district have been recognized with numerous awards this year. Blacksburg High was honored with the Palmetto Gold Award. Alma Elementary, Corinth Elementary, and Gaffney High were honored with the Red Carpet Awards. Cherokee County Adult Education Program received a Palmetto Trend Setter Award.

The building program has been a priority for two years and has just been completed. The new facilities include a 9th grade addition at Blacksburg High, a 9th grade addition at Gaffney High, classrooms at Goucher Elementary, a new Community Learning Center, and a new stadium at Gaffney High. Instructional technology has been a major focus throughout the district and our district has received national recognition for implementation of the Classroom Performance System. Activboards, document cameras, iPods, LCD projectors, and virtual field trips are some of the examples of instructional technology provided by the school district.

Cherokee County School District focuses on "Meeting Today's Challenge, Building Tomorrow's Future!" Our commitment to public education is evident and we are proud of our students' accomplishments. The goal to provide a safe and positive environment for students can be attained through mutual cooperation of home, school, and community. Thanks for your support of public education.

Dr. William B. James, Superintendent

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