



SC Annual School District Report Card Summary

Chester School District
Grades: PK-12 **Enrollment: 5,897**
Superintendent: Mr. Larry Heath
Board Chair: Denise Lawson

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	Average	N/A	Not Met	N/A
2007	Below Average	Below Average	N/A	Not Met	N/A
2006	Below Average	Below Average	N/A	Not Met	N/A

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF DISTRICTS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	BELOW AVERAGE	AT-RISK
0	0	7	19	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	63.9%	64.4%	51.1%	58.8%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	70.5%	71.1%	61.1%	64.8%
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	22.6%	21.1%	22.6%	23.3%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	30.6%	28.7%	29.2%	27.4%
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	82.3%	11.4%	6.3%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	78.1%	11.2%	10.7%

HSAP Passage Rate by Spring 2008 (%)

District	95.2%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	93.1%

End of Course Test Passage Rate (%)

District	56.5%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	60.4%

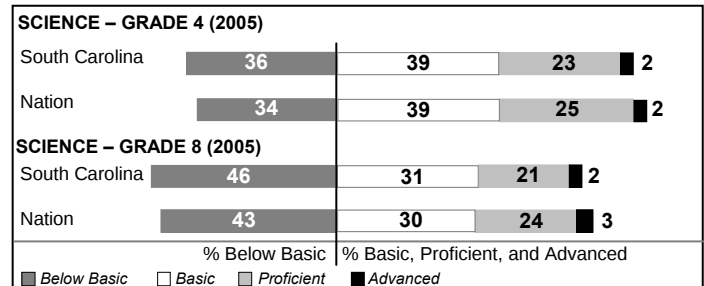
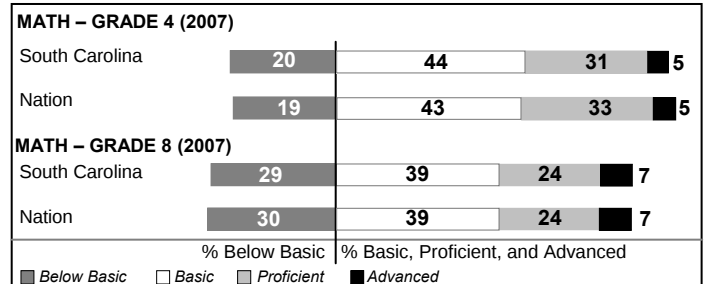
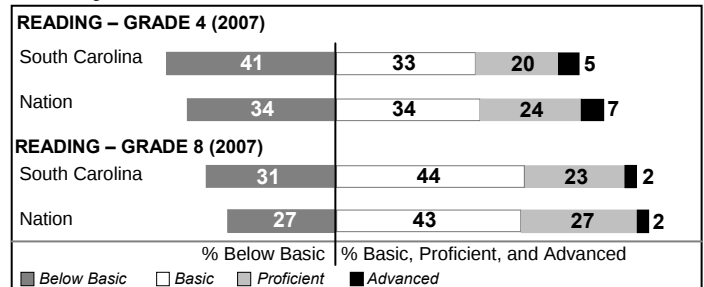
On-Time Graduation Rate (%)

District	82.4%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	78.0%

** 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

Chester School District

DISTRICT PROFILE

	Our District	Change from Last Year	Districts with Students Like Ours	Median District
Students (n=5,897)				
Retention rate	5.6%	Down from 7.0%	4.4%	4.0%
Attendance rate	95.2%	Down from 95.7%	95.4%	95.6%
Eligible for gifted and talented	11.7%	Up from 11.6%	11.7%	11.4%
With disabilities other than speech	9.9%	Up from 9.6%	11.0%	10.5%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent &/or criminal offenses	2.7%	Down from 3.1%	0.8%	0.8%
Enrolled in AP/IB programs	6.5%	Down from 6.6%	8.7%	10.3%
Successful on AP/IB exams	N/A	N/A	50.0%	56.0%
Eligible for LIFE Scholarship	34.3%	Up from 17.0%	30.0%	31.1%
Enrolled in adult education GED or diploma programs	23	Down from 41	41	48
Completions in adult education GED or diploma programs	16	Down from 41	22	27
Annual dropout rate	5.7%	Down from 9.4%	3.1%	3.8%
Teachers (n=441)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	58.0%	Up from 54.7%	55.0%	54.8%
Continuing contract teachers	73.2%	Down from 76.9%	76.6%	73.9%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	5.8%	Up from 4.6%	4.4%	5.0%
Teachers returning from previous year	85.5%	Down from 86.1%	88.5%	88.8%
Teacher attendance rate	94.5%	Up from 93.4%	94.7%	94.9%
Average teacher salary	\$46,113	Up 3.6%	\$45,155	\$45,107
Vacancies for more than nine weeks	1.4%	Up from 1.2%	0.8%	0.5%
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.6%	Down from 3.1%	2.2%	2.5%
District				
Superintendent's years at district	2.0	Up from 1.0	5.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	19.4 to 1	Down from 19.9 to 1	19.4 to 1	20.2 to 1
Prime instructional time	87.5%	Up from 86.9%	88.7%	89.1%
Dollars spent per pupil*	\$9,034	Up 6.1%	\$8,635	\$8,666
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries*	52.2%	Down from 53.0%	53.7%	53.1%
Percent of expenditures for instruction*	55.3%	Down from 55.7%	57.4%	56.5%
Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	No Change	Excellent	Excellent
Number of schools	13	No Change	9	9
Portable classrooms	3.3%	Up from 2.7%	2.1%	4.3%
Average age in years of school facilities	24 Years	Up from 22 Years	27 Years	26 Years
Number of schools with SACS accreditation	12.0	No Change	9.0	8.0
Average administrator salary	\$68,381	Up 4.3%	\$76,176	\$76,032
Number of charter schools	1	No Change	0	0
% of AYP objectives met	61.9%		68.5%	69.7%

* Prior year audited financial data available.

CHARTER SCHOOLS IN DISTRICT

School Name	Absolute Rating	Growth Rating	Adequate Yearly Progress
The Academy for Teaching and Learning Charter (ELEM.)	Average	Good	Not Met
The Academy for Teaching and Learning Charter (MIDDLE)	At-Risk	Good	Not Met

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

The 2007–2008 school year has been an adventurous one for the students, schools, and the district as we continue to strive for excellence. We continuously make every effort to maximize the experiences of each individual in the district as we strive to use research-based practices to conduct effective, engaging instruction in our classrooms for children, as well as to provide teachers with time for collaboration, training, and sustained, ongoing professional development opportunities.

With each new year comes more complex and challenging experiences; however, the Chester County School District continues to move forward in achieving its overarching goal of obtaining Academic Excellence for all children. The commitment and dedication of the employees in our district is astounding. Success and forward progression would not be possible if not for the commitment, support, and generosity of our community.

The notion of forward movement is evident in all of our district schools. This can be attributed, in part, to the outreach of our schools and their creative ingenuity in securing family support and involvement. Schools are working to extend partnership opportunities to all parents and guardians through nontraditional means. Other contributing factors include the development of a standards' based curriculum from Pre- Kindergarten through grade twelve, quarterly benchmark testing to ensure proper pacing, and a focus on data analysis to determine the needs of children, as well as the actions that will be taken to address them. Finally, a commitment by the district to place Promethean Boards in every building has enhanced the quality of instruction in all schools as teachers are using technology to effectively support instruction and to provide students access to a plethora of information and resources.

The Chester County School District is committed to the development of all children, and although we recognize and celebrate the forward progression of the district, we continuously reflect upon how we may improve upon our weaknesses while continuing to capitalize on our strengths. Therefore, we have established goals for ensuring a quality education be provided to all children. Among these goals are a continued effort to partner with families and the community to benefit students, a partnership with the community to provide a greater service to our students who required an alternative educational experience, and an emphasis on quality, effective classroom instruction. We believe working towards the attainment of these goals will move us closer towards actualizing our goal of achieving Academic Excellence for all children in Chester County.

Larry B. Heath
Superintendent

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