



SC Annual School District Report Card Summary

Laurens 55 School District
 Grades: PK-12 Enrollment: 6,068
 Superintendent: Edgar C. Taylor
 Board Chair: Rev. Charlie Short

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	Below Average	N/A	Not Met	N/A
2007	Below Average	Below Average	N/A	Not Met	N/A
2006	Below 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	8	18	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	76.4%	76.9%	60.9%	65.1%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	70.9%	71.5%	61.5%	65.3%
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	33.0%	27.9%	23.6%	21.4%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	31.0%	29.1%	29.4%	27.7%
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	74.3%	11.6%	14.1%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	78.1%	11.3%	10.6%

HSAP Passage Rate by Spring 2008 (%)

District	89.9%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	93.1%

End of Course Test Passage Rate (%)

District	73.4%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	60.7%

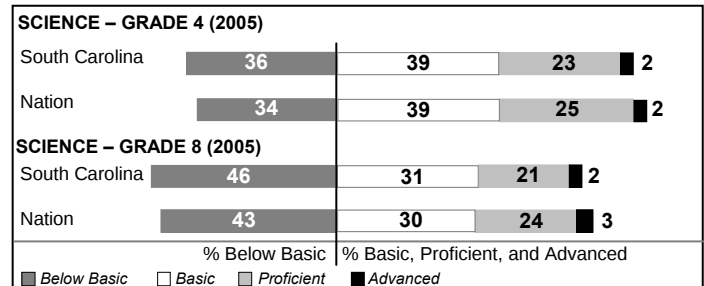
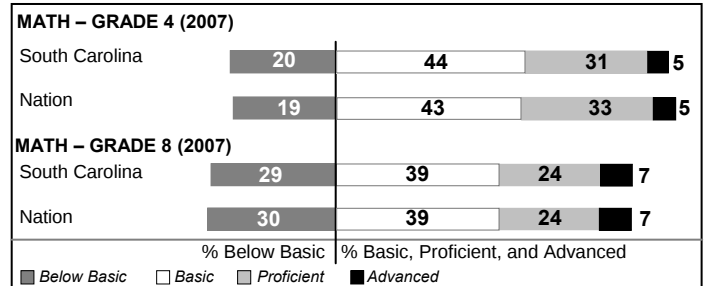
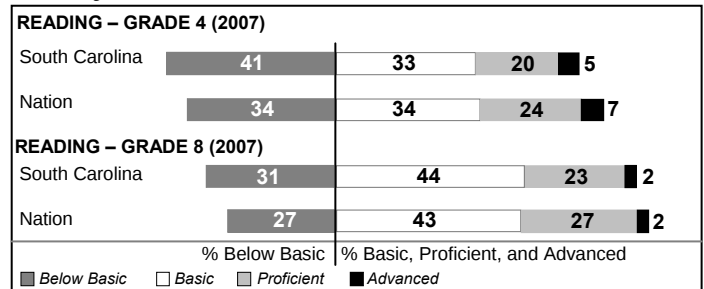
On-Time Graduation Rate (%)

District	67.0%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	78.1%

** 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

Laurens 55 School District

DISTRICT PROFILE

	Our District	Change from Last Year	Districts with Students Like Ours	Median District
Students (n=6,068)				
Retention rate	3.4%	Down from 5.0%	4.5%	4.0%
Attendance rate	97.0%	Up from 96.8%	95.6%	95.6%
Eligible for gifted and talented	5.8%	Down from 6.4%	11.7%	11.4%
With disabilities other than speech	10.2%	Up from 8.9%	11.4%	10.5%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent &/or criminal offenses	0.2%	No Change	0.8%	0.8%
Enrolled in AP/IB programs	11.6%	Down from 12.3%	9.5%	10.3%
Successful on AP/IB exams	36.4%	N/A	50.0%	56.0%
Eligible for LIFE Scholarship	26.4%	Down from 29.3%	30.0%	31.1%
Enrolled in adult education GED or diploma programs	75	Down from 82	46	48
Completions in adult education GED or diploma programs	40	Down from 54	27	27
Annual dropout rate	7.5%	Up from 6.6%	3.2%	3.8%
Teachers (n=381)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	47.0%	Up from 43.9%	54.8%	54.8%
Continuing contract teachers	73.2%	Up from 70.3%	77.4%	73.9%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	4.9%	Down from 5.5%	3.8%	5.0%
Teachers returning from previous year	85.5%	Down from 85.6%	88.8%	88.8%
Teacher attendance rate	95.6%	Up from 94.9%	94.7%	94.9%
Average teacher salary	\$43,736	Up 5.6%	\$44,798	\$45,107
Vacancies for more than nine weeks	0.0%	Down from 0.8%	0.8%	0.5%
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	2.8%	Down from 3.1%	2.1%	2.5%
District				
Superintendent's years at district	13.0	Up from 12.0	5.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	20.0 to 1	Down from 21.4 to 1	19.4 to 1	20.2 to 1
Prime instructional time	90.8%	Up from 90.3%	88.7%	89.1%
Dollars spent per pupil*	\$7,764	Up 3.0%	\$8,635	\$8,666
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries*	50.2%	Down from 50.6%	53.7%	53.1%
Percent of expenditures for instruction*	53.2%	Down from 54.3%	57.2%	56.5%
Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	No Change	Excellent	Excellent
Number of schools	11	No Change	10	9
Portable classrooms	1.7%	Down from 3.2%	2.3%	4.3%
Average age in years of school facilities	30 Years	Down from 31 Years	27 Years	26 Years
Number of schools with SACS accreditation	11.0	No Change	9.0	8.0
Average administrator salary	\$76,841	Up 2.7%	\$75,712	\$76,032
Number of charter schools	0	No Change	0	0
% of AYP objectives met	72.4%		70.0%	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

With an ever-increasing level of achievement, a commitment to improving facilities, an emphasis on literacy, and a focus on improved health, Laurens County School District No. 55 positively impacts the lives of students and the surrounding community. Students, parents, school leaders, teachers, and support staff work together daily to reach higher levels.

The district obtains valuable, up-to-date information on student achievement through an on-line assessment tool known as MAP. All schools have a full-time literacy coach on staff, with many having science and math coaches working closely with teachers to improve standards-based instruction. The Montessori program is the largest in the state and one of the largest in the nation. The 2008 graduating class of Laurens District 55 High School earned \$2.8 million in college scholarships. There were 262 students who received a high school diploma or certificate.

PACT results for spring 2007 show that the percentage of students meeting standard exceeded the state's average in 7 out of 12 areas in English Language Arts and Mathematics. Results of the 2007 HSAP show that 73.1% of students passed both sections of the test on the first attempt. Results show that of the students participating in the End of Course Test for Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2, 85.5% scored 70 or above, compared to the state average of 82.8%. 64.4% of District 55 students taking the same test for English 1 scored 70 or above, while 64.8% was the state average. Seven schools met the stringent No Child Left Behind measures of Adequate Yearly Progress, while the remaining schools met 85.7% to 94.7% of the goals. 59.5% of District 55's students who took the end of course test for Physical Science scored 70 or above, thus exceeding the state average of 49.7%.

A new academic wing and auxiliary gymnasium were added at LDHS. Recent additions and renovations have provided space for all students, grades K-8, in the Gray Court attendance area. A new gymnasium was added at Hickory Tavern Elementary and Middle Schools. Laurens Middle School received renovations to the auditorium and restrooms. Thank you for the role that you play in the success of our schools and the local community.

Edgar C. Taylor, Ed.D., Superintendent

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