



SC Annual School Report Card Summary

Buist Academy

Charleston

Grades: K-8

Enrollment: 396

Principal: Sallie L. Ballard

Superintendent: Dr. Nancy J. McGinley

Board Chair: Mr. Hillery Douglas

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	Excellent	Good	TBD	Met	N/A
2007	Excellent	Good	Gold	Met	N/A
2006	Excellent	Good	Gold	Met	N/A

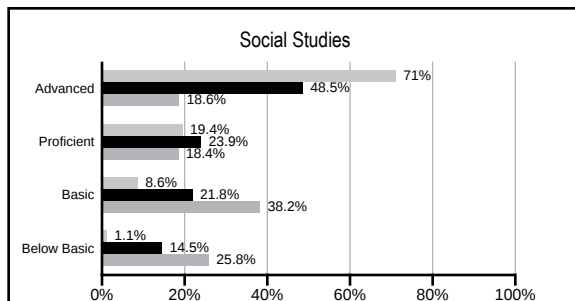
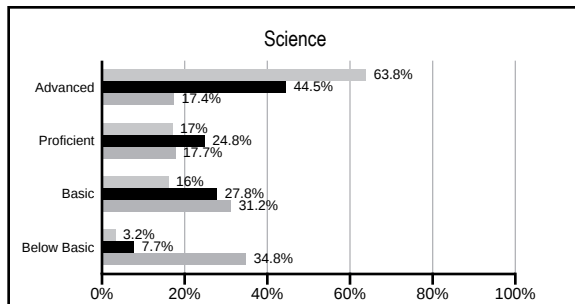
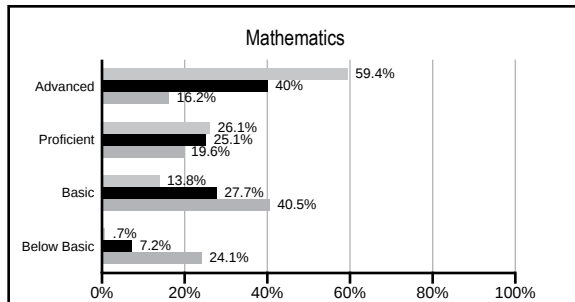
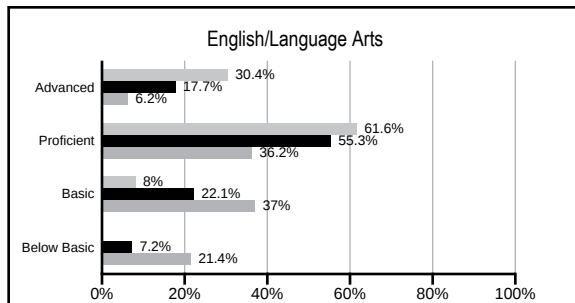
ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	BELOW AVERAGE	AT-RISK
8	2	0	1	0

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

PACT PERFORMANCE

Our School Elementary Schools with Students Like Ours Elementary schools statewide



NAEP PERFORMANCE*

* 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

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Buist Academy [Charleston]

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Elementary Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Elementary School
Students (n=396)				
Retention rate	0.3%	No Change	0.4%	2.3%
Attendance rate	97.7%	Up from 97.5%	97.1%	96.3%
Eligible for gifted and talented	74.4%	Down from 77.7%	33.4%	10.4%
With disabilities other than speech	2.5%	Up from 1.5%	4.3%	7.5%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent &/or criminal offenses	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=32)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	81.3%	Up from 76.7%	59.4%	56.7%
Continuing contract teachers	84.4%	Up from 83.3%	84.8%	77.3%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers returning from previous year	87.4%	Up from 85.2%	88.1%	86.4%
Teacher attendance rate	90.3%	Down from 94.5%	94.6%	94.9%
Average teacher salary	\$50,719	Up 4.6%	\$48,085	\$45,345
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.0%	Down from 0.7%	0.4%	0.0%
School				
Principal's years at school	7.0	Up from 6.0	6.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	13.3 to 1	Up from 13.2 to 1	19.8 to 1	18.5 to 1
Prime instructional time	87.1%	Down from 90.5%	90.9%	89.8%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No Change	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	Up from No	Yes	Yes
Character development program	Excellent	No Change	Excellent	Excellent
Dollars spent per pupil*	\$7,858	Up 4.5%	\$7,039	\$7,052
Percent of expenditures for instruction*	68.3%	Up from 64.9%	65.4%	69.1%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries*	65.7%	Up from 63.4%	63.0%	64.2%
% of AYP objectives met	100.0%		100.0%	85.7%

* Prior year audited financial data available.

EVALUATION RESULTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	25	48	52
Percent satisfied with learning environment	96.0%	100.0%	94.1%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	100.0%	97.9%	94.2%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	100.0%	100.0%	90.4%

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

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

The 2007-2008 academic year began with a new approach to summer reading. All 7th and 8th-grade students were required to read *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak before the beginning of school. Parents were encouraged to do the same. On September 6th, we hosted our first Buist Book Symposium in the Board Room at 75 Calhoun Street. A panel of college professors and community professionals began the symposium with background information and their reactions to the story. Following their remarks, ten literature circles met to further discuss the book through the use of guiding questions. Parents, Academic Magnet High School alumni, and teachers led the discussions. The symposium was successful in engaging entire families in reading.

The Primary Grades piloted a new report card that was sent out six times a year instead of four. Its purpose was to align more closely with the completion dates of the Units of Inquiry in the Primary Years Programme. Parental response was favorable.

The Middle School began its formal application process to become part of the Middle Years Programme of the International Baccalaureate. All six teachers attended Level I or Level II trainings. Part A of the application was submitted in April 2008. Part B of the application will be submitted in June 2009.

Buist received the Palmetto Gold Award for continuing to make progress toward the state standards set for 2010. In addition, the school was recognized for the sixth consecutive year by the South Carolina Education Oversight Committee for continuing to close the achievement gap in historically underachieving groups of students. For federal Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP), the school met 100% of our objectives.

Twenty-five of our eighth-grade students qualified as Junior Scholars based on their PSAT scores. Seven seventh-grade students were recognized by the Duke Talent Identification Program. Middle School students began their community service with a kickoff on October 2nd at the county library. Local philanthropic leaders were invited to speak. Middle School students continued to meet their required 15 hours of community service during the year. This service included tutoring younger students at a downtown school. Our Beta Club organized a team and participated in the Asthma Walk to raise money for the American Lung Association, conducted a school-wide food drive in December to benefit Crisis Ministries, and contributed holiday gift bags to the downtown Boys and Girls Club. "Popsicles for PACT" continued to provide support to a school in India.

Parental support remained high in the school. The Parent Teachers Association held a successful fall festival for the children. In April, the Buist Foundation held a Dinner and Auction. Proceeds provided the final eight SmartBoards for classrooms and new carpeting in six elementary rooms. The School Improvement Council worked on a new approach to Orientation in August, in which mini-seminars were offered to parents during the evening. A new Grounds Committee was formed and worked hand-in-hand with members of the Charleston Garden Club to improve our streetscape.

The year ended with the Fifth-Grade Exhibition. Exhibition is a collaborative inquiry project that is a synthesis of the essential elements of the Primary Years Programme. It was the culmination of their six years of study in the

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