



# SC Annual School Report Card Summary

Choices

Darlington

Grades: 7-9

Principal: Ralph Porter

Superintendent: Dr. Rainey H. Knight

Board Chair: Dr. Allem McCutcheon

Enrollment: 42

## PERFORMANCE

Comprehensive detail, including definitions of ratings, performance criteria, and explanations of status, is available on [www.ed.sc.gov](http://www.ed.sc.gov) and [www.eoc.sc.gov](http://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 | N/A             | N/A           | TBD                        | Not Met    | N/A                     |
| 2007 | N/A             | N/A           | N/A                        | Not Met    | N/A                     |
| 2006 | N/A             | N/A           | N/A                        | Not Met    | N/A                     |

## ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF HIGH SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS\*

| EXCELLENT | GOOD | AVERAGE | BELOW AVERAGE | AT-RISK |
|-----------|------|---------|---------------|---------|
| 0         | 0    | 0       | 0             | 0       |

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

## HIGH SCHOOL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM(HSAP) EXAM PASSAGE RATE(%): SECOND YEAR STUDENTS

|                        | Our High School |       | High Schools with Students Like Ours |      |
|------------------------|-----------------|-------|--------------------------------------|------|
|                        | 2007            | 2008  | 2007                                 | 2008 |
| Passed 2 subtests (%)  | 0%              | 14.3% | 0%                                   | 0%   |
| Passed 1 subtest (%)   | 0%              | 14.3% | 0%                                   | 0%   |
| Passed no subtests (%) | 0%              | 71.4% | 0%                                   | 0%   |

## HSAP PASSAGE RATE (%) BY SPRING 2008

|  | Our High School | High Schools with Students Like Ours |
|--|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
|  | 0%              | 0%                                   |

## ON-TIME GRADUATION RATE

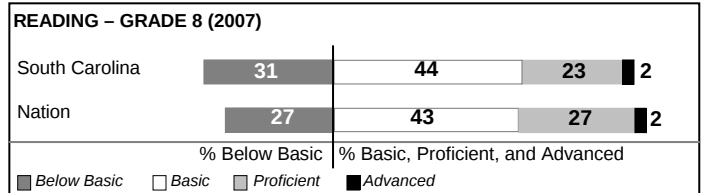
|                    | Our High School | High Schools with Students Like Ours |
|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| Number of students | 0               | 0                                    |
| Number of Diplomas | 0               | 0                                    |
| Rate (%)           | 0%              | 0%                                   |

## END OF COURSE TESTS - 2008

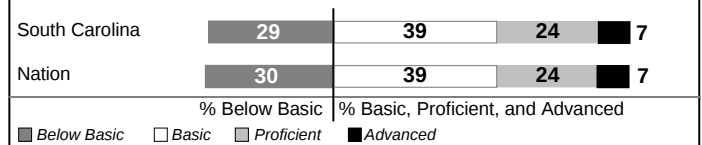
| % of students scoring 70 or above on: | Our High School | High Schools with Students Like Ours |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2 | 0%              | 0%                                   |
| English 1                             | 0%              | 0%                                   |
| Physical Science                      | 0%              | 0%                                   |
| All Tests                             | 0%              | 0%                                   |

## NAEP PERFORMANCE\*

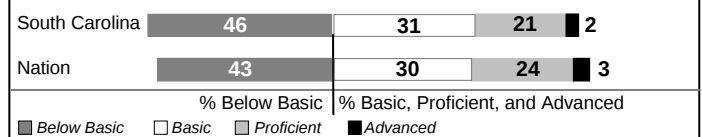
\* Performance reported for SC and nation, data not available at school level. Percentages at NAEP Achievement Levels.



## MATH - GRADE 8 (2007)



## SCIENCE - GRADE 8 (2005)



## 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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NI Newly Identified CSI Continuing School Improvement CA Corrective Action RP Plan to Restructure R Restructure DELAY School Improvement Status HOLD School Improvement Status

## Choices [Darlington]

### SCHOOL PROFILE

|                                                                            | Our School | Change from Last Year | High Schools with Students Like Ours | Median High School |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Students (n=42)</b>                                                     |            |                       |                                      |                    |
| Retention rate                                                             | 21.6%      | N/A                   | 10.3%                                | 6.1%               |
| Attendance rate                                                            | 90.7%      | N/A                   | 94.3%                                | 95.0%              |
| Eligible for gifted and talented                                           | 0.0%       | N/A                   | 3.2%                                 | 8.3%               |
| With disabilities other than speech                                        | 3.6%       | N/A                   | 13.9%                                | 13.0%              |
| Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent &/or criminal offenses | 9.5%       | N/R                   | 2.0%                                 | 1.5%               |
| Enrolled in AP/IB programs                                                 | N/R        | N/R                   | 3.7%                                 | 11.4%              |
| Successful on AP/IB exams                                                  | N/A        | N/A                   | 13.4%                                | 54.3%              |
| Eligible for LIFE Scholarship                                              | N/R        | N/R                   | 22.4%                                | 30.5%              |
| Annual dropout rate                                                        | 0.0%       | N/A                   | 3.5%                                 | 3.5%               |
| Career/technology students in co-curricular organizations                  | N/A        | N/A                   | 2.9%                                 | 3.1%               |
| Enrollment in career/technology courses                                    | N/A        | N/A                   | 259                                  | 559                |
| Career/technology students attaining technical skills                      | N/A        | N/A                   | 76.4%                                | 79.6%              |
| <b>Teachers (n=5)</b>                                                      |            |                       |                                      |                    |
| Teachers with advanced degrees                                             | 0.0%       | N/A                   | 52.9%                                | 57.4%              |
| Continuing contract teachers                                               | 100.0%     | N/A                   | 55.1%                                | 69.6%              |
| Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates                        | 0.0%       | N/A                   | 20.0%                                | 8.7%               |
| Teachers returning from previous year                                      | N/A        | N/A                   | 78.8%                                | 85.0%              |
| Teacher attendance rate                                                    | 100.0%     | N/R                   | 94.9%                                | 95.4%              |
| Average teacher salary                                                     | N/A        | I/S                   | \$43,632                             | \$46,061           |
| Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers                            | N/A        | N/A                   | 11.0%                                | 4.3%               |
| <b>School</b>                                                              |            |                       |                                      |                    |
| Principal's years at school                                                | 6.0        | N/R                   | 2.0                                  | 3.0                |
| Student-teacher ratio in core subjects                                     | 10.7 to 1  | N/R                   | 20.0 to 1                            | 25.4 to 1          |
| Prime instructional time                                                   | 90.7%      | N/R                   | 87.0%                                | 89.1%              |
| Dollars spent per pupil*                                                   | N/A        | N/A                   | \$9,686                              | \$7,279            |
| Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries*                              | N/A        | N/A                   | 51.5%                                | 55.3%              |
| Percent of expenditures for instruction*                                   | N/A        | N/A                   | 60.6%                                | 60.8%              |
| Opportunities in the arts                                                  | Poor       | N/R                   | Good                                 | Excellent          |
| SACS accreditation                                                         | No         | N/R                   | Yes                                  | Yes                |
| Character development program                                              | Average    | N/R                   | Good                                 | Good               |
| Modern Language Program Assessment                                         | N/A        | N/A                   | Good                                 | Good               |
| Classical Language Program Assessment                                      | N/A        | N/A                   | Average                              | Average            |
| % of AYP objectives met                                                    | 0.0%       |                       | 80.8%                                | 90.5%              |

\* Prior year audited financial data available.

## REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

"CHOICES" is in its 6th year as a charter school with charter agreements with both Florence District One and Darlington County. "CHOICES" target population is students ages 12 yrs to 17yrs who have been expelled from school or dropped out. Our goal is to provide an education that will transition them to become life-long learners and to return to regular, traditional school, if that is possible and appropriate. "CHOICES" provides a foundation for continuous learning through classroom instruction, service learning, project-based learning, and on-site construction training. Character training is the cornerstone for "CHOICES" as the students are given the opportunity to discover the greatest possible understanding of self. They are exposed to individual, personalized learning with a strong emphasis on work ethics and job skills.

The mission of "CHOICES" Charter School is to provide a leaning environment that links school to work experiences by making the right choices and staying in school. The idea for 'CHOICES' originated with the retired police chief of Florence, who saw a need for a school for divergent learners who were roaming the streets and demonstrating behavior problems that were getting them expelled from school. This is the only other alternative after expulsion other than the streets or incarceration. "CHOICES" is physically located in Darlington County adjacent to Florence County in the middle of 130 acres of forest on Black Creek. The property is owned by Central United Methodist Church and "CHOICES" actually leases 8 acres for one dollar per month for the actual school location. Student enrollment has remained small, beginning with 30 students and capping off at 45 students. There is one certified teacher and teacher's assistant per 15 students with additional assistance provided by retired professional people in the community. "CHOICES" has incorporated a Pre-GED component for students that cannot return to High School and will pursue the GED test when they turn 17yrs of age. "Choices" has adopted a progressive discipline system that ensures good communications between schools relative to student behavior.

Respectfully submitted by: Ralph Porter Executive Director and retired Police Chief.

### EVALUATION RESULTS

|                                                        | Teachers | Students* | Parents* |
|--------------------------------------------------------|----------|-----------|----------|
| Number of surveys returned                             | 0        | 21        | 21       |
| Percent satisfied with learning environment            | N/R      | 95.2%     | 90.0%    |
| Percent satisfied with social and physical environment | N/R      | 100.0%    | 90.0%    |
| Percent satisfied with school-home relations           | N/R      | 80.0%     | 90.5%    |

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

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