



SC Annual School Report Card Summary

Laurens District 55 High

Laurens 55

Grades: 9-12

Enrollment: 1,558

Principal: Wayne McIntosh

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	Average	Good	TBD	Not Met	N/A
2007	Below Average	At-Risk	N/A	Not Met	N/A
2006	Average	At-Risk	N/A	Not Met	N/A

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF HIGH SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	BELOW AVERAGE	AT-RISK
5	7	23	2	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 (%)	73.1%	74.3%	76.7%	78.8%
Passed 1 subtest (%)	14.9%	11.6%	13.1%	11.4%
Passed no subtests (%)	12.0%	14.1%	10.5%	9.8%

HSAP PASSAGE RATE (%) BY SPRING 2008

	Our High School	High Schools with Students Like Ours
	89.9%	93.7%

ON-TIME GRADUATION RATE

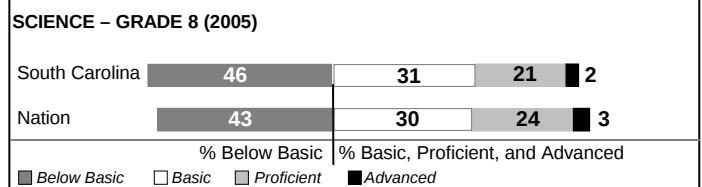
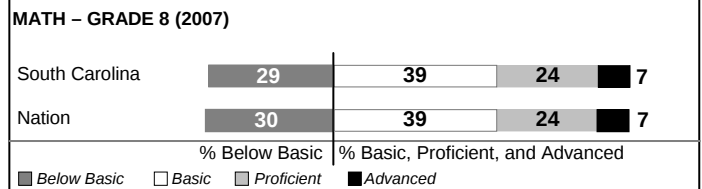
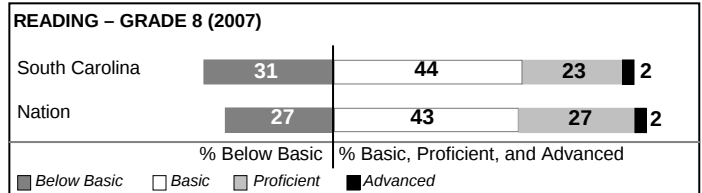
	Our High School	High Schools with Students Like Ours
Number of students	367	217
Number of Diplomas	246	161
Rate (%)	67.0%	74.1%

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	77.2%	71.0%
English 1	69.8%	57.5%
Physical Science	66.7%	49.0%
All Tests	71.3%	59.2%

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

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 CSI Continuing School Improvement CA Corrective Action RP Plan to Restructure R Restructure DELAY School Improvement Status HOLD School Improvement Status

Laurens District 55 High [Laurens 55]

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	High Schools with Students Like Ours	Median High School
Students (n=1,558)				
Retention rate	5.2%	Down from 9.6%	6.3%	6.1%
Attendance rate	99.7%	Down from 99.9%	95.0%	95.0%
Eligible for gifted and talented	0.0%	No Change	9.0%	8.3%
With disabilities other than speech	14.0%	Up from 13.9%	13.6%	13.0%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent &/or criminal offenses	0.1%	No Change	1.5%	1.5%
Enrolled in AP/IB programs	11.6%	Down from 12.3%	8.8%	11.4%
Successful on AP/IB exams	36.4%	N/A	51.0%	54.3%
Eligible for LIFE Scholarship	26.4%	Down from 29.3%	30.8%	30.5%
Annual dropout rate	7.5%	Up from 6.6%	3.0%	3.5%
Career/technology students in co-curricular organizations	5.5%	Up from 2.2%	5.1%	3.1%
Enrollment in career/technology courses	1073	Down from 1074	515	559
Career/technology students attaining technical skills	74.1%	Down from 76.2%	77.5%	79.6%
Teachers (n=96)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	53.1%	Up from 51.1%	50.0%	57.4%
Continuing contract teachers	77.1%	Up from 76.1%	73.6%	69.6%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	14.3%	Up from 12.5%	8.3%	8.7%
Teachers returning from previous year	80.4%	Down from 82.2%	86.5%	85.0%
Teacher attendance rate	96.1%	Down from 96.4%	95.3%	95.4%
Average teacher salary	\$44,873	Up 5.3%	\$45,868	\$46,061
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	4.5%	Down from 9.0%	4.1%	4.3%
School				
Principal's years at school	3.0	Up from 2.0	4.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	29.3 to 1	Down from 31.0 to 1	25.7 to 1	25.4 to 1
Prime instructional time	93.8%	Down from 94.8%	88.3%	89.1%
Dollars spent per pupil*	\$6,292	Up 2.4%	\$7,042	\$7,279
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries*	57.7%	Down from 59.0%	55.0%	55.3%
Percent of expenditures for instruction*	61.2%	Down from 64.7%	60.9%	60.8%
Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	No Change	Excellent	Excellent
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Character development program	Excellent	No Change	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	71.4%		92.3%	90.5%

* Prior year audited financial data available.

EVALUATION RESULTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	90	256	30
Percent satisfied with learning environment	87.8%	75.8%	89.7%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	90.0%	83.9%	86.2%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	72.2%	85.4%	75.9%

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

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

The 2007-2008 school year at Laurens District 55 High School (LDHS) was filled with tears, challenges, and excitement. On February 10, 2008, we lost our beloved principal, Mr. John Hendricks, due to unexpected heart complications. Both students and staff were deeply saddened by this loss; however, with the support of our district office staff, the school became a family with a focus on improving student achievement.

All LDHS teachers focused on professional growth this year. Core curriculum teachers attended South Carolina Standards Support Institutes and then provided staff development for their respective departments. Several teachers were involved in technology training to operate Promethean Boards, utilize Streamline, or build websites from which students could glean information. Other teachers attended Thinking Maps training to help students organize content material. Twelve staff members participated in a voluntary South Carolina Reading Initiative study group, and several faculty members attended "Best Practice" sessions through various institutions. Two math teachers entered the SC Algebra Project program, and two more will participate in June 2008 in an effort to improve test scores. All at LDHS were involved in a study of the novel Tending to Grace by Kimberly Newton Fusco, who also spoke to the entire student body and visited selected classrooms. Another guest to LDHS was Dr. Bill Daggett, who provided encouragement for our district through a comparison of standards and expectations with other school systems while sharing his vision for focusing on reading and responsibility. In addition, noted literacy specialist Dr. Richard Allington inspired staff and validated current literacy practices during an April visit.

LDHS is dedicated to providing opportunities and training to students who plan to seek employment after high school. The Work-Based Learning program (formerly "School-to-Work") remains exceptionally strong here as 140 of our students participated in internships. Mr. Thomas Chandler, automotive technology teacher from the Career and Technology Education (CATE) department, was the Teacher of the Year for the district as well as for the school.

LDHS students have been very successful this year, with our senior class reporting a total of \$4,031,602 in scholarship monies. Seniors completed senior projects, which included research, product development and presentations before community judges. Thirty-one out of 55 senior CATE completers received the Award of Educational Achievement due to high scores on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). The NAEP assesses what students can do in Math, Reading, and Science.

Major barriers for LDHS include the restructuring of credit and attendance recovery programs in order to meet the intended purposes. Another is acquiring adequate technology for student use on a daily basis.

We welcome Mr. Wayne McIntosh as our new principal, as we grow professionally, change accordingly, and strive to create productive citizens for our society. We also thank Dr. Billy Strickland for his guidance following Mr.

Comprehensive detail, including definitions of rating, 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.

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 CSI Continuing School Improvement CA Corrective Action RP Plan to Restructure R Restructure DELAY School Improvement Status HOLD School Improvement Status