



SC Annual School Report Card Summary

Great Falls Middle
Chester

Grades: 6-8

Enrollment: 233

Principal: Wendell B. Sumter

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	Below Average	TBD	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 MIDDLE SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

EXCELLENT

0

GOOD

0

AVERAGE

14

BELOW AVERAGE

36

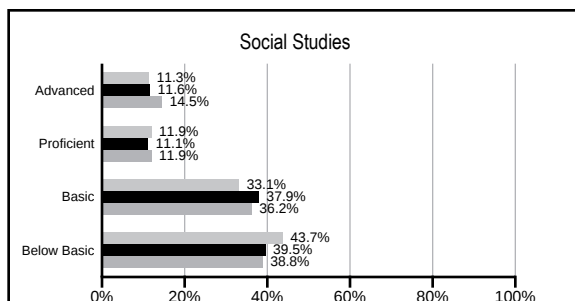
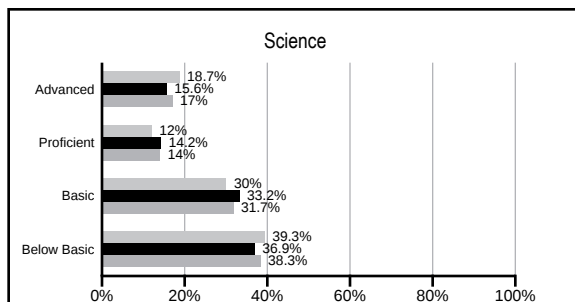
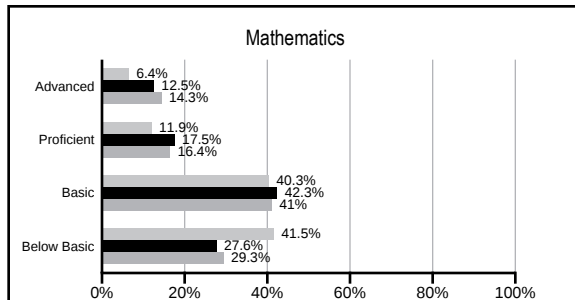
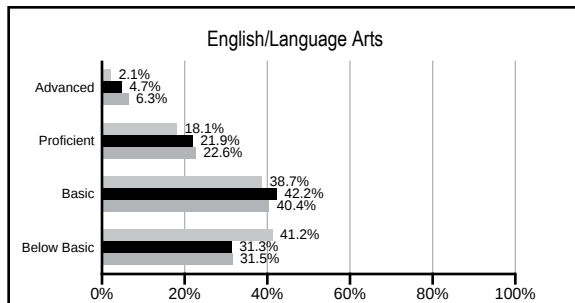
AT-RISK

5

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 03/02/2009. Schools with Students like Ours are Middle Schools with poverty indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this school.

PACT PERFORMANCE

Our School Middle Schools with Students Like Ours Middle schools statewide



NAEP PERFORMANCE*

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

READING - GRADE 8 (2007)

South Carolina	31	44	23	2
Nation	27	43	27	2
% Below Basic % Basic, Proficient, and Advanced Below Basic Basic Proficient Advanced				

MATH - GRADE 8 (2007)

South Carolina	29	39	24	7
Nation	30	39	24	7
% Below Basic % Basic, Proficient, and Advanced Below Basic Basic Proficient Advanced				

SCIENCE - GRADE 8 (2005)

South Carolina	46	31	21	2
Nation	43	30	24	3
% Below Basic % Basic, Proficient, and Advanced Below Basic Basic Proficient Advanced				

END OF COURSE TESTS - 2008

% of students scoring 70 or above on:	Our Middle School	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours
Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2	100.0%	97.1%
English 1	100.0%	95.7%
Physical Science	0%	57.7%
All Subjects	100.0%	96.2%

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

Great Falls Middle [Chester]

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Middle School
Students (n=233)				
Students enrolled in high school credit courses (grades 7 & 8)	44.3%	Down from 49.4%	18.8%	19.4%
Retention rate	0.4%	Down from 1.6%	1.6%	1.8%
Attendance rate	93.6%	Down from 94.9%	95.7%	95.8%
Eligible for gifted and talented	11.2%	Up from 7.7%	14.2%	15.3%
With disabilities other than speech	15.9%	Up from 14.7%	14.3%	12.9%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent &/or criminal offenses	0.0%	No Change	0.6%	0.7%
Annual dropout rate	0.0%	Down from 0.6%	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=20)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	45.0%	Down from 60.0%	52.6%	55.0%
Continuing contract teachers	55.0%	Down from 70.0%	73.3%	70.6%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	22.2%	Up from 6.3%	5.9%	5.4%
Teachers returning from previous year	65.6%	Down from 72.0%	83.4%	83.4%
Teacher attendance rate	94.3%	No Change	94.8%	94.9%
Average teacher salary	\$42,775	Down 2.5%	\$44,138	\$44,706
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.0%	Down from 5.2%	2.9%	2.9%
School				
Principal's years at school	3.0	Up from 2.0	3.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	12.6 to 1	Down from 19.1 to 1	19.1 to 1	20.1 to 1
Prime instructional time	86.0%	Down from 87.7%	89.0%	89.3%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No Change	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Character development program	Good	No Change	Good	Good
Dollars spent per pupil*	\$6,659	Up 9.6%	\$7,056	\$7,097
Percent of expenditures for instruction*	69.2%	Down from 70.7%	64.8%	64.4%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries*	65.9%	Down from 66.7%	60.1%	59.4%
% of AYP objectives met	47.1%		66.7%	69.0%

* Prior year audited financial data available.

EVALUATION RESULTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	23	58	49
Percent satisfied with learning environment	87.0%	67.2%	75.0%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	87.0%	82.8%	75.0%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	72.7%	86.2%	63.8%

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

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

Great Falls Middle School, located in rural Chester County, is one of three middle schools in the Chester County School District. Our school's mission, in cooperation with home and community, is to nurture well-rounded, life-long learners by providing innovative and challenging educational opportunities that will prepare students to become productive citizens. Our beliefs are: all students are capable of learning and have the potential to become world class citizens; a safe, nurturing, disciplined environment is essential for learning to occur; mutual respect is essential from all members of the learning environment; each individual is responsible for his or her actions; school and home relations are essential to the educational process; parents, teachers, administrators, and the community must share the responsibility of educating our children; valuing diversity and providing for individual differences enrich learning; students learn appropriate decision-making, problem-solving, and critical thinking skills when provided with a supportive and challenging learning environment; and great expectations yield great results.

During the 2007-2008 school year, we continued to have high expectations for students. A variety of assessments were utilized to improve instructional practices. Great Falls Middle School is very proud of the progress we have made in continuing to improve instructional practices to meet the needs of our students. Our faculty and staff gained knowledge through several staff development sessions. We incorporated the use of data walls to promote student achievement, utilized a full-time instructional coach, fully implemented My Reading Coach, and held quarterly assemblies to recognize academic achievement and citizenship.

Community and parent involvement is a priority for our school as we see its ownership in the hands of the parents and community. We have long-standing partnerships with the people and businesses of Great Falls and the surrounding areas, and we strive to enhance these each year. A number of well-attended parent involvement activities were held this year. The school strives to keep parents and community informed through parent newsletters, articles in the local newspaper, and our phone dialer system. Our PTO and SIC were very active this year. We gave away computers and school supplies to students for academic and social achievements.

We continue to face the challenge of preparing our students for high school but rise to the occasion with renewed efforts toward improving instruction using research-based techniques, using data to better address the needs of our students, and promoting excellence among our students and staff. We strive to make a positive impact on each child we serve.

Wendell B. Sumter, Principal
Pam Temple, SIC Chair

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