



SC Annual School Report Card Summary

Laurens Middle

Laurens 55

Grades: 6-8

Principal: Rhett Harris

Superintendent: Edgar C. Taylor

Board Chair: Rev. Charlie Short

Enrollment: 388

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	Average	Below Average	N/A	Met	N/A
2006	Average	Below Average	N/A	Not Met	N/A

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF MIDDLE SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

EXCELLENT

0

GOOD

0

AVERAGE

15

BELOW AVERAGE

24

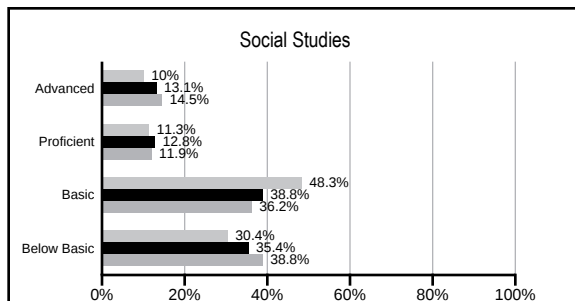
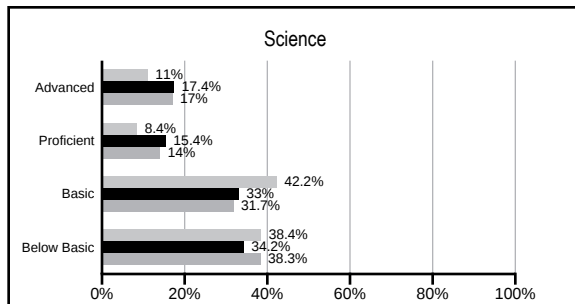
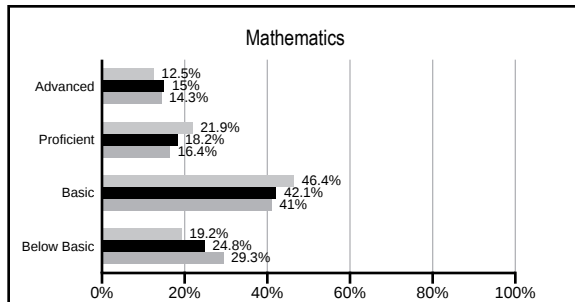
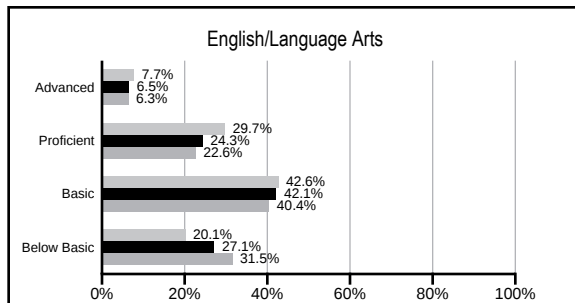
AT-RISK

2

* 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	97.3%	97.7%
English 1	0%	96.7%
Physical Science	0%	59.2%
All Subjects	97.3%	97.0%

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 Middle [Laurens 55]

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Middle School
Students (n=388)				
Students enrolled in high school credit courses (grades 7 & 8)	15.4%	Up from 6.8%	22.8%	19.4%
Retention rate	0.8%	Down from 1.9%	1.5%	1.8%
Attendance rate	96.6%	Up from 96.1%	95.9%	95.8%
Eligible for gifted and talented	15.1%	Up from 11.9%	18.9%	15.3%
With disabilities other than speech	9.6%	Down from 9.7%	13.1%	12.9%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent &/or criminal offenses	0.0%	Down from 0.2%	0.7%	0.7%
Annual dropout rate	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=26)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	50.0%	Up from 46.2%	57.1%	55.0%
Continuing contract teachers	84.6%	Up from 73.1%	75.0%	70.6%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	4.3%	Down from 4.8%	4.3%	5.4%
Teachers returning from previous year	78.1%	Up from 76.4%	86.8%	83.4%
Teacher attendance rate	97.5%	Up from 95.8%	95.2%	94.9%
Average teacher salary	\$45,027	Up 7.3%	\$45,344	\$44,706
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.0%	Down from 4.0%	0.4%	2.9%
School				
Principal's years at school	5.0	Up from 4.0	3.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	20.1 to 1	Down from 20.4 to 1	21.4 to 1	20.1 to 1
Prime instructional time	93.3%	Up from 90.0%	89.3%	89.3%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No Change	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Character development program	Excellent	No Change	Good	Good
Dollars spent per pupil*	\$6,320	Up 2.0%	\$6,706	\$7,097
Percent of expenditures for instruction*	59.9%	Down from 60.3%	63.6%	64.4%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries*	55.8%	Up from 54.4%	59.4%	59.4%
% of AYP objectives met	76.5%		71.4%	69.0%

* Prior year audited financial data available.

EVALUATION RESULTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	24	110	71
Percent satisfied with learning environment	100.0%	80.7%	82.9%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	100.0%	80.0%	82.6%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	91.7%	83.6%	80.0%

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

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

Laurens Middle School enjoyed a tremendous year in 2007-2008. Choices abounded at LMS as our Single Gender and Montessori programs housed over half our students. Single Gender education has been a catalyst for higher achievement and fewer discipline problems as teachers have tuned into how to better deliver instruction to different learning styles and needs. This program will expand into another grade in 2008-2009, as we continue to seek the best avenues to raise achievement levels for all students.

Montessori education continued to grow at LMS with additional staff and more and more students choosing this educational philosophy for the middle grades. Montessori teachers neared the completion of an accreditation and certification process through the Montessori School of Athens, GA. This has already added credence and depth to the program of study. Our Montessori students and teachers took on many school and community projects that provided students invaluable, hands-on learning experiences while maintaining rigorous standards-based classroom lessons and instruction.

Strong academic achievement was the focal point for students, teachers, and staff in 2007-2008. LMS ranked first among district middle schools in all categories for Spring 2008 Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) testing for Math, Reading, and Language usage. In terms of growth, LMS ranked first in five of nine categories, 2nd in three others, and 3rd in another. Contributing to these high scores was our continuing involvement with the South Carolina Reading Initiative (SCRI), a district wide learning community for math teachers with emphasis on the Connected Mathematics series, and quality staff development offered by the curriculum and instruction team in Laurens District 55.

LMS continued to build strong community relations, as we both provided and received services. Efforts at Agape Extended Care, National Healthcare, E.B. Morse Elementary, and the Laurens Fire Department were rewarding for students and supplied needed help for a variety of people in the community. Our strong partnerships with Michelin Proving Grounds and the Presbyterian College baseball team enabled several of our students to have tutors and mentors. Our students and staff raised over \$1400 to support the fight against cancer through Relay for Life. Due to these opportunities to act on behalf of others, our students continued to learn the importance of giving back to the community.

This school year was another stepping stone toward our goal of consistent excellence at LMS. Our staff and students stand ready to accept with optimism and eagerness the challenges that 2008-2009 will bring.

Rhett Harris, Ed.D., Principal
Cathy Crotts, SIC Chairperson

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