



SC Annual School Report Card Summary

Sims Junior High Union

Grades: 7-8

Enrollment: 558

Principal: Mickey Connolly

Superintendent: Dr. David L. Eubanks

Board Chair: Mrs. Betty J. McMorris

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	At-Risk	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

8

BELOW AVERAGE

30

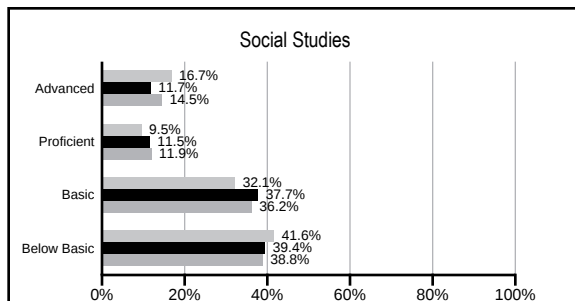
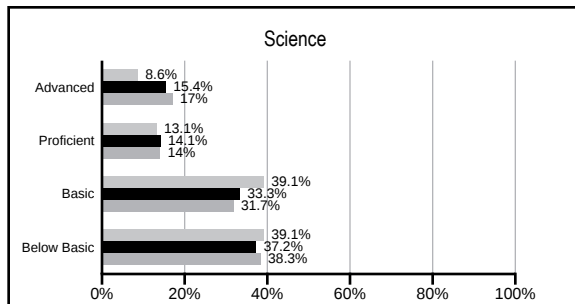
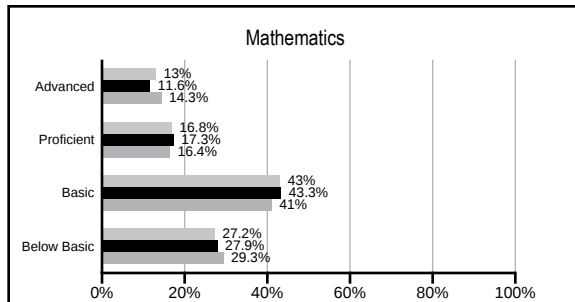
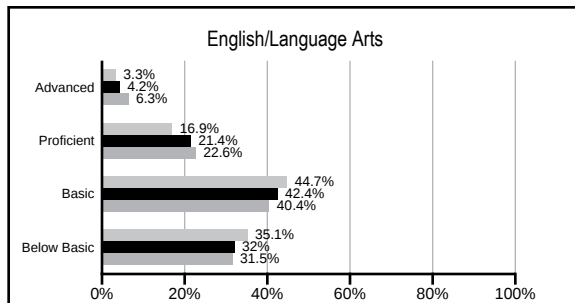
AT-RISK

3

* 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	94.5%	96.4%
English 1	84.6%	94.0%
Physical Science	80.8%	76.9%
All Subjects	86.8%	95.0%

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

Sims Junior High [Union]

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Middle School
Students (n=558)				
Students enrolled in high school credit courses (grades 7 & 8)	18.7%	Up from 17.9%	17.1%	19.4%
Retention rate	3.6%	Up from 3.0%	1.6%	1.8%
Attendance rate	94.9%	Up from 94.4%	95.7%	95.8%
Eligible for gifted and talented	17.2%	Down from 21.6%	14.2%	15.3%
With disabilities other than speech	17.5%	Up from 15.9%	14.4%	12.9%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent &/or criminal offenses	0.0%	Down from 1.2%	0.6%	0.7%
Annual dropout rate	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=40)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	55.0%	Down from 56.1%	52.6%	55.0%
Continuing contract teachers	72.5%	Down from 73.2%	73.3%	70.6%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	17.1%	Up from 11.8%	5.4%	5.4%
Teachers returning from previous year	82.5%	Up from 81.4%	83.7%	83.4%
Teacher attendance rate	93.0%	Up from 90.5%	94.8%	94.9%
Average teacher salary	\$42,806	Down 0.2%	\$44,406	\$44,706
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	6.7%	Down from 8.3%	1.9%	2.9%
School				
Principal's years at school	3.0	Up from 2.0	3.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	21.0 to 1	Down from 21.3 to 1	19.1 to 1	20.1 to 1
Prime instructional time	86.7%	Up from 80.2%	88.9%	89.3%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No Change	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Character development program	Average	No Change	Good	Good
Dollars spent per pupil*	\$6,112	Up 8.3%	\$6,954	\$7,097
Percent of expenditures for instruction*	71.4%	Up from 67.9%	65.2%	64.4%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries*	67.3%	Up from 66.4%	61.6%	59.4%
% of AYP objectives met	57.1%		66.7%	69.0%

* Prior year audited financial data available.

EVALUATION RESULTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	46	236	121
Percent satisfied with learning environment	89.1%	69.1%	81.7%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	84.8%	73.6%	69.7%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	76.1%	82.1%	82.6%

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

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

The mission of Sims Jr. High School, in partnership with its citizens, is to participate in the building of a community of life-long learners by providing challenging educational experiences in a safe, disciplined environment which will prepare our students for productive living in a diverse technological society. During the 2007-2008 school year, many efforts were made toward successfully accomplishing our goals.

Teachers implemented our new subject area pacing guides aligned to SC Curriculum Standards to ensure that all students received equitable instruction at all levels. Ongoing emphasis was placed on high academic standards as we saluted 17 students as SC Junior Scholars and recognized 5 students for being name Duke TIP Scholars. We continued to show improvements in our 8th grade classes offered for high school credit. The English I, Algebra I, and Physical Science End-of-Course test results indicate that the mean score for all three subject areas increased from May of 2007 to May of 2008. Our 7th and 8th grade Academic Challenge Teams had very successful seasons, with both teams going undefeated in the Olde English Consortium matches.

We rededicated our efforts toward technology education and had 73% of our 8th grade keyboarding students pass the proficiency profile, which allows them to exempt keyboarding in high school. Teachers strived to integrate technology to deliver instruction through use of laptop computers, digital imaging, and Smart Boards. Students were encouraged to use technology to complete research and special projects. Parent and teacher communication through technology was also improved with emails, grade reports, and homework assignments being posted each day on our school website using OnCourse.

In an effort to maintain a positive school climate, we continued our focus on the School Improvement Grant using Positive Behavior Interventions & Support (PBIS) to recognize students for good behavior. We are extremely proud that almost 40% of our students completed the school year with a clean discipline record.

Safety is paramount at Sims Jr. High School. This year, we implemented new safety drills to include intruder alerts and other disasters. Installation of a new security system allows our building to remain locked at all times with only one access point – the main entrance.

SJHS students were also active in the many extracurricular activities offered: Sims Singers, band, drama, volleyball, basketball, football, track, cross-country, tennis, soccer, baseball, softball, cheerleading, Beta Club, SGA, and First Priority. We realize that our students are individuals with a variety of talents and interests. As we help students to make the transition to young adulthood, we want to provide as many opportunities for success as possible. As always, our goal will be synonymous with our motto: Education today...Independence tomorrow.

Pamela Roberts, SIC Chairperson
Mickey Connolly, Principal

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