



SC Annual School Report Card Summary

Excelsior Middle Union

Grades: 5-6

Enrollment: 567

Principal: Kathy Taylor

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

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF MIDDLE SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

EXCELLENT

0

GOOD

0

AVERAGE

8

BELOW AVERAGE

30

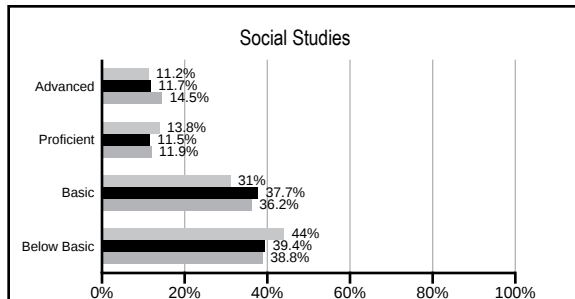
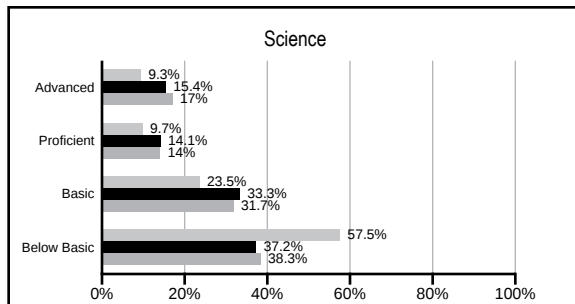
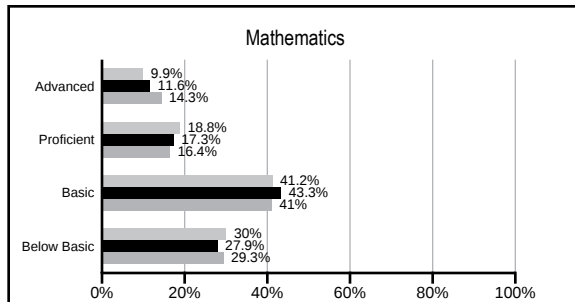
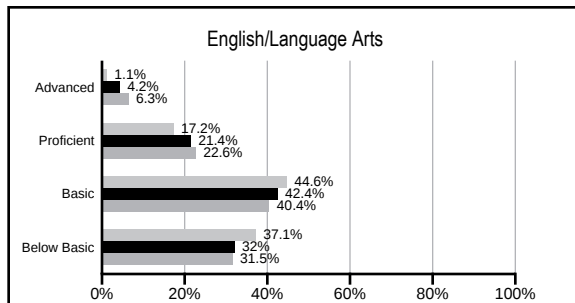
AT-RISK

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	0%	96.4%
English 1	0%	94.0%
Physical Science	0%	76.9%
All Subjects	0%	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

Excelsior Middle [Union]

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Middle School
Students (n=567)				
Students enrolled in high school credit courses (grades 7 & 8)	N/R	N/R	19.0%	19.4%
Retention rate	3.9%	Up from 2.0%	1.8%	1.8%
Attendance rate	95.1%	Down from 95.9%	95.8%	95.8%
Eligible for gifted and talented	9.6%	Down from 12.9%	14.2%	15.3%
With disabilities other than speech	21.9%	Up from 14.7%	14.8%	12.9%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent &/or criminal offenses	0.7%	Up from 0.4%	0.6%	0.7%
Annual dropout rate	N/A	N/A	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=40)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	45.0%	Down from 48.6%	52.6%	55.0%
Continuing contract teachers	70.0%	Down from 78.4%	73.3%	70.6%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	0.0%	No Change	5.9%	5.4%
Teachers returning from previous year	88.5%	Up from 86.8%	83.7%	83.4%
Teacher attendance rate	94.7%	Up from 89.3%	94.7%	94.9%
Average teacher salary	\$45,107	Up 1.5%	\$44,406	\$44,706
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	3.5%	Up from 0.0%	1.9%	2.9%
School				
Principal's years at school	2.0	Up from 1.0	3.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	21.7 to 1	Down from 21.8 to 1	19.0 to 1	20.1 to 1
Prime instructional time	88.9%	Up from 82.2%	88.9%	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*	\$6,053	Up 11.7%	\$7,020	\$7,097
Percent of expenditures for instruction*	72.5%	Up from 70.7%	65.2%	64.4%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries*	69.1%	Up from 69.0%	60.9%	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	39	228	87
Percent satisfied with learning environment	97.4%	68.6%	67.5%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	92.3%	67.3%	66.7%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	82.1%	80.1%	63.1%

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

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

At Excelsior Middle School, our motto is Exploring Today and Leading Tomorrow. Our dedicated staff supports this motto by challenging our students daily with strong instruction and high expectations. Our teachers support the students as they transition from elementary school into a completely new environment on our campus. Our staff works daily to foster leadership skills, respect for others, and a positive attitude to prepare our students for a successful future.

2007 - 2008 was a very productive year. Our school continued to participate in the district initiatives of MAP testing and Benchmark testing to monitor student academic growth over the school year. We also implemented a comprehensive reading program focusing on Junior Great Books to foster critical thinking skills. Dollar General and the Reading Is Fundamental Foundation continue to support our effort to put books in every child's hands. Our teachers are excited about these initiatives, which will assist them in targeting the instructional needs of students. Our teachers continue to expand their knowledge of research-based strategies and curriculum development by participating in various continuing education courses and workshops. We have increased our capabilities and use of instructional technology with Smart Boards, additional computers, and LCD projectors.

Students and faculty continue their strong support for Relay for Life with numerous fundraising events including sponsoring the Fifth Annual Cow Patty Festival. Other charitable efforts that receive our support include the Annual Christmas Can Drive for the Salvation Army and the March of Dimes Walk-a-thon.

This year, we received over \$32,000 in teacher-initiated grants. These grants enhanced our academics, our arts programs, and our school environment. Our business partners have been very helpful to our academic programs. These partners include Dollar General, Clemson Extension, and many other individuals in various businesses and organizations.

The accomplishments of our students and staff are to be commended. We are the first Arts in Basic Curriculum site in Union County as recognized by the Kennedy Center for the Arts and the SC Arts Commission. We have an active chapter of the National Junior Beta Club for our academic achievers and several other extra-curricular activities to provide for whole-child development.

Our ongoing focus is to continue improvements in student achievement and to improve our percentage of Advanced and Proficient PACT scores.

Susanne F. Gunter, Principal
Sandra Sigmon, SIC Chairman

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