

SC Annual School District Report Card Summary

Cherokee School District

Grades: PK-12

Enrollment: 9,356

Superintendent: Dr. William B. James

Board Chair: Mr. Billy Blackwell

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 General Performance	AND SILVER AWARD Closing the Gap	AYP STATUS	NCLB IMPROVEMENT STATUS
2009	Below Average	Below Average	N/A	N/A	Not Met	CA
2008	Below Average	Excellent	N/A	N/A	Not Met	CDI
2007	Below Average	Below Average	N/A	N/A	Not Met	NI

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF DISTRICTS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	BELOW AVERAGE	AT-RISK
0	0	3	17	0

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 06/01/2010. Districts with Students Like Ours are Districts with Poverty Indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this district.

PASS

PASS	2009 Reading % Met or above	2009 Math % Met or above	2009 Science % Met or above	2009 Social Studies % Met or above	2009 Writing % Met or above
District	68.1%	68.7%	55.9%	57.9%	64.2%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	71.2%	68.3%	63.8%	68.7%	67.5%
Average District	73.6%	70.5%	67.4%	72.2%	70.2%

PASS	2009 Reading % Exemplary	2009 Math % Exemplary	2009 Science % Exemplary	2009 Social Studies % Exemplary	2009 Writing % Exemplary
District	29.7%	29.2%	10.9%	14.9%	24.6%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	32.2%	26.9%	16.3%	25.3%	26.9%
Average District	35.2%	28.8%	18.8%	28.5%	29.8%

HSAP

HSAP: 2nd Year Students	Passed 2 Subtests (%)	Passed 1 Subtest (%)	Passed No Subtests (%)
District	72.9%	12.4%	14.7%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	73.9%	13.9%	12.2%

HSAP Passage Rate by Spring 2009 (%)

District	93.5%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	93.1%

End of Course Test Passage Rate (%)

District	50.8
Districts with Students Like Ours**	56.6

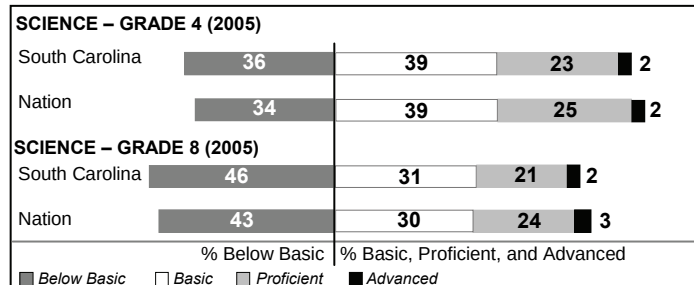
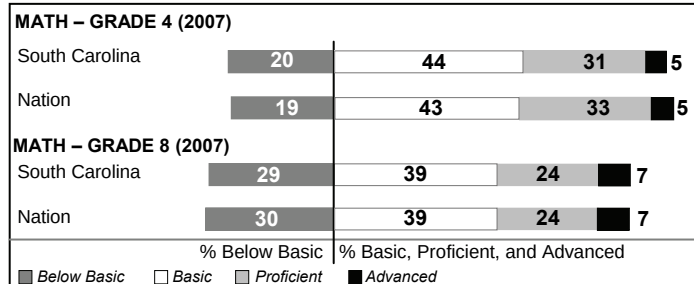
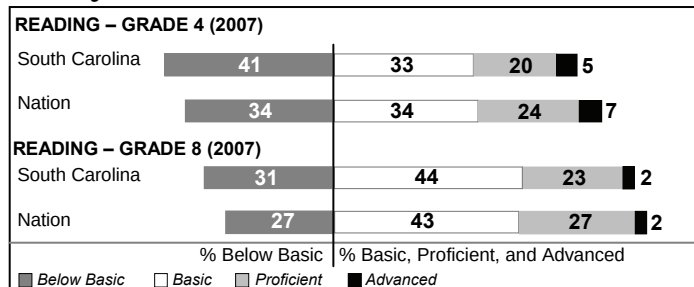
On-Time Graduation Rate (%)

District	78.9%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	75.1%

** Districts with Students Like Ours are districts with Poverty Indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this district.

NAEP*

* 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 Vision:

By 2020 all students will graduate with the knowledge and skills necessary to compete successfully in the global economy, participate in a democratic society and contribute positively as members of families and communities.

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 CDI Continuing District Improvement CA Corrective Action RP Plan to Restructure R Restructure DELAY District Improvement Status HOLD District Improvement Status

Cherokee School District

DISTRICT PROFILE

	Our District	Change from Last Year	Districts with Students Like Ours	Median District
Students (n=9,356)				
Retention rate	2.5%	Down from 2.7%	3.2%	3.1%
Attendance rate	96.7%	Up from 96.0%	95.7%	95.7%
Eligible for gifted and talented	14.4%	Down from 15.6%	12.5%	11.2%
With disabilities other than speech	6.7%	No Change	10.8%	10.6%
Older than usual for grade	2.4%	Up from 2.2%	4.9%	4.3%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.1%	Down from 0.2%	0.6%	0.5%
Enrolled in AP/IB programs	6.2%	Down from 9.9%	8.1%	10.5%
Successful on AP/IB exams	41.0%	Down from 42.5%	50.2%	51.2%
Eligible for LIFE Scholarship	47.2%	Down from 49.4%	29.4%	30.8%
Enrolled in adult education GED or diploma programs	159	Down from 217	46	40
Completions in adult education GED or diploma programs	86	Down from 95	27	30
Annual dropout rate	5.4%	Down from 8.3%	4.2%	3.4%
Teachers (n=642)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	61.8%	Up from 54.8%	58.4%	56.8%
Continuing contract teachers	88.6%	Up from 81.1%	79.0%	76.7%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	1.1%	Down from 2.3%	4.0%	4.6%
Teachers returning from previous year	91.1%	Down from 91.4%	90.0%	88.4%
Teacher attendance rate	94.8%	Up from 94.2%	95.0%	95.0%
Average teacher salary*	\$47,375	Up 6.6%	\$46,948	\$46,992
Vacancies for more than nine weeks	0.3%	Down from 0.4%	0.3%	0.4%
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	1.3%	Down from 2.1%	1.8%	2.3%
Professional development days/teacher	10.4 days	Down from 13.7 days	13.4 days	13.1 days
District				
Superintendent's years at district	8.0	Up from 7.0	3.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	20.5 to 1	Up from 19.4 to 1	20.0 to 1	20.5 to 1
Prime instructional time	91.0%	Up from 89.0%	89.6%	89.8%
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$8,883	Up 2.4%	\$9,378	\$9,279
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	52.7%	Up from 52.5%	52.9%	52.7%
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	58.1%	Up from 55.8%	56.7%	56.7%
Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	No Change	Excellent	Excellent
Number of schools	19	No Change	9	9
Portable classrooms	1.7%	Down from 2.1%	2.3%	3.5%
Average age in years of school facilities	25 Years	Up from 24 Years	28 Years	28 Years
Number of schools with SACS accreditation	19.0	No Change	9.0	8.0
Parents attending conferences	93.6%	N/A	95.2%	93.9%
Average administrator salary	\$79,316	Up 8.1%	\$78,515	\$79,261
Number of charter schools	0	No Change	0	0
% of AYP objectives met	69.0%	Up from 65.5%	85.7%	85.7%

* Length of contract = 185+ days.

** Prior year audited financial data available.

CHARTER SCHOOLS IN DISTRICT

School Name	Absolute Rating	Growth Rating	Adequate Yearly Progress
There are no charter schools in this district.			

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REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

During a year that has been clouded with economic woes and debates over how to fund public education, the schools of Cherokee County have enjoyed continued success in all areas. Our teachers and staff members have worked with students, parents, and the community to help each student be successful.

In the fall of 2008, the Cherokee County School District was proud to learn that Blacksburg High School and Gaffney High School were two of the few high schools in the Upstate to make AYP. Additionally, these schools, along with CTC, were recognized as Palmetto Gold Schools for their outstanding achievement in 2008. In the spring of 2009, the Cherokee County School District awarded 497 diplomas to seniors. Of these seniors, 53% of Blacksburg High students and 84% of Gaffney High students were accepted to the college of their choice for the upcoming fall. The Class of 2009 was awarded approximately \$8.6 million dollars in scholarships.

Other district celebrations of success include 40 middle school students being named South Carolina Junior Scholars. Additionally, B.D. Lee was recognized as one of ten Exemplary Writing Schools in South Carolina. Fine Arts were at their best, with student work featured during the District's Arts Expo. Our athletic teams had a great year with 4 all-academic, 3 all-star, 15 all-area, 59 all-region, and 5 all-state recognitions, as well as 13 High School Sport Report awards, and 2 players of the year. Region championships were earned in golf, wrestling, and basketball. There were state championships in wrestling, track, baseball, and softball, with a runner-up in basketball.

Many factors contributed to a successful year: student effort, teacher dedication, parent support, and community help and input. We appreciate the effort, assistance, and support from everyone in making 2009 a very successful school year for the students and staff of the Cherokee County School District.

Dr. William B. James, Superintendent

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