

SC Annual School District Report Card Summary

Laurens 56 School District

Grades: PK-12

Enrollment: 3,249

Superintendent: Dr. David O'Shields, Interim Superintendent

Board Chair: Linda Darby

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 AND SILVER AWARD	AYP STATUS	NCLB IMPROVEMENT STATUS
			General Performance	Closing the Gap	
2009	At-Risk	At-Risk	N/A	Not Met	NI
2008	Below Average	Good	N/A	Not Met	N/A
2007	Below Average	At-Risk	N/A	Not Met	N/A

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF DISTRICTS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	BELOW AVERAGE	AT-RISK
0	0	2	15	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	2009 Math	2009 Science	2009 Social Studies	2009 Writing
	% Met or above	% Met or above	% Met or above	% Met or above	% Met or above
District	70.2%	66.8%	62.0%	63.1%	65.5%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	68.3%	64.5%	61.0%	66.7%	63.5%
Average District	73.6%	70.5%	67.4%	72.2%	70.2%

PASS	2009 Reading	2009 Math	2009 Science	2009 Social Studies	2009 Writing
	% Exemplary	% Exemplary	% Exemplary	% Exemplary	% Exemplary
District	32.1%	25.9%	16.0%	19.1%	25.4%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	28.6%	21.9%	14.4%	21.9%	22.5%
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	68.6%	15.7%	15.7%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	73.1%	14.0%	12.9%

HSAP Passage Rate by Spring 2009 (%)

District	92.5%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	92.8%

End of Course Test Passage Rate (%)

District	54.1
Districts with Students Like Ours**	54.3

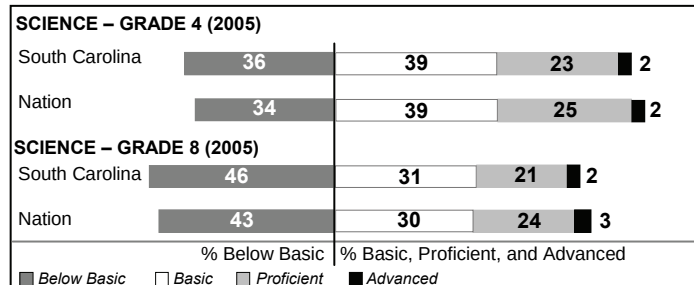
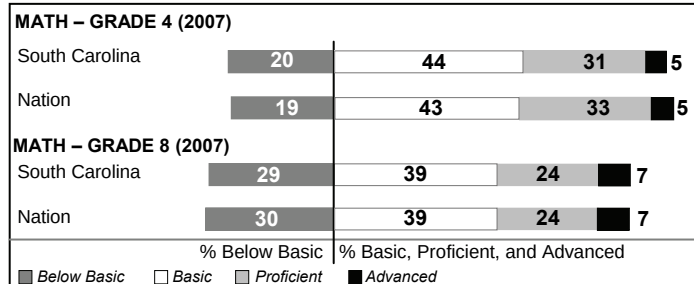
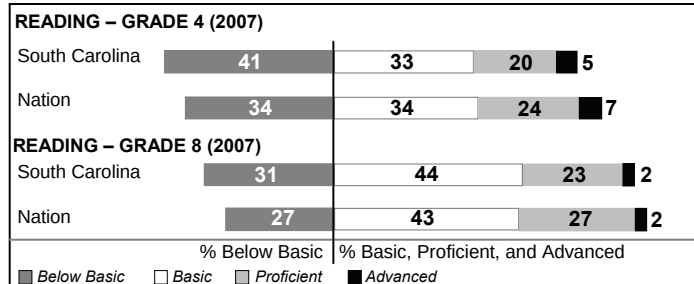
On-Time Graduation Rate (%)

District	67.1%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	74.9%

** 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

Laurens 56 School District

DISTRICT PROFILE

	Our District	Change from Last Year	Districts with Students Like Ours	Median District
Students (n=3,249)				
Retention rate	4.2%	Up from 3.6%	3.3%	3.1%
Attendance rate	96.7%	Up from 95.2%	95.4%	95.7%
Eligible for gifted and talented	13.1%	Up from 12.2%	9.8%	11.2%
With disabilities other than speech	11.9%	Up from 11.7%	10.6%	10.6%
Older than usual for grade	3.6%	Down from 4.3%	4.9%	4.3%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	1.1%	Up from 0.9%	0.6%	0.5%
Enrolled in AP/IB programs	19.1%	Up from 15.6%	8.1%	10.5%
Successful on AP/IB exams	30.4%	Down from 41.7%	51.1%	51.2%
Eligible for LIFE Scholarship	30.5%	Down from 49.3%	29.5%	30.8%
Enrolled in adult education GED or diploma programs	22	Down from 23	34	40
Completions in adult education GED or diploma programs	9	Up from 8	22	30
Annual dropout rate	4.1%	Up from 0.9%	3.4%	3.4%
Teachers (n=213)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	55.9%	Up from 54.4%	55.8%	56.8%
Continuing contract teachers	85.4%	Up from 80.5%	76.5%	76.7%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	3.5%	Up from 2.6%	5.5%	4.6%
Teachers returning from previous year	86.2%	Down from 87.5%	87.4%	88.4%
Teacher attendance rate	95.7%	Down from 98.5%	95.5%	95.0%
Average teacher salary*	\$47,456	Up 5.8%	\$45,806	\$46,992
Vacancies for more than nine weeks	0.5%	No Change	0.4%	0.4%
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.4%	Down from 3.5%	3.4%	2.3%
Professional development days/teacher	10.2 days	Down from 14.2 days	13.9 days	13.1 days
District				
Superintendent's years at district	2.0	Up from 1.0	3.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	23.7 to 1	Up from 23.0 to 1	20.5 to 1	20.5 to 1
Prime instructional time	91.1%	Down from 93.2%	89.8%	89.8%
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$9,570	Up 10.0%	\$9,203	\$9,279
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	48.8%	Down from 50.5%	51.8%	52.7%
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	52.6%	Down from 53.0%	55.4%	56.7%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No Change	Excellent	Excellent
Number of schools	5	Down from 6	8	9
Portable classrooms	4.2%	Down from 11.7%	2.3%	3.5%
Average age in years of school facilities	39 Years	No Change	28 Years	28 Years
Number of schools with SACS accreditation	5.0	Down from 6.0	8.0	8.0
Parents attending conferences	92.4%	Down from 96.7%	94.9%	93.9%
Average administrator salary	\$75,946	Up 2.1%	\$78,515	\$79,261
Number of charter schools	0	No Change	0	0
% of AYP objectives met	85.2%	Up from 68.0%	85.2%	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

Laurens County School District 56 continues to pursue its motto – Caring, Connected, Committed to Excellence. The administrators, faculty, and staff take seriously their role and responsibility in providing a safe and nurturing environment for our students to grow and be successful. We have an attentive child development center where we serve our four-year-old students in a full-day program. Many districts in the state only have half-day programs. We serve our fourth and fifth grade gifted students in a self-contained setting; only a handful of districts in the state use this model. We have created an academy to better meet the needs of our middle level students for them to be successful as they transition to high school. We are nearing completion of a new comprehensive high school that will open in August of 2010.

Laurens County School District 56 has made positive strides connecting with parents and the community. The Parent Advisory Council has been successful this year as well as the Technology Advisory Committee. We have embraced input from the community through committees established for facilities. We have worked with local businesses to raise money for classroom technology in the Interactive Whiteboard Project. A major challenge this year has been trying to maintain personnel and programs due to mid-year reductions of funds allocated through the state.

The district is committed to high levels of student achievement. Several schools won the state's Palmetto Gold and Silver Awards for improvement in test scores. Many of our students and teachers have won state recognition for academic accomplishments. With continued support from all of our stakeholders – whether they are teachers, administrators, staff, parents, businesses, or residents – we are creating a school district worthy of our future – our children. This commitment will ensure that they have the best education possible and a chance for a successful future possible for all students.

Wayne Brazell
Superintendent

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06/01/10-3056999