

SC Annual School Report Card Summary

East Cooper Montessori Charter
Charleston
Grades: 1-8 Enrollment: 171
Principal: Jody Swanigan
Superintendent: Dr. Nancy J. McGinley
Board Chair: Mrs. Toya Hampton Green

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	Excellent	Average	TBD	TBD	Met	N/A
2008	Good	At-Risk	Silver	N/A	Met	N/A
2007	Good	Average	Silver	N/A	Met	N/A

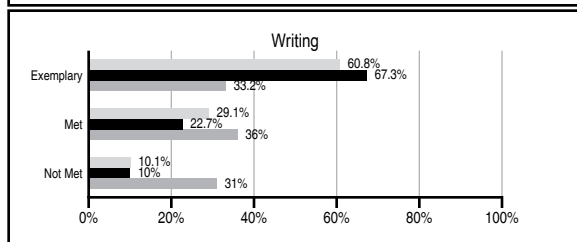
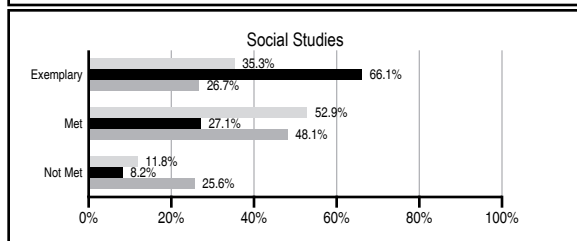
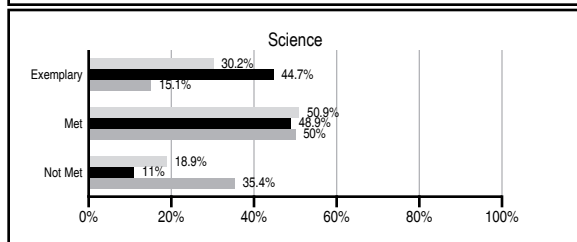
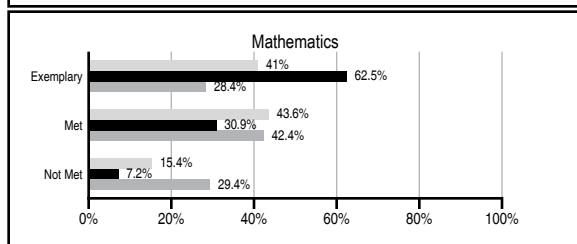
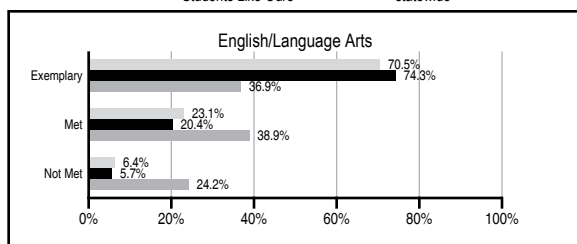
ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	BELOW AVERAGE	AT-RISK
11	1	0	0	0

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

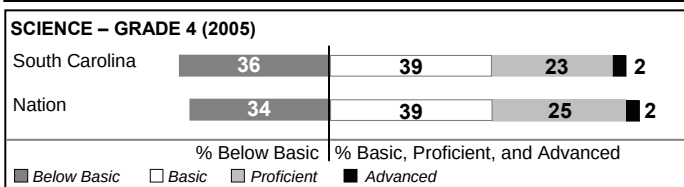
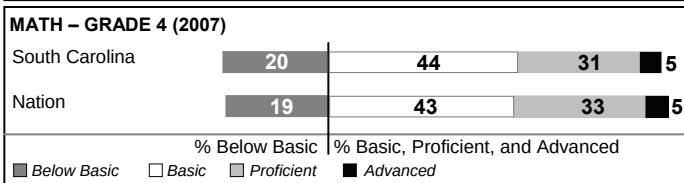
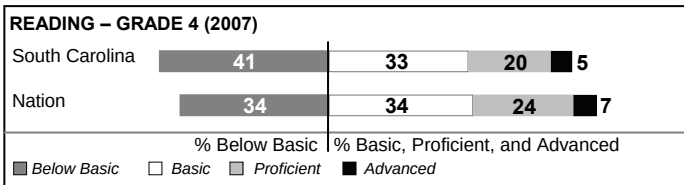
PASS PERFORMANCE

Our School Elementary Schools with Students Like Ours Elementary schools statewide



NAEP PERFORMANCE*

* 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

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NI Newly Identified CSI Continuing School Improvement CA Corrective Action RP Plan to Restructure R Restructure DELAY School Improvement Status HOLD School Improvement Status

East Cooper Montessori Charter [Charleston]

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Elementary Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Elementary School
Students (n=171)				
Retention rate	2.9%	Up from 1.9%	0.5%	1.9%
Attendance rate	96.4%	Down from 97.1%	97.2%	96.3%
Eligible for gifted and talented	47.4%	Up from 42.9%	39.1%	10.0%
With disabilities other than speech	4.1%	Up from 3.8%	3.9%	7.7%
Older than usual for grade	0.6%	No Change	0.0%	0.5%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=17)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	35.3%	Up from 33.3%	67.5%	59.4%
Continuing contract teachers	41.2%	Up from 22.2%	84.7%	80.0%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	12.5%	Up from 0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers returning from previous year	N/A	N/A	85.0%	85.9%
Teacher attendance rate	100.0%	Up from 98.9%	95.5%	95.1%
Average teacher salary*	\$40,683	Up 5.9%	\$48,355	\$47,149
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	12.3%	Down from 31.5%	0.0%	0.0%
Professional development days/teacher	11.6 days	Up from 10.0 days	9.6 days	11.1 days
School				
Principal's years at school	5.0	Up from 4.0	6.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	18.4 to 1	Down from 20.0 to 1	20.4 to 1	18.8 to 1
Prime instructional time	96.4%	Up from 96.0%	91.9%	90.4%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	Up from Poor	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	No	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	99.9%	Down from 100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Character development program	Excellent	No Change	Excellent	Excellent
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$9,341	Up 30.5%	\$7,531	\$7,458
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	62.0%	Up from 59.0%	67.4%	68.8%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	43.8%	Down from 45.5%	64.8%	63.2%
% of AYP objectives met	100.0%	No Change	100.0%	100.0%

* Length of contract = 185+ days.

** Prior year audited financial data available.

EVALUATION RESULTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	N/A	N/A	N/A
Percent satisfied with learning environment	N/A	N/A	N/A
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	N/A	N/A	N/A
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	N/A	N/A	N/A

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

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

Guided by the principles of Dr. Maria Montessori, East Cooper Montessori Charter School (ECMCS) offers an authentic Montessori education to elementary and middle school students in the Charleston County public school system.

The mission of ECMCS, in part, is to provide a rigorous Montessori education that guides children toward academic excellence and a lifelong love of learning. The school fulfills this aspect of its mission by offering an enriched and cultural curriculum that incorporates and extends district, state, and national standards.

Montessori education is rooted in the natural curiosity of children about life and the world around them. Students develop their abilities by posing questions, designing investigations, and gaining skills necessary to pursue their own research interests. Scientific and mathematical aptitudes, appreciation of history and timelines, literacy across disciplines, and the development of a student's humanity toward the local and global community are all part of the curriculum at ECMCS.

The 2008-2009 school year was filled with many significant academic accomplishments. The school was again awarded the Palmetto Silver Award for Absolute Achievement. Also, ECMCS was the second school in Charleston County School District to be recognized in their Exemplary School Series. Lower elementary testing scores increased across the board and sixth graders scoring either "Proficient" or "Advanced" increased overall by 28.8%. We also graduated our second class of eighth graders. 25% of our graduates were recognized as Junior Scholars and the majority of graduates have the ability to register for honors level work in their future high school.

While under funding constraint challenges, particularly as monies received for student and classroom applications must be spent on facilities (unlike traditional or conversion schools) sound financial planning, strict budget adherence and the generosity of our stakeholders have solidified our ability to meet the needs of our students and accountability measurements from CCSD.

The second part of the school's mission is to encourage stewardship of the greater community. Starting in the first grade, every student devotes at least 20 hours to an individual community service project called the "Yearlong Peace Project". Crisis Ministries, Habitat for Humanity, and the SPCA are just a few of the many organizations our students volunteer their time to throughout the year. Students also create awareness of environmental concerns by recycling lunch trays and conducting beach and neighborhood clean-ups. Parent volunteerism is an integral part of the success of ECMCS and sets the example for students. Parents generously serve on the school board and committees, help out in the classrooms, research community resources to support the school, and speak at public events about the school's mission. This year, parents volunteered over 6,000 hours.

Jody Swanigan, Principal
Richard Hrick, Governing Board Chair

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