

SC Annual School Report Card Summary

Alma Elementary
Cherokee
Grades: PK-5 Enrollment: 247
Principal: Kimberly F. Camp
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 AND SILVER AWARD		AYP STATUS	NCLB IMPROVEMENT STATUS
			General Performance	Closing the Gap		
2009	Average	Average	TBD	TBD	Met	N/A
2008	Below Average	Below Average	N/A	N/A	Met	N/A
2007	Below Average	Below Average	N/A	N/A	Met	N/A

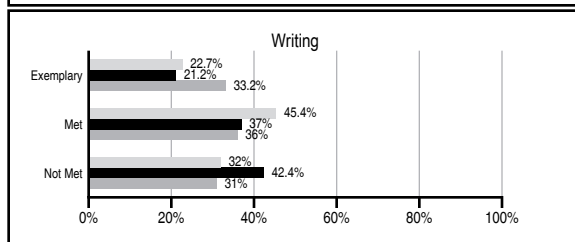
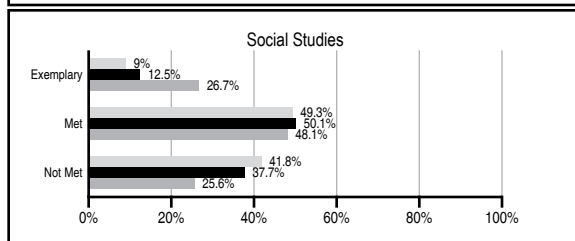
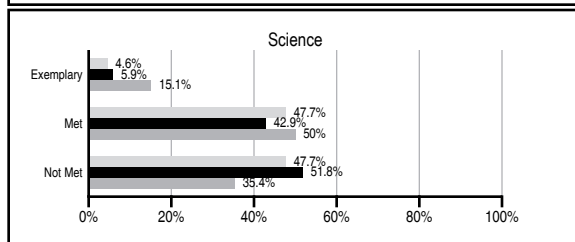
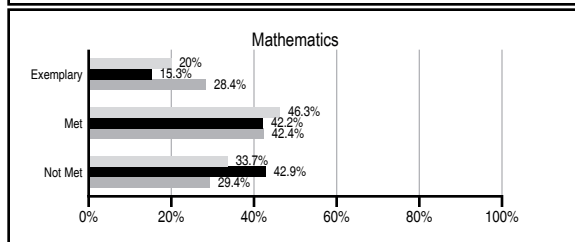
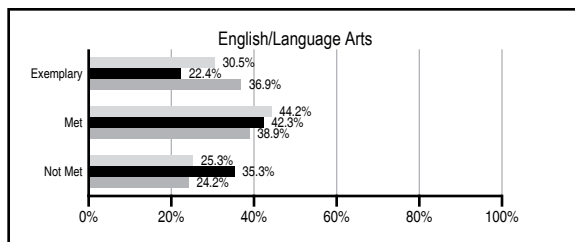
ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	BELOW AVERAGE	AT-RISK
1	3	74	63	32

* 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.

READING – GRADE 4 (2007)

South Carolina	41	33	20	5
Nation	34	34	24	7
% Below Basic % Basic, Proficient, and Advanced				
Below Basic Basic Proficient Advanced				

MATH – GRADE 4 (2007)

South Carolina	20	44	31	5
Nation	19	43	33	5
% Below Basic % Basic, Proficient, and Advanced				
Below Basic Basic Proficient Advanced				

SCIENCE – GRADE 4 (2005)

South Carolina	36	39	23	2
Nation	34	39	25	2
% Below Basic % Basic, Proficient, and Advanced				
Below Basic Basic Proficient Advanced				

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

Alma Elementary [Cherokee]

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Elementary Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Elementary School
Students (n=247)				
Retention rate	6.1%	Up from 3.1%	2.5%	1.9%
Attendance rate	98.7%	Up from 98.3%	96.0%	96.3%
Eligible for gifted and talented	7.3%	Down from 7.8%	3.3%	10.0%
With disabilities other than speech	5.4%	Up from 5.2%	7.6%	7.7%
Older than usual for grade	0.0%	Down from 1.1%	1.1%	0.5%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=19)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	36.8%	Up from 28.6%	57.1%	59.4%
Continuing contract teachers	68.4%	Up from 52.4%	71.8%	80.0%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers returning from previous year	81.2%	Up from 79.9%	82.1%	85.9%
Teacher attendance rate	95.9%	Up from 95.5%	95.2%	95.1%
Average teacher salary*	\$39,618	Up 3.9%	\$45,790	\$47,149
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Professional development days/teacher	15.6 days	Down from 21.1 days	10.9 days	11.1 days
School				
Principal's years at school	2.0	Down from 5.0	3.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	18.8 to 1	Down from 19.3 to 1	16.8 to 1	18.8 to 1
Prime instructional time	93.7%	Up from 90.9%	90.1%	90.4%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No Change	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	99.1%	Down from 100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Character development program	Good	No Change	Excellent	Excellent
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$7,700	Down 9.6%	\$8,621	\$7,458
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	60.8%	Up from 55.5%	68.3%	68.8%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	52.5%	Up from 50.3%	62.1%	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	21	36	30
Percent satisfied with learning environment	90.5%	94.4%	96.6%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	85.7%	94.4%	86.7%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	81.0%	97.2%	93.1%

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

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

Alma Elementary...where we all "REACH for the STARS!"

Our students and teachers worked diligently to make learning exciting and authentic in 2008-2009. By using the South Carolina academic standards and district curriculum, we created a school-wide long range plan resulting in innovative and motivating lessons. A new math/science curriculum lab was established.

Parental participation increased. Our parents attended our Back to School Night, Parent-Teacher Conferences, Fall Festival, Title I Parenting Sessions, Awards Days, Field Day and more. Parents volunteered with our Science Fair, Book Fair, and Student-Mentor Program. Parents supported our community service projects like Jump Rope for Heart, Relay for Life and March of Dimes.

Alma Elementary is a 21st Century Learning Community Grant recipient. This is an after-school program designed to assist in meeting the academic, social, emotional and physical needs of students.

Alma Elementary is a SC Reading First School. With the K-3 reading initiative, our goal is to ensure all children read successfully by the end of the third grade. Teachers receive staff development in reading strategies and assessment. We were recognized for our emergent literacy program by the SC Department of Education and SC Reading Recovery Advisory Council as a 2008 Literacy Spot winner.

Technology continues to increase. Classrooms are equipped with Activboards, document cameras, LCD projectors and wireless laptop computers. Fifth graders have personal digital assistants (PDAs) to use for word processing and voice recordings. Educational sites like Tumble Books and Bookflick can be accessed from home. Next year, we will incorporate ipods into our instructional program.

Alma Elementary is a Red Carpet School. We believe in creating a family-friendly school environment and providing excellent customer service. To tighten security and to have a record of our visitors, we have a computer program with photo capabilities.

At Alma Elementary School, education is a team effort among students, parents, faculty, staff, and community. You are encouraged to come and visit our year-round school to see first hand how parent involvement, teacher dedication and industrious students make a successful school. You are invited to become part of our team to SHINE as we "think, inspire, imagine, and celebrate."

Kim F. Camp, Principal
Holly Rice, Chairperson of School Improvement Council
2008

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