

SC Annual School Report Card Summary

**Alston Middle
Dorchester 2**
Grades: 6-8
Principal: Sam Clark
Superintendent: Joseph R. Pye
Board Chair: Bufort "Bo" Blanton

Enrollment: 878

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	Not Met	N/A
2008	Average	Below Average	N/A	N/A	Not Met	N/A
2007	Average	At-Risk	N/A	N/A	Not Met	N/A

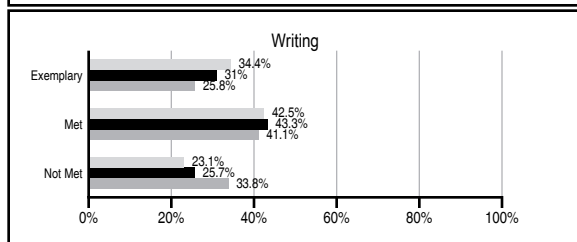
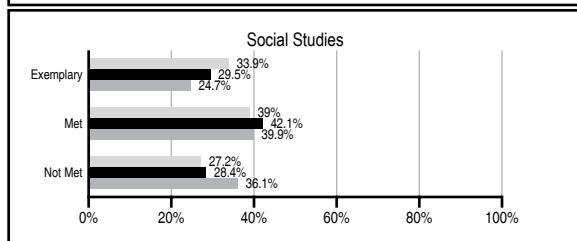
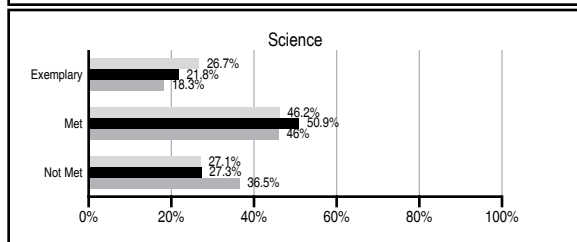
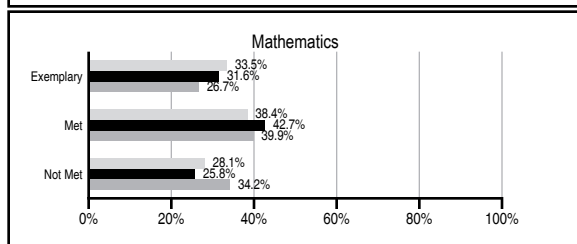
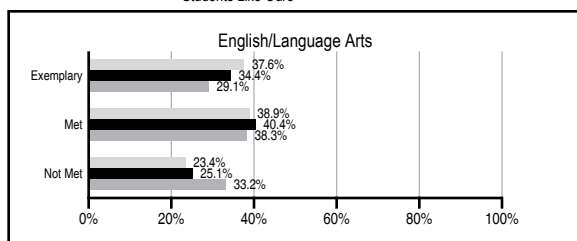
ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF MIDDLE SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	BELOW AVERAGE	AT-RISK
2	11	37	0	0

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

PASS 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 - 2009

% of students scoring 70 or above on:	Our Middle School	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours
Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2	100.0	97.3
English 1	98.4	96.9
Physical Science	N/A	91.9
US History and the Constitution	N/A	N/A
All Subjects	99.1	96.9

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

Alston Middle [Dorchester 2]

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Middle School
Students (n=878)				
Students enrolled in high school credit courses (grades 7 & 8)	25.4%	Down from 48.1%	22.7%	21.6%
Retention rate	3.4%	Down from 3.8%	1.1%	1.2%
Attendance rate	95.3%	Down from 95.4%	95.9%	95.9%
Eligible for gifted and talented	15.3%	Down from 16.8%	17.8%	14.8%
With disabilities other than speech	12.1%	Down from 13.1%	11.6%	12.6%
Older than usual for grade	3.4%	Down from 4.2%	2.1%	2.5%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	6.9%	Up from 6.7%	0.8%	0.6%
Annual dropout rate	0.2%	Down from 0.5%	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=60)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	51.7%	Down from 60.7%	57.3%	56.9%
Continuing contract teachers	63.3%	Up from 59.0%	75.9%	72.7%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	5.6%	Up from 4.3%	4.9%	5.3%
Teachers returning from previous year	67.3%	Down from 71.5%	85.3%	82.9%
Teacher attendance rate	93.9%	No Change	95.2%	95.2%
Average teacher salary*	\$43,947	Up 3.2%	\$47,084	\$46,599
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	2.4%	Up from 1.3%	0.8%	2.4%
Professional development days/teacher	8.7 days	Down from 13.9 days	10.7 days	10.8 days
School				
Principal's years at school	14.0	Up from 13.0	4.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	21.9 to 1	Up from 20.1 to 1	21.8 to 1	20.1 to 1
Prime instructional time	87.6%	Down from 87.7%	90.0%	89.9%
Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	No Change	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	96.4%	Down from 98.4%	98.8%	97.8%
Character development program	Good	No Change	Good	Good
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$7,434	Up 7.8%	\$6,934	\$7,645
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	59.0%	Down from 59.2%	63.8%	63.4%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	53.3%	Down from 54.3%	57.7%	57.0%
% of AYP objectives met	90.5%	Up from 71.4%	91.7%	90.5%

* Length of contract = 185+ days.
** Prior year audited financial data available.

EVALUATION RESULTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	57	238	88
Percent satisfied with learning environment	94.7%	71.2%	87.2%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	93.0%	72.6%	76.1%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	94.6%	78.3%	82.8%

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

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

Tiger Pride runs deep at Alston Middle School, where our mission is to provide every student with the skills necessary to become productive citizens. Alston Middle School is the oldest middle school in Dorchester Two, and there is a strong tradition of high expectations, parental involvement and community support. Our school serves over 860 students with a staff of 58 certified teachers, four administrators, three guidance counselors, and one career counselor. Alston is fully accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, and our school was one of only three schools in District Two to earn the Department of Education's "Red Carpet" Award.

Alston Middle School is focused on the academic growth and achievement of our students. Our students successfully participate in rigorous academic competitions within our district, region and state. Our math team placed second in the prestigious Quest program and second in Quiz Bowl. Our students continue to grow and excel in the Fine Arts with our artists placing in the PTSA's Reflection Contest. Our Chorus earned a Superior rating at the state level, while The Tiger Band earned an Excellent rating from the SC Band Director's Association. For the first time, our Strings students earned state-wide honors with eight students earning Excellent or Superior ratings. Also, our students and staff presented a major theatrical production, "High School Musical," which was a tremendous success.

Alston's PTSA leads the way in providing support for students and teachers. PTSA is deeply involved in every endeavor at our school. From our sports teams to Fine Arts to academic competition to social events, the PTSA is there for our students. Our School Improvement Council is also involved in supporting important school programs.

Alston's staff is working hard to meet Adequate Yearly Progress as established by the NCLB Law. We plan on meeting this challenge by increasing the use of data, especially data from MAP tests, to improve instructional practices and decisions. Our focus on math through the implementation of a math coach/co-teacher to increase classroom rigor has produced significant results as measured by MAP. We will continue to use the READ 180 program and our Accelerated Reader Program to improve literacy and language arts skills. We have won the 21st Century Grant and a grant from Trident United Way to expand our Tiger Time After-School Program in order to meet the needs of many under-performing students. We plan to make adjustments in our master schedule to make more effective use of our in-school tutorial time, and we will put an even greater emphasis on developing our Tiger Pride Positive Behavioral Program in order to teach expected behaviors and to recognize students' positive performance.

Sam Clark, Principal
Rene' Seith, SIC Chairperson

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.