

SC Annual School Report Card Summary

Excelsior Middle Union

Grades: 6

Enrollment: 306

Principal: Mickey Connolly

Superintendent: Dr. David L. Eubanks

Board Chair: Dr. Wanda R. All

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

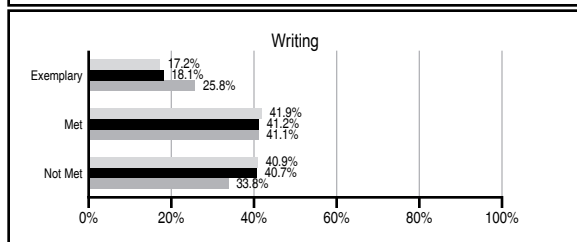
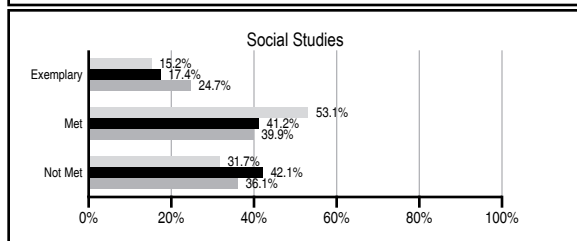
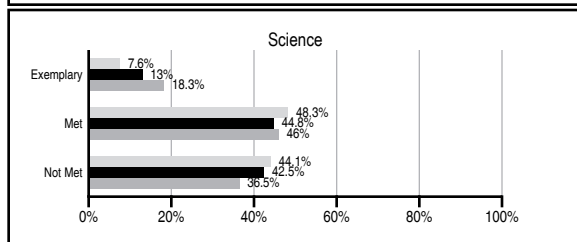
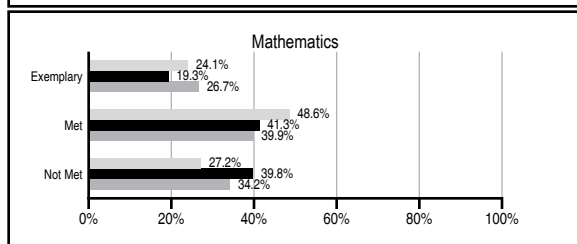
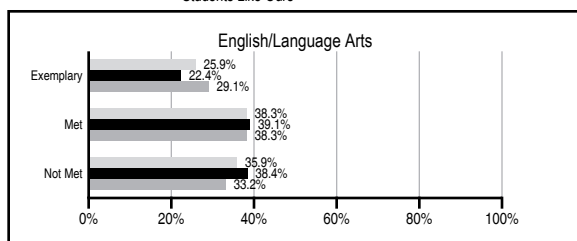
ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF MIDDLE SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	BELOW AVERAGE	AT-RISK
0	0	29	16	3

* 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	N/A	92.1
English 1	N/A	90.5
Physical Science	N/A	94.8
US History and the Constitution	N/A	N/A
All Subjects	N/A	91.8

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

Excelsior Middle [Union]

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Middle School
Students (n=306)				
Students enrolled in high school credit courses (grades 7 & 8)	N/R	N/R	18.3%	21.6%
Retention rate	2.0%	Down from 3.9%	1.8%	1.2%
Attendance rate	95.4%	Up from 95.1%	95.4%	95.9%
Eligible for gifted and talented	8.6%	Down from 9.6%	10.9%	14.8%
With disabilities other than speech	22.1%	Up from 21.9%	14.4%	12.6%
Older than usual for grade	2.9%	Up from 2.5%	3.6%	2.5%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.7%	No Change	1.0%	0.6%
Annual dropout rate	N/A	N/A	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=23)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	65.2%	Up from 45.0%	56.3%	56.9%
Continuing contract teachers	73.9%	Up from 70.0%	67.6%	72.7%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	0.0%	No Change	8.8%	5.3%
Teachers returning from previous year	81.4%	Down from 88.5%	78.1%	82.9%
Teacher attendance rate	95.4%	Up from 94.7%	95.2%	95.2%
Average teacher salary*	\$49,058	Up 8.8%	\$45,812	\$46,599
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.0%	Down from 3.5%	3.7%	2.4%
Professional development days/teacher	12.4 days	Up from 11.8 days	11.4 days	10.8 days
School				
Principal's years at school	1.0	Down from 2.0	3.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	23.2 to 1	Up from 21.7 to 1	19.3 to 1	20.1 to 1
Prime instructional time	90.7%	Up from 88.9%	89.8%	89.9%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No Change	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	83.8%	Down from 99.1%	97.8%	97.8%
Character development program	Good	Down from Excellent	Good	Good
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$6,136	Up 1.4%	\$8,062	\$7,645
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	71.2%	Down from 72.5%	62.7%	63.4%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	67.5%	Down from 69.1%	55.2%	57.0%
% of AYP objectives met	95.2%	Up from 57.1%	90.5%	90.5%

* Length of contract = 185+ days.

** Prior year audited financial data available.

EVALUATION RESULTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	22	275	167
Percent satisfied with learning environment	86.4%	74.4%	80.1%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	81.8%	73.0%	73.2%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	81.8%	82.5%	69.5%

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

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

At Excelsior Middle School, our motto is Exploring Today and Leading Tomorrow. Our dedicated staff endorses this motto by challenging our students daily with strong instruction and high expectations. Our staff works daily to foster leadership skills, respect for others, and a positive attitude to prepare our students for a successful future.

2008-2009 was a year of transitions as we embarked on "One Last Exploration" for EMS. After losing 5th grade to the elementary schools, we focused all of our attention on being a 6th-grade-only school while at the same time preparing for our merger with Sims Junior High School. Our school continued to participate in the district initiatives of MAP and Benchmark testing to monitor student academic growth over the school year. With the implementation of a new district-wide Academy Time, we continued the incorporation of a comprehensive reading program focusing on Junior Great Books to foster critical thinking skills. The Academy Time also allowed an opportunity to address remediation needs in our students for math and building reading skills utilizing math kits, SRA, Learning Literacy Program, and a Thinking Readers Program. Academy Time also provided an opportunity for enrichment in areas such as writing, grammar, Reader's Theater, Academic Challenge, Odyssey, and Self-Selected Reading with conferences.

Dollar General and the Reading Is Fundamental Foundation continued to support our effort to put books in every child's hands. We are excited about these initiatives, which assist us in targeting the instructional needs of students. Our teachers continue to expand their knowledge of research-based strategies and curriculum development by participating in various continuing education courses and workshops. We have increased our capabilities and use of instructional technology with Smart Boards, additional computers, and LCD projectors.

Students and faculty continue their strong support for Relay for Life with numerous fundraising events, including sponsoring the Sixth Annual Cow Patty Festival. Other charitable efforts that receive our support include the Annual Christmas Can Drive for the Salvation Army, the March of Dimes Walk-a-thon, and the local animal shelter.

This year, we received over \$25,000 in teacher-initiated grants. These grants enhanced our academics, our arts programs, and our school environment. Our business partners & mentors have been very helpful to our academic programs.

The accomplishments of our students and staff are to be commended. We have an active chapter of the National Junior Beta Club for our academic achievers and several other extracurricular activities to provide for whole-child development.

Our ongoing focus is to continue improvements in student achievement and to improve our percentage of students meeting or exceeding standards on state testing.

Kathy Taylor, Principal
Andy Fowler, SIC Chairman

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