SC Annual School Report Card Summary

BLUFFTON ELEMENTARY
Beaufort County
Grades: PK-5 **Enrollment: 923**
Principal: Mrs. Christine Brown
Superintendent: Dr. Valerie Truesdale
Board Chair: Fred Washington

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.

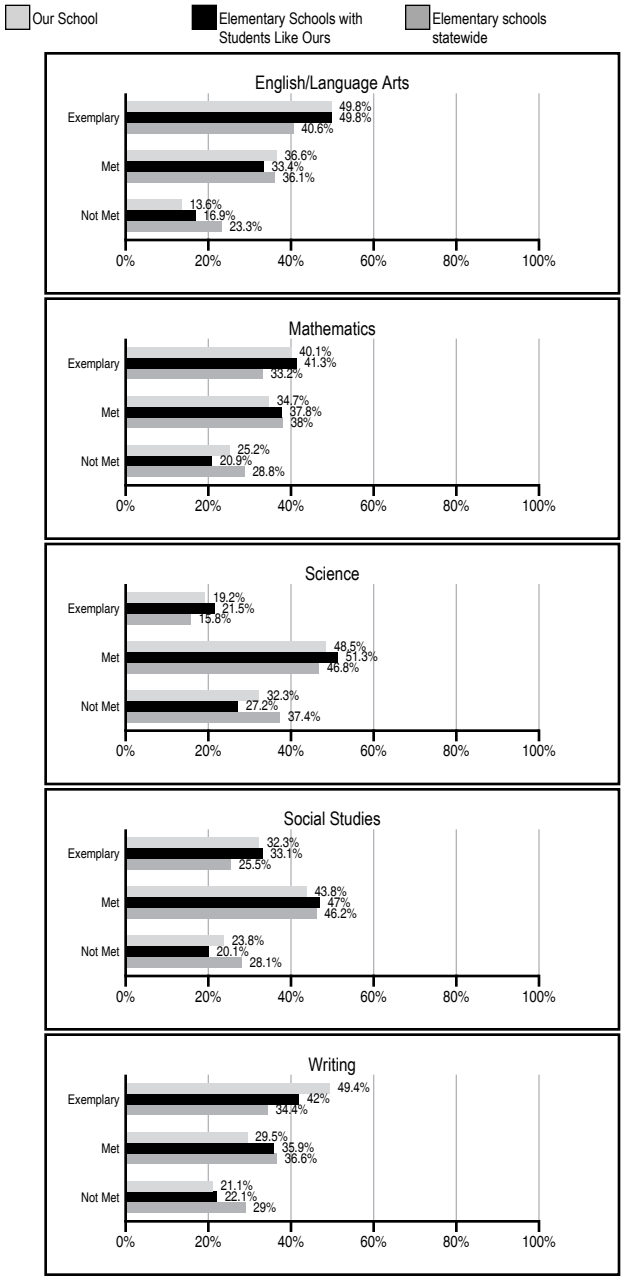
YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING	PALMETTO GOLD AND SILVER AWARD		AYP STATUS	NCLB IMPROVEMENT STATUS
			General Performance	Closing the Gap		
2010	Good	Excellent	TBD	TBD	Not Met	N/A
2009	Good	Good	Silver	Silver	Not Met	N/A
2008	Average	Good	Silver	Silver	Not Met	N/A

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	BELOW AVERAGE	AT-RISK
31	33	23	0	0

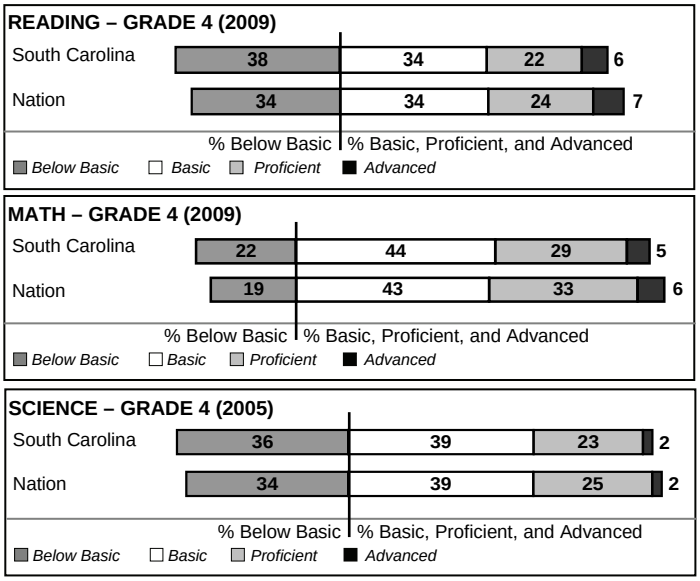
** Ratings are calculated with data available by 03/09/2011. Schools with Students Like Ours are Elementary Schools with Poverty Indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this school.*

PASS PERFORMANCE



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
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

BLUFFTON ELEMENTARY [Beaufort County]

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Elementary Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Elementary School
Students (n=923)				
Retention rate	1.5%	Down from 1.9%	0.9%	1.2%
Attendance rate	96.8%	Up from 96.7%	96.4%	96.1%
Eligible for gifted and talented	16.1%	Down from 18.9%	17.0%	11.7%
With disabilities other than speech	3.0%	Down from 4.0%	7.0%	8.0%
Older than usual for grade	0.4%	Down from 0.6%	0.3%	0.4%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=66)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	45.5%	Up from 39.2%	62.5%	60.5%
Continuing contract teachers	62.1%	Up from 57.0%	86.7%	84.6%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	2.0%	Up from 0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers returning from previous year	83.0%	Down from 90.0%	90.2%	87.0%
Teacher attendance rate	94.8%	No Change	95.6%	95.4%
Average teacher salary*	$45,588	Up 1.6%	$48,579	$47,288
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	1.3%	Down from 12.5%	0.0%	0.0%
Professional development days/teacher	21.3 days	Up from 16.9 days	11.4 days	10.5 days
School				
Principal's years at school	3.0	Up from 2.0	4.5	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	22.7 to 1	Up from 18.7 to 1	19.9 to 1	19.2 to 1
Prime instructional time	89.4%	Down from 90.2%	91.8%	90.8%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	Down from Excellent	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	Up from No	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	100.0%	No Change	100.0%	100.0%
Character development program	Excellent	No Change	Excellent	Excellent
Dollars spent per pupil**	$6,732	Up 7.6%	$7,214	$7,548
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	76.6%	Up from 76.5%	69.2%	68.7%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	75.1%	Up from 59.8%	66.3%	65.1%
% of AYP objectives met	96.6%	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	55	153	120
Percent satisfied with learning environment	83.6%	88.2%	80.0%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	92.7%	86.9%	83.2%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	90.9%	88.2%	72.8%

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

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REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

This has been a very busy year for Bluffton Elementary. We were able to transition into our new Early Childhood Center in December. With this move, we eliminated the need for most of our 36 portables. We have a current enrollment of 945, with roughly 230 at the ECC and 715 in the main building. We are still utilizing 8 portables, but they will not be needed after this year due to the opening of a new elementary school. The 8 outside classes will be able to move into the main building at the end of the year.

With the approval of SIC members, we divided our Palmetto Silver awards fund between animation and a Wii fitness lab.

The Wii fitness lab was established to address our obesity rates from our Fitness Gram reports. The Wii fitness lab was put into place and operational by November. The lab consists of 8 stations of Wii fitness for Dance and Dance Revolution, and 2 stations of stretching/movement activities. The students utilize the Wii lab as a related art special. This has been very successful, with some students seeing a weight loss of over 10 pounds. Students have commented that the lab has helped them understand muscle movements and ways to exercise at home using common everyday items.

The animation lab was also functional starting in November. This lab is very unique as it is the only true curriculum-focused lab in South Carolina. The teachers select a standard that they would like the students to focus on during animation. (For example, the Boston Tea Party.) The students create a storyboard for this standard and receive all curriculum instruction on the standard in the regular classroom. Once they have completed the basic instruction, the teacher signs the class up for the animation lab. The students bring their storyboards to the animation lab and create an animation of the standard. The impact of the animation lab has been amazing. Struggling writers are understanding how to utilize more details, and ESOL/special education students are finding an outlet to express what they truly know. The animation lab was created with input from SCAD (Savannah College of Art and Design). BLES students will be visiting the animation department and sitting in on SCAD's Contemporary Animation Society before the end of the year. As we say at BLES, we don't teach animation but curriculum through animation.

With our movement in the right direction, BLES appreciates the support of community members, parents, teachers, and staff. Working together, we have created a strong educational foundation for our students. Thanks for a great year and your continued support of our students!

Christine Brown□□□, Principal
Tonia Voegele, Co-chair, SIC
Missy Vogt, Assistant Principal□□
Brandi Lowe, Co-chair, SIC

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