

SC Annual School Report Card Summary

SANDHILLS MIDDLE

Lexington 4

Grades: 7-8

Enrollment: 510

Principal: Justin Nutter

Superintendent: Dr. Linda G. Lavender

Board Chair: Mrs. Shelia Parkman

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	Average	Good	TBD	TBD	Not Met	N/A
2009	Average	Average	N/A	N/A	Not Met	N/A
2008	Below Average	At-Risk	N/A	N/A	Not Met	N/A

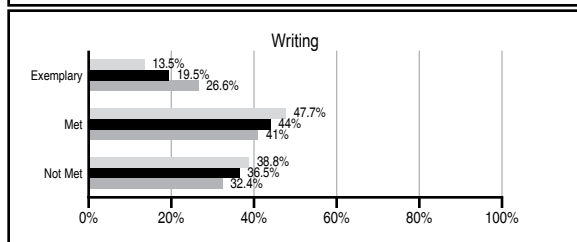
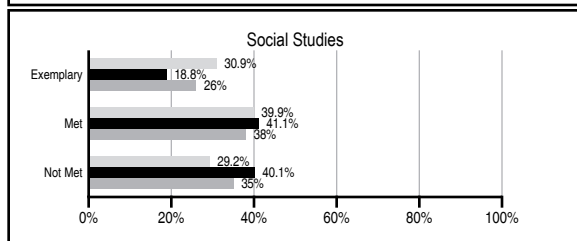
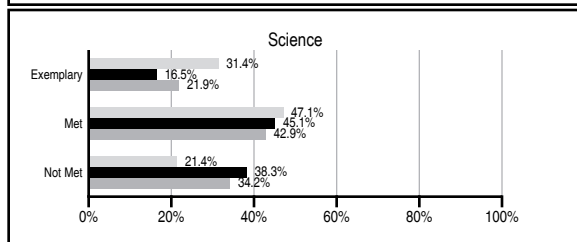
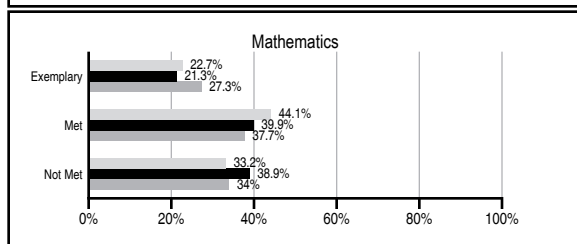
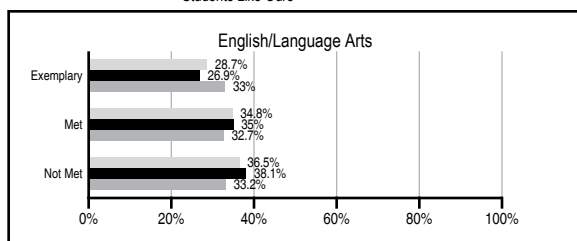
ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF MIDDLE SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	BELOW AVERAGE	AT-RISK
0	1	31	15	0

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

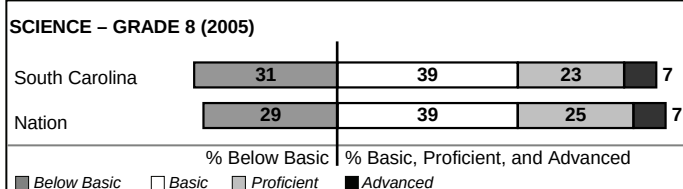
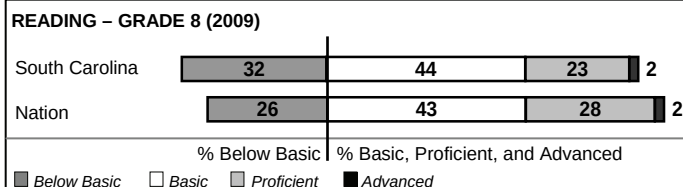
PASS PERFORMANCE

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.



END OF COURSE TESTS - 2010

% 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	95.1
English 1	92.9	97.2
Physical Science	N/A	80.3
US History and the Constitution	N/A	N/A
All Subjects	95.9	95.1

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

SANDHILLS MIDDLE [Lexington 4]

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Middle School
Students (n=510)				
Students enrolled in high school credit courses (grades 7 & 8)	16.9%	Down from 47.9%	23.0%	24.2%
Retention rate	0.0%	Down from 0.6%	0.7%	0.7%
Attendance rate	99.8%	Up from 94.8%	95.4%	95.9%
Eligible for gifted and talented	11.2%	Down from 11.9%	14.2%	16.4%
With disabilities other than speech	15.8%	Down from 17.6%	14.3%	12.0%
Older than usual for grade	2.7%	Up from 1.2%	3.0%	2.2%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.8%	Up from 0.4%	0.6%	0.5%
Annual dropout rate	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=40)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	57.5%	Up from 47.4%	56.9%	58.5%
Continuing contract teachers	70.0%	Up from 57.9%	79.3%	80.0%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	20.0%	Up from 16.0%	4.6%	4.0%
Teachers returning from previous year	78.1%	Up from 71.0%	83.0%	84.6%
Teacher attendance rate	95.9%	Up from 95.3%	94.9%	95.4%
Average teacher salary*	\$39,965	Down 1.4%	\$45,750	\$46,561
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	3.0%	Down from 9.7%	0.8%	1.3%
Professional development days/teacher	11.1 days	Down from 12.4 days	10.9 days	10.2 days
School				
Principal's years at school	3.0	Up from 2.0	3.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	22.2 to 1	Up from 20.5 to 1	20.8 to 1	21.1 to 1
Prime instructional time	94.9%	Up from 89.1%	90.0%	90.4%
Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	No Change	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	99.7%	Down from 100.0%	96.7%	98.1%
Character development program	Good	No Change	Good	Good
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$8,638	Up 7.1%	\$8,527	\$7,802
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	49.3%	Down from 49.8%	62.1%	63.8%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	44.7%	Down from 45.0%	58.2%	60.0%
% of AYP objectives met	95.2%	Up from 90.5%	90.5%	92.3%

* Length of contract = 185+ days.

** Prior year audited financial data available.

EVALUATION RESULTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	37	211	187
Percent satisfied with learning environment	94.6%	73.3%	82.5%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	100.0%	74.3%	80.9%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	91.9%	79.9%	81.3%

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

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

Students, parents, faculty, and staff at Sandhills Middle School are proud to work together to create an exemplary learning community that embodies our mission of "being and creating lifelong learners in a safe and supportive environment."

During the 2009-10 school year, our learning community focused on building our capacity to actively utilize student performance data to inform and guide instruction. Our team worked to develop our formative assessment strategies through training with the Keeping Learning on Track® program. This program is a sustained, interactive professional development program that helps teachers adopt minute-to-minute and day-by-day assessment-for-learning strategies that have been shown by research to powerfully increase student learning. Our teachers also continued to develop our ability to effectively assess student learning in multiple ways through the utilization of multi-format summative assessments. The collaborative analysis of these assessments allows us to intentionally focus instruction on specific student needs.

Our commitment to ensure student performance at the highest level was demonstrated in our focus on providing proactive assistance to academically and behaviorally at-risk students. Our team was trained in the All Kinds of Minds framework this year. This framework provides research-based tools and strategies that help our teachers meet students where they are, helping us close achievement gaps, engage students who are often not motivated, and provide successful learning experiences for all students.

Our primary goal at SMS is to be a school of excellence in practice and performance such that needs of early adolescence students are met. During 2009-10, SMS participated in the Schools to Watch initiative sponsored by the National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grades Reform and the S.C. Middle School Association. The Schools to Watch criteria identifies components of high performance in exemplary middle-level schools. SMS was one of only five middle schools in South Carolina to meet the application criteria to qualify for a Schools to Watch site visit during the 2009-10 school year.

Sandhills Middle School continues to seek to meet unique needs of our early adolescent students through providing opportunities for student voice and community partnership. In 2009-10, SMS sought to increase our role in the greater Gaston-Swansea community. We increased the number of student organizations at SMS by 50 percent and our students actively participated in various community service projects and functions. We want to thank our parents and community for their involvement with SMS this year! Your partnership is invaluable in developing our citizens of the future!

As we move into the 2010-11 school year, SMS is committed to continuing to establish high standards by creating a learning environment which ensures student performance at the highest level. Our challenges for 2010-11 include the continued development of our ability to effectively assess student learning, providing targeted and timely interventions, and continuing to develop our school's influence in the local community.

Justin Nutter, Principal
Teri Driggers, School Improvement Council Chair

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