



# SC Annual School District Report Card Summary

Darlington School District  
 Grades: PK-12 Enrollment: 10,688  
 Superintendent: Dr. Rainey Knight  
 Board Chair: Charles Govan

## PERFORMANCE

Comprehensive detail, including definitions of ratings, performance criteria, and explanations of status, is available on [www.ed.sc.gov](http://www.ed.sc.gov) and [www.eoc.sc.gov](http://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		
2011	Excellent	Average	N/A	N/A	Not Met	CA
2010	Good	Excellent	N/A	N/A	Not Met	CA
2009	Below Average	At-Risk	N/A	N/A	Not Met	CA

## ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF DISTRICTS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS\*

EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	BELOW AVERAGE	AT-RISK
2	2	14	4	0

\* Ratings are calculated with data available by 11/09/2011. Districts with Students Like Ours are Districts with Poverty Indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this district.

## PASS

PASS	2011 Reading	2011 Math	2011 Science	2011 Social Studies	2011 Writing
	% Met or above	% Met or above	% Met or above	% Met or above	% Met or above
District	67.5%	69.9%	66.1%	71.2%	67.6%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	67.7%	67.8%	62.0%	66.3%	66.2%
Average District	74.3%	73.6%	69.0%	73.0%	73.1%

PASS	2011 Reading	2011 Math	2011 Science	2011 Social Studies	2011 Writing
	% Exemplary	% Exemplary	% Exemplary	% Exemplary	% Exemplary
District	32.2%	29.2%	22.3%	29.7%	25.6%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	32.5%	28.3%	17.1%	24.8%	25.9%
Average District	40.4%	35.5%	23.3%	33.3%	33.7%

## HSAP

HSAP: 2nd Year Students	Passed 2 Subtests (%)	Passed 1 Subtest (%)	Passed No Subtests (%)
District	73.0%	13.8%	13.2%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	74.1%	14.1%	11.8%

## HSAP Passage Rate by Spring 2011 (%)

District	92.9%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	89.5%

## End of Course Test Passage Rate (%)

District	61.2%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	60.3%

## On-Time Graduation Rate (%)

District	88.4%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	75.3%

\*\* Districts with Students Like Ours are districts with Poverty Indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this district.

## NAEP\*

\* Performance reported for SC and nation, data not available at school level. Percentages at NAEP Achievement Levels.



## SC PERFORMANCE 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 CDI Continuing District Improvement CA Corrective Action RP Plan to Restructure R Restructure DELAY District Improvement Status HOLD District Improvement Status

# Darlington School District

## DISTRICT PROFILE

	Our District	Change from Last Year	Districts with Students Like Ours	Median District
<b>Students (n=10,688)</b>				
Retention rate	3.6%	Down from 4.0%	2.5%	2.3%
Attendance rate	95.2%	Up from 94.9%	95.7%	95.8%
Served by gifted and talented program	11.6%	Up from 10.5%	12.8%	14.0%
With disabilities other than speech	8.6%	Down from 11.6%	7.4%	7.4%
Older than usual for grade	3.9%	Down from 5.6%	3.1%	3.0%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.6%	Down from 0.7%	0.5%	0.5%
Enrolled in AP/IB programs	8.2%	Up from 7.3%	7.3%	12.2%
Successful on AP/IB exams	53.3%	Up from 51.1%	44.2%	52.9%
Eligible for LIFE Scholarship	30.3%	Up from 28.1%	30.0%	30.3%
Enrolled in adult education GED or diploma programs	279	Down from 423	35	66
Completions in adult education GED or diploma programs	95	Down from 107	23	35
Annual dropout rate	1.2%	Down from 1.4%	2.9%	2.8%
<b>Teachers (n=656)</b>				
Teachers with advanced degrees	56.6%	Up from 53.2%	60.6%	61.2%
Continuing contract teachers	83.4%	Up from 79.6%	87.3%	85.6%
Teachers returning from previous year	89.1%	Up from 88.4%	89.9%	90.3%
Teacher attendance rate	95.4%	Down from 95.7%	95.1%	95.2%
Average teacher salary*	\$45,756	Down 0.1%	\$45,363	\$46,166
Vacancies for more than nine weeks	0.3%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.7%	No Change	2.1%	2.0%
Professional development days/teacher	16.0 days	Down from 16.6 days	12.3 days	12.2 days
<b>District</b>				
Superintendent's years at district	12.0	Up from 11.0	3.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	24.2 to 1	Up from 22.5 to 1	21.5 to 1	21.7 to 1
Prime instructional time	89.6%	Up from 89.4%	89.6%	90.1%
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$8,779	Down 6.3%	\$8,821	\$9,140
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	51.8%	Up from 51.2%	52.4%	53.5%
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	55.3%	Up from 54.8%	55.5%	56.5%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	Down from Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
Number of schools	23	No Change	7	9
Portable classrooms	2.7%	Down from 3.5%	1.2%	1.4%
Number of schools with SACS accreditation	23.0	No Change	6.0	8.0
Parents attending conferences	95.2%	Up from 93.8%	96.9%	96.6%
Average administrator salary	\$79,608	Down 1.3%	\$78,561	\$78,000
Number of charter schools	1	No Change	0	0
% of AYP objectives met	93.1%		90.5%	93.1%

\* Length of contract = 185+ days.

\*\* Prior year audited financial data available.

## RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT FACILITIES STUDENT PERFORMANCE

	PASS	HSAP	End-of-Course Tests
Passage Rate	N/A	N/A	N/A

## CHARTER SCHOOLS IN DISTRICT

School Name	Absolute Rating	Growth Rating	Adequate Yearly Progress
CHOICES	At-Risk	At-Risk	Not Met

## REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

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The Darlington County School District is a countywide district serving more than 10,400 students in 23 schools, including a state-of-the-art career and technology center, an alternative school, and a nationally recognized early childhood center. All schools and the District are fully accredited on the state and national level by the Southern Association of Colleges & Schools/AdvancED and the SC Department of Education.

Our District believes in providing challenging educational experiences for all children. In addition to our regular classes, Darlington County School District offers elementary and middle school magnet programs in the arts, as well as science & technology. Three high schools offer challenging academic magnet programs: The International Baccalaureate/Honors College at Hartsville High School; Mayo High School for Math, Science & Technology; and the Early College at Darlington High School. This year our district is pleased to partner with Sonoco, Coker College, and the South Carolina Governor's School for Science & Mathematics (SCGSSM) to offer our Hartsville High School students the chance to expand their academic horizons even farther. Hartsville High students may now take rigorous math, science, foreign language and fine arts courses at the partner schools, including Mandarin Chinese or advanced physics at the SC GSSM and theater, dance and visual arts at Coker College.

For students who struggle academically, our district offers interventionists, computer-assisted learning, and extended school days.

We believe that exceptional educators are the key to a student's success. The district supports a comprehensive program of professional development, including offering several degree programs through partnerships with local colleges and universities.

Darlington County School District is committed to providing cutting-edge technology in the classroom. Through our comprehensive technology plan, all core curriculum teachers have laptop computers and document cameras. All schools are wired for the Internet, with some featuring wireless laptop computer labs, computer-based programs to evaluate and differentiate instruction, or online credit-recovery tools for our students. Most of our schools also have interactive whiteboards in the classrooms.

We are proud of our many successes this year. Pate Elementary School earned an Exemplary Writing Award from the SC Department of Education. A Hartsville High School student was a National Merit Scholar. Thirty-two students were recognized as Junior Scholars. Seven schools earned Palmetto Gold and Silver awards, which recognize high levels of academic achievement and high rates of student academic improvement. The District's graduation rate is 87.5%, the fifth highest graduation rate in the state. The SC Department of Education awarded Mayo High School for Math, Science & Technology and Lamar High School "ACT/SAT Performance Improvement Awards" (ASPI) for outstanding achievement on the ACT/SAT college entrance exams. The District's 2010 graduating class earned more than \$13.8 million in scholarships, the 16th highest earning district in the state! We are proud of our students and staff!  
Dr. Rainey Knight

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