



SC Annual School District Report Card Summary

Laurens 55 School District
 Grades: PK-12 Enrollment: 5,875
 Superintendent: Billy R. Strickland
 Board Chair: Rev. Charlie Short

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		
2011	Below Average	Excellent	N/A	N/A	Not Met	CA
2010	Average	Below Average	N/A	N/A	Not Met	CDI
2009	Below Average	Average	N/A	N/A	Not Met	NI

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF DISTRICTS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	BELOW AVERAGE	AT-RISK
2	3	14	5	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	69.1%	68.2%	62.6%	67.7%	70.0%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	68.1%	68.1%	62.5%	66.9%	66.9%
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	31.2%	24.6%	15.3%	23.8%	27.3%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	33.3%	29.0%	17.7%	26.1%	26.9%
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	78.8%	12.5%	8.8%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	75.2%	13.4%	11.4%

HSAP Passage Rate by Spring 2011 (%)

District	91.0%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	89.7%

End of Course Test Passage Rate (%)

District	71.8%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	60.9%

On-Time Graduation Rate (%)

District	68.8%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	75.1%

** 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

Laurens 55 School District

DISTRICT PROFILE

	Our District	Change from Last Year	Districts with Students Like Ours	Median District
Students (n=5,875)				
Retention rate	2.9%	Down from 3.2%	2.4%	2.3%
Attendance rate	95.9%	Up from 95.6%	95.7%	95.8%
Served by gifted and talented program	13.3%	Up from 9.0%	14.6%	14.0%
With disabilities other than speech	7.3%	Down from 9.7%	7.4%	7.4%
Older than usual for grade	4.3%	Down from 6.1%	3.0%	3.0%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.4%	Up from 0.1%	0.4%	0.5%
Enrolled in AP/IB programs	18.2%	Up from 13.2%	8.2%	12.2%
Successful on AP/IB exams	29.6%	Up from 28.8%	47.5%	52.9%
Eligible for LIFE Scholarship	29.7%	Up from 28.2%	30.2%	30.3%
Enrolled in adult education GED or diploma programs	148	Up from 80	67	66
Completions in adult education GED or diploma programs	65	Up from 52	31	35
Annual dropout rate	6.9%	Down from 9.8%	2.9%	2.8%
Teachers (n=343)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	60.6%	Up from 53.6%	61.3%	61.2%
Continuing contract teachers	87.5%	Up from 81.1%	87.5%	85.6%
Teachers returning from previous year	91.4%	Up from 89.4%	89.9%	90.3%
Teacher attendance rate	94.3%	Down from 95.8%	95.2%	95.2%
Average teacher salary*	\$45,852	Up 0.5%	\$45,789	\$46,166
Vacancies for more than nine weeks	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.5%	Down from 2.6%	1.3%	2.0%
Professional development days/teacher	14.1 days	Up from 13.0 days	12.5 days	12.2 days
District				
Superintendent's years at district	2.0	Up from 1.0	2.8	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	24.1 to 1	Up from 23.6 to 1	21.0 to 1	21.7 to 1
Prime instructional time	89.3%	Down from 90.7%	89.6%	90.1%
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$5,085	Down 41.3%	\$8,856	\$9,140
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	50.7%	Down from 53.3%	53.5%	53.5%
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	55.3%	Down from 55.7%	55.8%	56.5%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	Down from Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
Number of schools	11	No Change	9	9
Portable classrooms	1.4%	Up from 1.3%	1.0%	1.4%
Number of schools with SACS accreditation	11.0	No Change	9.0	8.0
Parents attending conferences	97.8%	Down from 100.0%	97.3%	96.6%
Average administrator salary	\$80,750	Down 2.8%	\$78,064	\$78,000
Number of charter schools	0	No Change	0	0
% of AYP objectives met	93.1%		90.7%	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
There are no charter schools in this district.			

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

During the 2010-2011 school year, Laurens County School District No. 55 participated in the accreditation process through the AdvancED worldwide organization. This process involved not only our own in-depth examination of our school system but also an extensive review of our district's policies and practices by a team of seven educators from outside the district. I am very proud that in November 2010, District 55 successfully completed the AdvancED accreditation process and received national accreditation with all eleven of our schools accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and the AdvancED organization.

Throughout the 18 months spent pursuing accreditation, district staff, students, parents, and community members were involved in many discussions and gave much consideration to how district policies and practices impact student performance. It was through this collaboration that the vision of our district evolved and was adopted by our board of trustees. The vision of Laurens County School District No. 55 is to be a system of excellence and equity in educational practices for each learner. This vision statement has become the foundation of all decisions made by the board and by district personnel as we continue to strive to provide our students with the knowledge and skills necessary to be successful in the twenty-first century.

During the 2010-2011 school year we continued to face decreasing financial support from the state. However, due to the sustained efforts of the entire district staff, we have reduced spending and have been able to avoid staff furloughs. In addition, we have been awarded several major competitive grants which have allowed us the opportunity to focus on several areas for enrichment.

Another valuable asset to our district is the generous support of our community and businesses. Our volunteer program has continued to grow and become a major source of assistance in our schools.

I appreciate the dedication and support of the board of trustees, the entire district staff, and the community as I conclude my second year as superintendent of District 55. I look forward to the many opportunities to work toward our vision as we begin the 2011-2012 school year.

Billy R. Strickland, Ed.D., Superintendent

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