SC Annual School Report Card Summary

LIBERTY ELEMENTARY
Pickens
Grades: PK-4 **Enrollment: 854**
Principal: Lowell Haynes
Superintendent: Henry H. Hunt, Ph.D.
Board Chair: Alex Saitta

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.

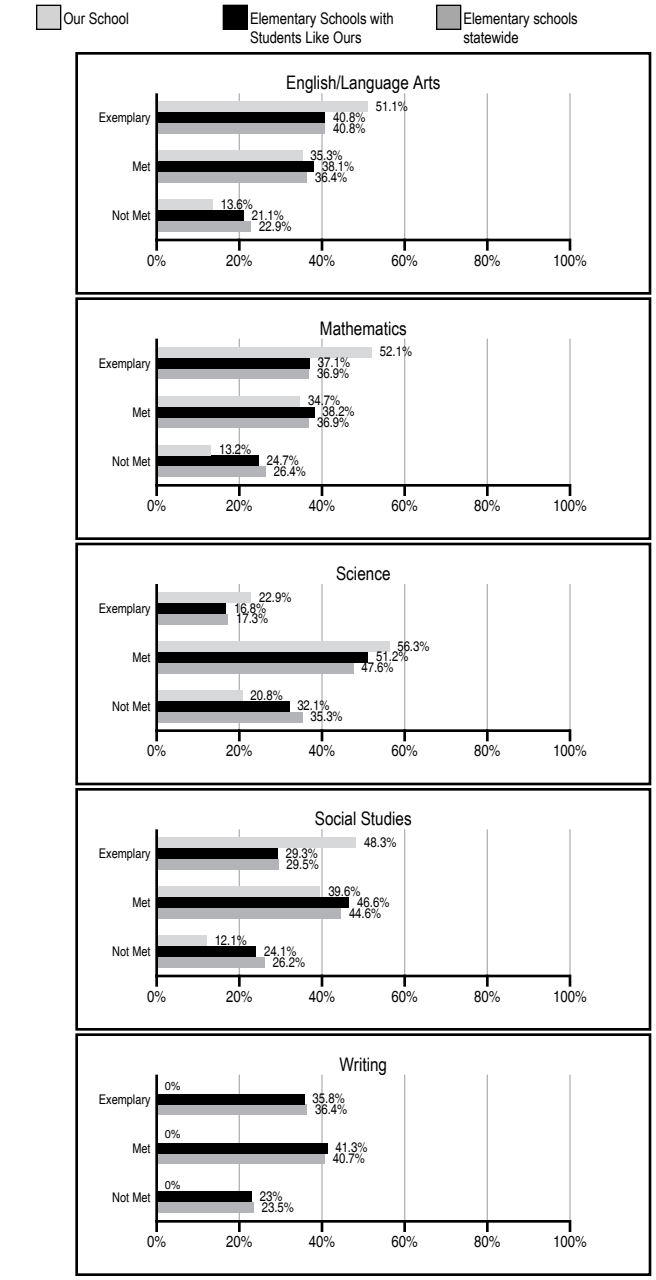
YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING	PALMETTO GOLD AND SILVER AWARD		AYP STATUS	NCLB IMPROVEMENT STATUS
			General Performance	Closing the Gap		
2011	Excellent	Excellent	TBD	TBD	Met	N/A
2010	Excellent	Excellent	Gold	Silver	Met	N/A
2009	Good	Excellent	Gold	Silver	Not Met	N/A

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	BELOW AVERAGE	AT-RISK
18	37	63	3	0

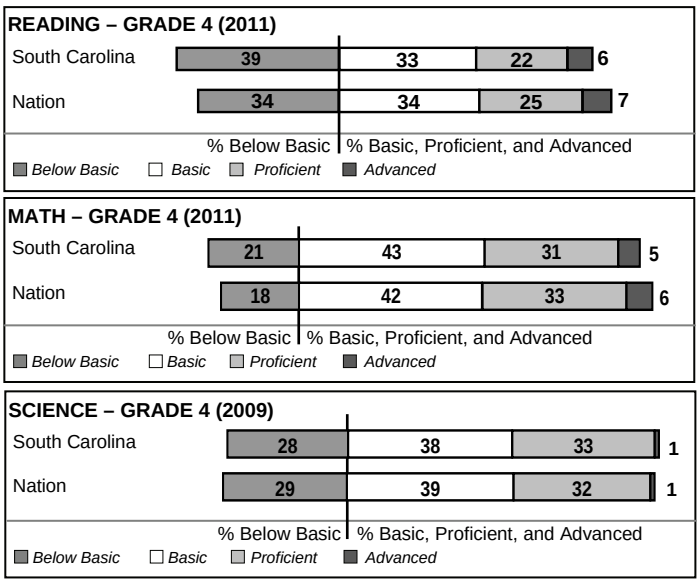
** Ratings are calculated with data available by 11/09/2011. Schools with Students Like Ours are Elementary Schools with Poverty Indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this school.*

PASS PERFORMANCE



NAEP PERFORMANCE*

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



SC PERFORMANCE 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
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LIBERTY ELEMENTARY [Pickens]

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Elementary Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Elementary School
Students (n=854)				
Retention rate	2.6%	Down from 2.8%	1.1%	1.1%
Attendance rate	95.8%	Down from 95.9%	96.1%	96.2%
Served by gifted and talented program	15.4%	Up from 14.7%	13.9%	13.4%
With disabilities other than speech	4.6%	Down from 6.0%	5.2%	4.1%
Older than usual for grade	0.9%	Down from 1.3%	0.2%	0.3%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=55)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	65.5%	Up from 59.0%	61.9%	62.5%
Continuing contract teachers	92.7%	Up from 90.2%	90.0%	88.2%
Teachers returning from previous year	91.5%	Up from 89.9%	88.3%	87.8%
Teacher attendance rate	94.2%	Up from 93.0%	95.1%	95.2%
Average teacher salary*	$47,859	Down 0.3%	$46,540	$46,773
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Professional development days/teacher	12.4 days	Down from 13.1 days	10.4 days	10.5 days
School				
Principal's years at school	2.0	Up from 1.0	4.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	19.4 to 1	Up from 18.4 to 1	20.0 to 1	19.9 to 1
Prime instructional time	88.5%	Up from 86.8%	90.3%	90.4%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No Change	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	100.0%	No Change	100.0%	100.0%
Character development program	Excellent	Up from Good	Excellent	Excellent
Dollars spent per pupil**	$8,558	Up 8.8%	$7,219	$7,447
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	65.1%	Up from 60.4%	68.1%	68.4%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	61.9%	Up from 56.1%	65.7%	65.8%
% of AYP objectives met	100.0%	No Change	92.3%	90.5%

* Length of contract = 185+ days.

** Prior year audited financial data available.

EVALUATION RESULTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	57	162	95
Percent satisfied with learning environment	100.0%	88.2%	89.2%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	100.0%	87.5%	90.5%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	87.7%	89.4%	87.4%

*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

Our school theme for the 2010-2011 school year has been "Saddle Up For A Great Year", and it has been just that.

Student achievement is always our main goal at Liberty Elementary School (LES). Our faculty, staff, and administration work hard to provide a safe, caring, and academically challenging environment for our 857 students. Our goal is for each of them to learn and reach their full potential. To achieve this goal our teachers receive staff developments in cutting edge teaching strategies and best practices in education. Our teachers implement the district literacy model which includes guided reading, content area reading, Accelerated Reader, Write From The Beginning, and Reading Recovery. Our staff uses Thinking Maps, Café, manipulatives, Every Day Math, Classworks, and science kits to deliver content.

This year our entire faculty read the book Igniting A Passion For Reading and worked hard to try and instill a joy for reading in every student. Many faculty members took part in "Hot Reads", where they would stand up at lunch to preview a book. Faculty would often be dressed up like a character from the book while presenting. We will attempt almost anything to get students interested in reading.

At Liberty Elementary we not only focus on educating the mind, we work hard to develop the whole child. This year we continued to use the Positive Behavior Interventions and Support (PBIS) program here at LES. This program promotes a positive learning environment. We have a firm belief that each child is unique and make sure to provide the students with a variety of opportunities to be successful. We also continued our partnership with the YMCA of Pickens County and had them providing a free after school care to students on free and reduced lunch. This program is called the Learning Lab. The Learning Lab is funded through a 21st Community Learning Center grant. We saw several new programs begin at Liberty Elementary School during this school year. We began serving breakfast in the classroom and saw our breakfast participation double. The Young Appalachian Musician (YAMs) program began this year and had over 50 of our students staying after school to learn to play the guitar and fiddle. These students have excelled and even had the opportunity to play at a county wide festival. Our guidance department was the first in the district to start BARK and Fix-It-Fido, two wonderful programs that bring dogs into the school to work with students who struggle with reading and also to assist students with bullying. We partnered with Golden Harvest and area churches to start a program called Backpack Buddies. This program provides food for the weekend for over sixty students who would not otherwise have something to eat at home.

We appreciate the continued parental support we received this year. Parent communication and support is essential to the success of any school. Therefore, we use a variety of forms of communication to inform parents of how their child is doing in school. We communicate through weekly folders, the Parent Link phone system, newsletters, and agendas. We also offer a variety of ways for parents to become involved in their child's education. Some of the opportunities for our school involvement include the School Improvement Council, PTO, parent bookchats, parenting workshops, parent nights, and the volunteer program. The school, family, and community must share the educational responsibility to produce students who are effective members of society. Thank you for all of your support in helping to make this year a year to remember.

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