SC Annual School Report Card Summary

JOHN P THOMAS ELEMENTARY
Richland 1
Grades: PK-5 **Enrollment: 429**
Principal: Selina Latimore
Superintendent: Dr. Percy A. Mack
Board Chair: Dwayne Smiling

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.

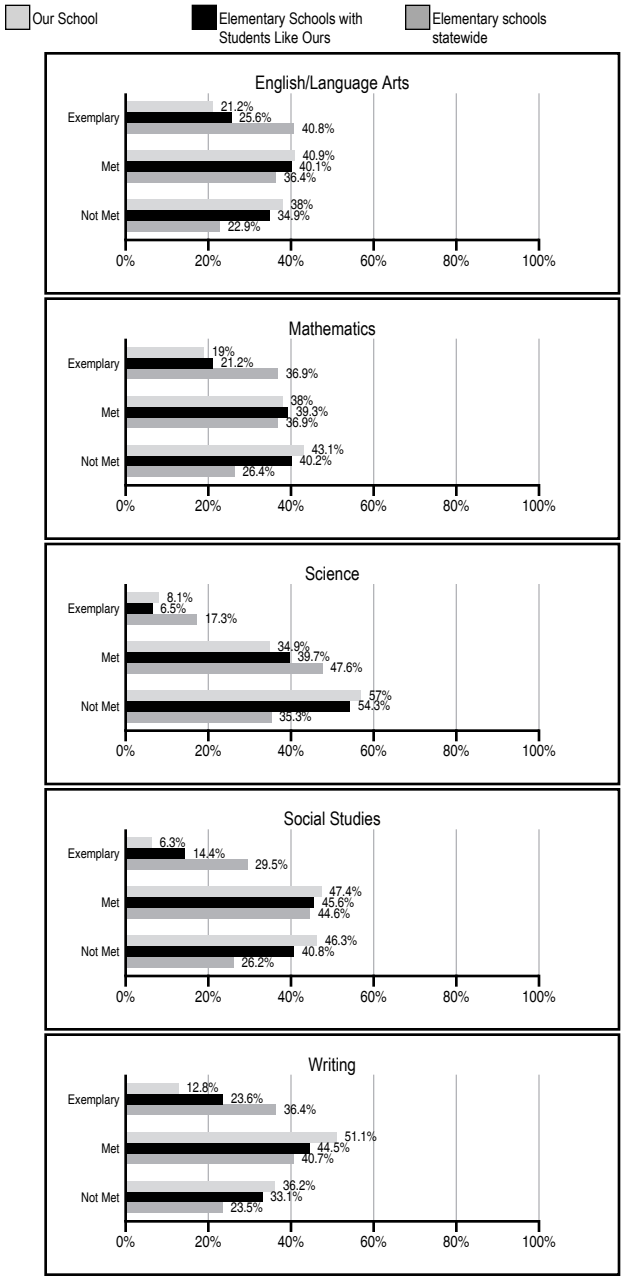
YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING	PALMETTO GOLD AND SILVER AWARD		AYP STATUS	NCLB IMPROVEMENT STATUS
			General Performance	Closing the Gap		
2011	Below Average	Below Average	TBD	TBD	Met	N/A
2010	Below Average	Below Average	N/A	N/A	Met	N/A
2009	Below Average	Below Average	N/A	N/A	Met	R-DELAY

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	BELOW AVERAGE	AT-RISK
0	5	72	48	23

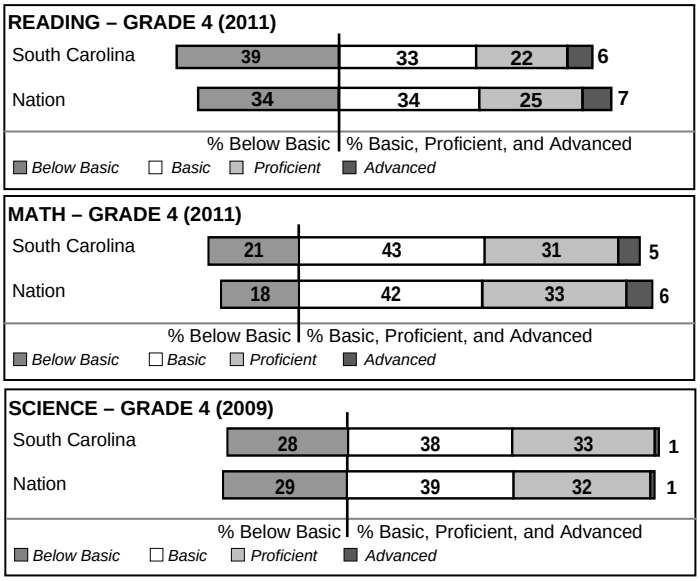
** Ratings are calculated with data available by 11/09/2011. Schools with Students Like Ours are Elementary Schools with Poverty Indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this school.*

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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JOHN P THOMAS ELEMENTARY [Richland 1]

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Elementary Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Elementary School
Students (n=429)				
Retention rate	1.6%	Down from 2.0%	1.5%	1.1%
Attendance rate	96.0%	Up from 95.8%	96.0%	96.2%
Served by gifted and talented program	6.4%	Up from 5.2%	5.1%	13.4%
With disabilities other than speech	4.2%	Down from 10.3%	4.3%	4.1%
Older than usual for grade	0.0%	Down from 1.8%	0.6%	0.3%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=35)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	68.6%	Up from 66.7%	61.9%	62.5%
Continuing contract teachers	77.1%	Up from 74.4%	81.8%	88.2%
Teachers returning from previous year	85.5%	Up from 84.6%	84.3%	87.8%
Teacher attendance rate	93.4%	Down from 95.2%	95.2%	95.2%
Average teacher salary*	$51,383	Down 2.1%	$45,188	$46,773
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Professional development days/teacher	8.4 days	Down from 11.1 days	10.6 days	10.5 days
School				
Principal's years at school	7.5	Up from 6.5	3.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	15.4 to 1	Up from 14.6 to 1	17.5 to 1	19.9 to 1
Prime instructional time	89.0%	Down from 90.0%	90.1%	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	No Change	Excellent	Excellent
Dollars spent per pupil**	$9,974	Down 3.1%	$8,694	$7,447
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	80.1%	Down from 82.7%	67.8%	68.4%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	76.6%	Up from 76.4%	64.0%	65.8%
% of AYP objectives met	100.0%	No Change	76.9%	90.5%

* Length of contract = 185+ days.

** Prior year audited financial data available.

EVALUATION RESULTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	37	46	14
Percent satisfied with learning environment	75.7%	87.0%	76.9%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	81.1%	71.7%	71.4%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	54.1%	87.0%	92.3%

*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

John P. Thomas Elementary serves approximately 450 students from pre-kindergarten to fifth grade. There are two self-contained classes for students in kindergarten to fifth grade, one class with two half-day sessions for preschool students with special needs, and a resource classroom.

The PASS results continue to show an increase in the number of students scoring MET and EXEMPLARY in math, ELA and social studies, but the increase in test scores for science is still a challenge. We attribute the slight increase in science scores to the extra time students get each week from the certified teacher in the science lab. This teacher assists the regular classroom teachers with the teaching of the science standards. Greater emphasis has been placed on teaching students strategies to increase higher-order thinking and problem-solving skills. The after-school tutorial program continues to focus on strengthening reading and math skills and allows students additional time in the computer lab.

Research indicates that sustained staff development contributes to more effective instruction and increased student achievement. Teachers worked throughout the year developing strategies to assist them in teaching ELA and math. During the year, staff development opportunities provided teachers with information to help in planning assessments, analyzing test data, providing for differentiated instruction and intervention, developing strategies for improving writing, organizing books by text levels and utilizing the district's frameworks for planning and instruction.

Students are challenged with researched-based best practices such as Accelerated Reader, Accelerated Math, Breakthrough to Literacy, ThinkCentral and the SuccessMaker Computer program. The SuccessMaker Laptop Home Computer program is another support for parents to use with their children at home.

There were several significant accomplishments this year. Each student in the third grade had a mentor who came in at least once each week to meet with their mentee. In addition, the third graders experienced a day with an author who provided each student with an autographed copy of his book. Our PE teacher had another successful year with the fishing grant. In addition, twenty of our students qualified to participate at the state level in the archery competition. Our school was awarded a Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Grant for a second year where students learned about the importance of eating healthy snacks. Students were introduced to and had opportunities to eat different fresh fruits and vegetables they were not familiar with. Teachers found various ways to incorporate the study of the foods in the curriculum. Each month, students participate in a grade level writing assignment where an exemplary piece is chosen for the Principal's Writing Wall of Fame. There are eleven teachers on staff who have attained National Board Certification.

Our partnerships with parents and the community continue to increase and grow stronger. We continue our partnerships with the VFW Post 4262, Palmetto GBA, Francis Burns United Methodist Church, the Burns Foundation, Second Calvary Baptist Church and Bethlehem Baptist Church.

Patricia Briggs, SIC Chairperson
Evelyn H. Moore, Principal

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