

SC Annual School Report Card Summary

GAFFNEY MIDDLE

Cherokee

Grades: 6-8

Enrollment: 620

Principal: Shirley Sealy

Superintendent: Dr. Edgar C. Taylor

Board Chair: Mr. Donnie Smith

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.

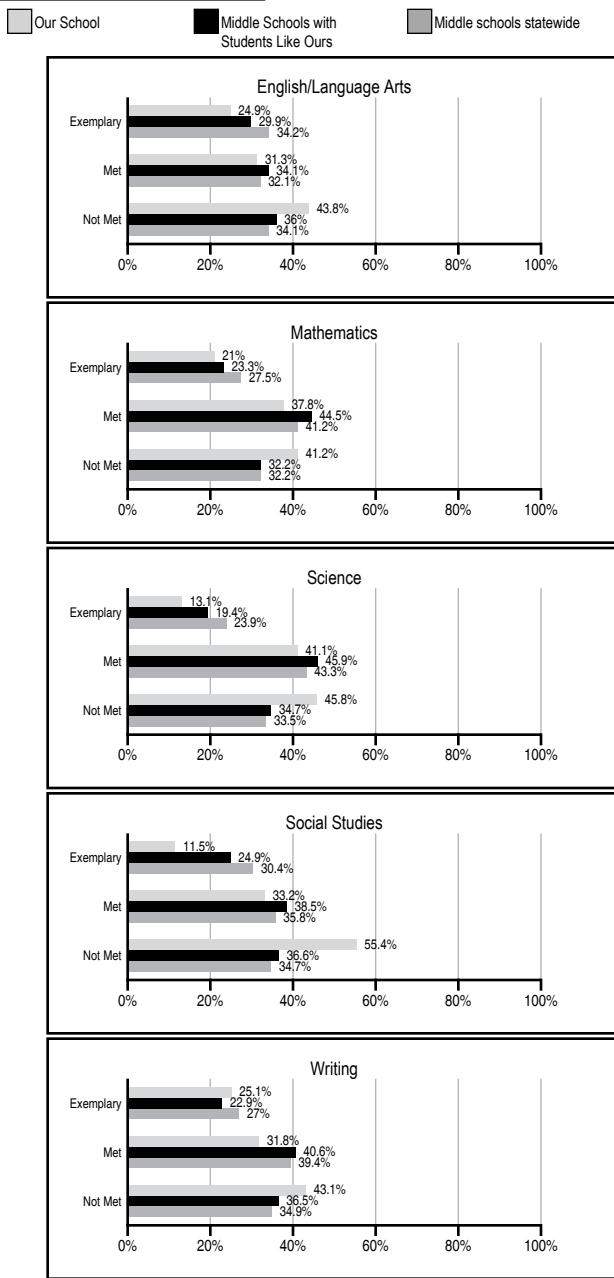
YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING	PALMETTO GOLD AND SILVER AWARD		AYP STATUS	NCLB IMPROVEMENT STATUS
			General Performance	Closing the Gap		
2011	Below Average	Average	TBD	TBD	Not Met	N/A
2010	Below Average	Average	N/A	N/A	Not Met	N/A
2009	Below Average	Average	N/A	N/A	Not Met	N/A

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF MIDDLE SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	BELOW AVERAGE	AT-RISK
1	2	43	5	0

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 11/09/2011. 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



NAEP PERFORMANCE*

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

READING – GRADE 8 (2011)

South Carolina	28	45	25	2
Nation	25	43	29	3
% Below Basic				Advanced
Below Basic Basic Proficient Advanced				

MATH – GRADE 8 (2011)

South Carolina	30	38	25	7
Nation	28	39	26	8
% Below Basic				Advanced
Below Basic Basic Proficient Advanced				

SCIENCE – GRADE 8 (2009)

South Carolina	45	32	22	1
Nation	38	33	28	1
% Below Basic				Advanced
Below Basic Basic Proficient Advanced				

END OF COURSE TESTS - 2011

% 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	96.9
English 1	N/A	93.4
Biology 1/Applied Biology 2	N/A	91.6
Physical Science	N/A	75.0
US History and the Constitution	N/A	N/A
All Subjects	100.0	96.3

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 CSI Continuing School Improvement CA Corrective Action RP Plan to Restructure R Restructure DELAY School Improvement Status HOLD School Improvement Status

GAFFNEY MIDDLE [Cherokee]

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Middle School
Students (n=620)				
Students enrolled in high school credit courses (grades 7 & 8)	50.1%	Up from 41.9%	29.9%	24.5%
Retention rate	1.4%	Up from 0.3%	0.7%	0.7%
Attendance rate	95.8%	Up from 95.7%	95.7%	95.9%
Served by gifted and talented program	18.3%	Up from 17.9%	17.3%	17.8%
With disabilities other than speech	6.8%	Down from 9.6%	9.5%	9.2%
Older than usual for grade	0.5%	Down from 1.2%	1.7%	1.5%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.0%	No Change	0.6%	0.4%
Annual dropout rate	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=40)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	47.5%	Up from 42.5%	56.3%	60.0%
Continuing contract teachers	92.5%	Down from 95.0%	86.7%	82.6%
Teachers returning from previous year	82.2%	Down from 84.0%	83.7%	85.6%
Teacher attendance rate	96.0%	No Change	95.2%	95.3%
Average teacher salary*	\$42,765	Down 2.0%	\$45,601	\$46,300
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.0%	No Change	1.4%	1.2%
Professional development days/teacher	6.5 days	Down from 9.9 days	9.9 days	9.9 days
School				
Principal's years at school	1.0	Down from 2.0	4.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	21.1 to 1	Down from 22.5 to 1	21.1 to 1	21.5 to 1
Prime instructional time	90.8%	Down from 91.3%	89.8%	90.1%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No Change	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	38.8%	Down from 97.7%	96.5%	98.1%
Character development program	Below Average	Down from Average	Good	Good
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$5,953	Up 0.7%	\$7,487	\$7,634
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	60.9%	Down from 64.4%	62.2%	64.0%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	60.3%	Up from 60.2%	59.2%	61.2%
% of AYP objectives met	62.1%	Down from 93.1%	80.0%	80.5%

* Length of contract = 185+ days.

** Prior year audited financial data available.

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

This has been a very successful year at Gaffney Middle School. Our theme for this school year was "Take a Look at Us Now," and our staff members worked diligently to provide a nurturing and academically challenging learning environment for all students. Some of our notable student accomplishments include: 15 Junior Scholars, numerous district writing and art award winners, several regional science fair winners and outstanding seasons for our cheerleaders, and football, volleyball, and basketball teams. Additionally, four of our teachers received grant-funding for classroom projects in forensics and literacy.

Our struggling readers were targeted to receive additional assistance in an academic enrichment SRA reading program, and we have had definite, measurable success with this endeavor—many of these students improved their fluency and comprehensive multiple grade levels! Classroom technology integration continued to be stressed; examples include: interactive white boards and Activ Studio software, Classroom Performance System (CPS) for assessment, and the acquisition of a Brain Pop site license. Very recently, we purchased microscopes for our seventh grade students to begin to use for scientific inquiry and discovery.

Gaffney Middle also housed a Communities in Schools (CIS) after-school program, serving approximately 63 students. These students received additional assistance with homework, grade level curriculum standards, and character development.

Staff professional development focused on writing effective lesson plans, student engagement, literacy for all students, and professional learning communities (PLC). All teachers are members of grade-level PLC teams that are currently re-writing Gaffney Middle School's Mission, Vision, and Values statements, as we focus on "what we want our students to learn, how we will know if they are learning, and what to do if they are not learning." This is an exciting time at GMS—we hope you've taken a look, and that you like what you see! Thank you for your continued support!

Shirley Sealy, Principal
Mr. Clint Crocker, SIC Chairperson

EVALUATION RESULTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	32	182	164
Percent satisfied with learning environment	87.5%	78.0%	79.8%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	90.0%	77.5%	74.5%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	51.6%	83.0%	75.5%

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

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