



SANDHILLS PRIMARY

140 Lewis Rast Road
Swansea, SC 29160

Grades	1-2 Primary School	
Enrollment	495 Students	
Principal	Ms. Donna Goodwin	803-568-1250
Superintendent	Linda G. Lavender, Ph.D.	803-568-1000
Board Chair	Mr. Jefford Hart, Jr.	803-568-2262

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2011 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

RATINGS OVER 5-YEAR PERIOD

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING
2011	N/A	N/A
2010	N/A	N/A
2009	N/A	N/A
2008	N/A	N/A
2007	N/A	N/A

DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

- Excellent – School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Good – School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Average – School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Below Average – School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- At-Risk – School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision

SOUTH CAROLINA 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.

<http://ed.sc.gov>
<http://eoc.sc.gov>

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF PRIMARY SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	At-Risk
11	0	0	0	0

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 10/31/2011. Primary Schools with Students like Ours are primary schools with Poverty Indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this school.

Performance Rating Criteria

Prime instructional time	85.8%
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	20.3 to 1
Teachers with advanced degrees	57.1%
Teachers returning from previous year	N/A
Percent of parents attending conferences	99.4%
Days of professional development devoted exclusively to knowledge and skills working with children less than eight years old	. days

Types Of Accreditation (More Than One May Apply)

Not pursuing accreditation
Conducting a self-study
South Carolina Department of Education
Southern Association of Colleges and School
American Montessori Society
National Association for the Education of Young Children

School Profile

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Primary Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Primary School
Students (n=495)				
First graders who attended full-day kindergarten	98.4%	N/R	100.0%	100.0%
Retention rate	0.0%	N/A	2.9%	3.1%
Attendance rate	94.1%	N/A	95.1%	95.3%
With disabilities other than speech	2.2%	N/A	0.7%	0.8%
Older than usual for grade	0.0%	N/A	0.1%	0.0%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.0%	N/R	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=28)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	57.1%	N/A	68.6%	62.9%
Continuing contract teachers	92.9%	N/A	91.1%	90.5%
Teachers returning from previous year	N/A	N/A	90.0%	89.9%
Teacher attendance rate	92.9%	N/R	94.9%	95.0%
Average teacher salary*	\$46,424	I/S	\$47,954	\$46,658
Professional development days/teacher	5.3 days	N/R	18.2 days	15.7 days
School				
Principal's years at school	10.0	N/R	7.5	6.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	20.3 to 1	N/R	20.7 to 1	20.0 to 1
Prime instructional time	85.8%	N/R	89.6%	89.6%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	N/R	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	N/R	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	99.4%	N/R	100.0%	100.0%
Character development program	Good	N/R	Excellent	Excellent
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$7,606	N/A	\$7,033	\$7,129
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	59.4%	N/A	69.7%	69.6%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	55.1%	N/A	66.5%	66.4%

* Includes current year teachers contracted for 185 or more days.

** Prior year audited financial data are reported.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A–Not Applicable N/AV–Not Available N/C–Not Collected N/R–Not Reported I/S–Insufficient Sample

Report of Principal and School Improvement Council

This was the initial year for Sandhills Primary School which was a result of combining first and second graders from the former Swansea Primary and Frances Mack Primary schools. Teachers from both schools began working together throughout 2009-2010 to develop a common vision and goals for student success. Professional development opportunities to build collegiality and community among faculty and staff was planned and proved very successful. We are very proud of the progress we have made in building an effective learning community for approximately 500 first and second graders.

Throughout the school year, teachers and administrators met on a regular basis for collaborative planning to discuss curriculum, assessment, and learning. Through the use of MAP assessments and district reading benchmark assessments, 106 students with academic concerns were identified. These students were provided with extra daily instruction based on specific individual learning needs. Summer learning loss was also a concern for these students so they were part of the Summer Cub Cadet Program, a program where students were given books and activities for summer reading. All students were able to check out library books over the summer and had two opportunities to renew books over the summer. We hope that the increased attention to summer reading will prevent the usual summer "slide" and lead to reading acceleration.

This school year, fourteen of our teachers began a graduate program of study in the Montessori teaching method and will continue to participate in classes throughout the next school year. As part of our public school choice program, we will have thirteen Montessori classrooms and eleven traditional classrooms in the year 2011-2012. We are devoted to providing quality instruction for all students through a variety of research-based instructional methods.

We promote good behavior at Sandhills Primary School through the use of Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports. Students are taught the school rules, procedures, and "Paw Promise" to care about ourselves, others, our things, and learning! Good behavior is reinforced with our "Cub Hug" token program that provides positive behavior incentives. Students who receive a number of Cub Hugs receive small prizes from the Celebration Wagon. At the end of the school year, the students were challenged to earn 1,500 Cub Hugs for good behavior. If the goal was reached the school administrators would kiss a camel in front of all of the students. The students earned more than 2,800 Cub Hugs, and the principals puckered up for the camel.

Our first year as Sandhills Primary School was an exciting year full of learning. We eagerly anticipate the next year as we continue to focus on creating successful, cooperative learners who are strong readers, writers and problem solvers. At Sandhills Primary School, it's all about students, families, and teachers working together.

Donna Goodwin, Principal Donna Scott, SIC Chairperson

Evaluations by Teachers

	Teachers
Number of surveys returned	25
Percent satisfied with learning environment	100.0%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	100.0%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	92.0%

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School Adequate Yearly Progress

YES

Definition: As required by the United States Department of Education, Adequate Yearly Progress specifies that the statewide target is met for "All Students" and for the following subgroups: Racial/Ethnic, Subsidized Meals, Disability, and Limited English Proficiency in the areas of English/Language Arts and Mathematics, as well as meeting the statewide target for "All Students" for attendance or graduation rate.

Teacher Quality and Student Attendance

	Our District	State
Classes in low poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	N/A	1.7%
Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	N/A	4.4%

	Our School	State Objective	Met State Objective
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.0%	0.0%	Yes
Student attendance rate	94.1%	94.0%*	Yes

* Or greater than last year