



Bluffton Elementary

160 McCracken Circle
Bluffton, South Carolina

Grades	PK-5 Elementary School	
Enrollment	607 Students	
Principal	Christine Brown	843-706-8500
Superintendent	Dr. Valerie Truesdale	843-322-2300
Board Chair	Fred Washington	843-322-2356



THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2012 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

RATINGS OVER 5-YEAR PERIOD

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING
2012	Good	Good
2011	Good	Good
2010	Good	Excellent
2009	Good	Good
2008	Average	Good

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://www.eoc.sc.gov>

Percent of Student PASS Records Matched for Purpose of Computing Growth Rating

Percent of students tested in 2011-12 whose 2010-11 test scores were located

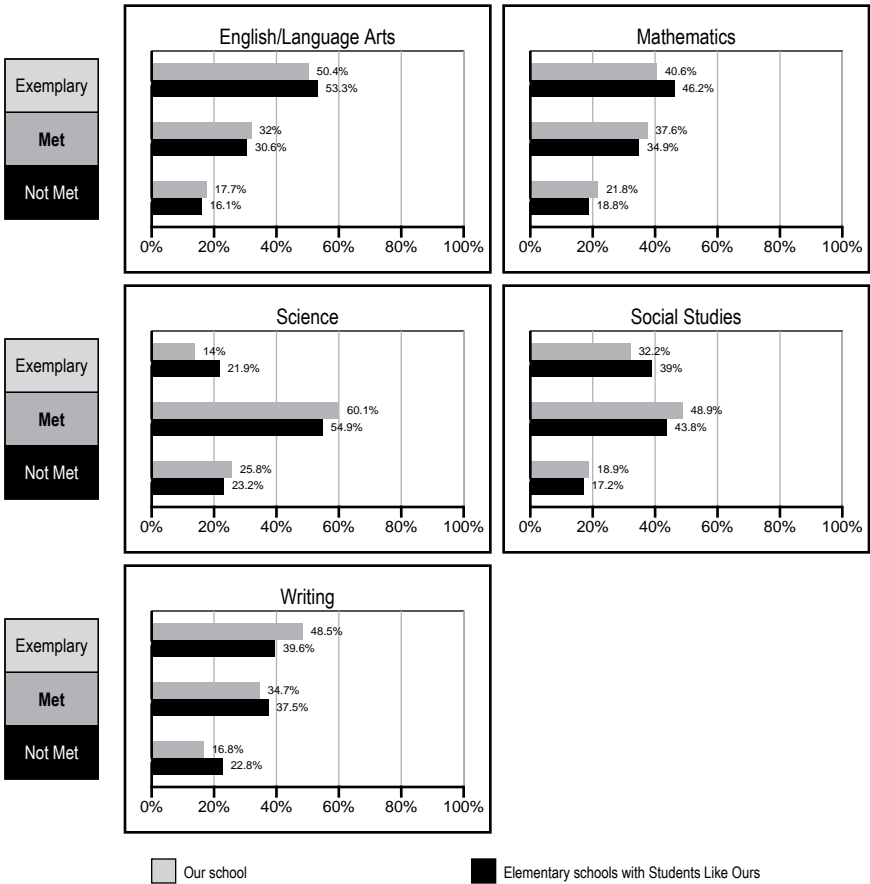
93.4%

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	At-Risk
42	23	6	1	0

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 11/07/2012.

Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (PASS)



* Elementary schools with Students Like Ours are elementary schools with poverty indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for the school.

Definition of Critical Terms

Exemplary	"Exemplary" means the student demonstrated exemplary performance in meeting the grade level standard.
Met	"Met" means the student met the grade level standard.
Not Met	"Not Met" means that the student did not meet the grade level standard.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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

School Profile

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Elementary Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Elementary School
Students (n=607)				
First graders who attended full-day kindergarten	100.0%	No Change	100.0%	100.0%
Retention rate	0.9%	Down from 1.3%	0.7%	1.0%
Attendance rate	97.2%	Up from 96.7%	96.9%	96.6%
Served by gifted and talented program	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
With disabilities other than speech	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
Older than usual for grade	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=43)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	60.5%	Up from 50.0%	62.5%	63.0%
Continuing contract teachers	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
Teachers returning from previous year	77.7%	Up from 77.1%	90.3%	88.7%
Teacher attendance rate	93.2%	Down from 94.0%	95.0%	95.1%
Average teacher salary*	\$47,167	Up 1.4%	\$48,823	\$47,210
Professional development days/teacher	16.8 days	Down from 24.2 days	10.2 days	10.5 days
School				
Principal's years at school	5.0	Up from 4.0	5.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	23.0 to 1	Up from 15.9 to 1	20.6 to 1	20.0 to 1
Prime instructional time	88.9%	Down from 89.2%	90.8%	90.5%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No Change	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	98.9%	Down from 100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Character development program	Excellent	No Change	Excellent	Excellent
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$8,432	Up 22.5%	\$6,864	\$7,247
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	68.4%	Down from 73.5%	69.7%	68.2%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	65.9%	Down from 71.9%	67.9%	65.7%

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

** Prior year audited financial data are reported.

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Report of Principal and School Improvement Council

Bluffton Elementary and Early Childhood Center began the year with a newly developed mission and vision created by our staff. Our beliefs are that our students/staff will focus on academics through arts and technology. Part of our vision as well is fostering diversity by encouraging respect for and understanding of differing backgrounds and points of view. This is incorporated through our school-wide anti-bullying campaign and diversity quilts.

New things for the 2011-2012 school year:

- Facebook – BLES has developed our own Facebook page to provide more communication for parents.
- CSI overnight trip—Each year 5th Graders will be given an opportunity to attend a 3 day/2 night trip to Clemson University's CSI camp in Pickens County
- Animation Showcase—Larry King's "In View" series filmed a showcase about our animation program. This showcase will air on national television.
- Innovative Technology Award—the animation program won the Innovative Technology Award from the nationally recognized Arts School Network.
- PBIS—with Positive Behavior Intervention Strategies in full swing our students are now earning PRIDE bucks
- Parent Positives—Parents can send in positive comments about our staff. The comments are added to our website and staff members are recognized during the monthly staff meetings.
- A2—Advanced Academics for 2nd grade—with a high number of students performing extremely well at the end of 1st grade last year, we wanted to continue to help them excel. We created an A2 class for 2nd grade.

Christine Brown – Principal

Mary Rozek – Assistant Principal

Kathy Cuppia – SIC Chair

Evaluations by Teachers, Students and Parents

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	20	100	70
Percent satisfied with learning environment	100.0%	86.9%	95.7%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	95.0%	83.8%	91.4%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	85.0%	87.0%	85.7%

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

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ESEA/Federal Accountability Rating System

In July 2012, the South Carolina Department of Education was granted a waiver from several accountability requirements of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). This waiver allowed SC to replace the former pass/fail system with one that utilizes more of the statewide assessments already in place and combine these subject area results with graduation rate (in high schools) to determine if each school met the target or made progress toward the target. This analysis results in a letter grade for the school rather than the pass/fail system of previous years. For a detailed review of the matrix for each school and districts that determined the letter grade, please use the following link: <http://ed.sc.gov/data/esea/> or request this information from your child's district or school.

Overall Weighted Points Total	86.4
Overall Grade Conversion	B

Index Score	Grade	Description
90-100	A	Performance substantially exceeds the state's expectations.
80-89.9	B	Performance exceeds the state's expectations.
70-79.9	C	Performance meets the state's expectations.
60-69.9	D	Performance does not meet the state's expectations.
Less than 60	F	Performance is substantially below the state's expectations

Accountability Indicator for Title I Schools

Bluffton Elementary school has been designated as a:

- Title I Reward School for Performance - among the highest performing Title I schools in a given year.
- Title I Reward School for Progress – one of the schools with substantial progress in student subgroups.
- Title I Focus School – one of the schools with the highest average performance gap between subgroups.
- Title I Priority School – one of the 5% lowest performing Title I schools.
- Title I School – does not qualify as Reward, Focus or Priority School.
- Non-Title I School – therefore the designations above are not applicable.

Teacher Quality and Student Attendance

	Our District	State
Classes in low poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	6.9%	2.6%
Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	8.9%	5.1%

	Our School	State Objective	Met State Objective
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.0%	0.0%	Yes
Student attendance rate	97.2%	94.0%*	Yes

* Or greater than last year

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Performance By Group

Subgroups	ELA Mean	Math Mean	Science Mean	Social Studies Mean	ELA % Tested	Math % Tested
Grades 3-5						
All Students	674.8	661.6	623.2	644.0	99.7	99.3
Male	671.6	663.6	620.6	647.1	100.0	100.0
Female	678.7	659.2	626.2	639.9	99.2	98.5
White	692.2	677.7	631.9	657.5	99.4	98.7
African American	651.5	636.5	603.6	624.6	100.0	100.0
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	653.5	644.6	613.9	626.3	100.0	100.0
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Disabled	614.3	605.2	584.9	601.5	100.0	97.6
Limited English Proficient	657.1	648.0	618.7	623.6	100.0	100.0
Subsidized meals	653.3	644.1	608.8	624.5	100.0	100.0
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	630.0	630.0	630.0	630.0	95.0	95.0

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PASS Performance By Grade Level

	Grade	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Not Met	% Met	% Exemplary	% Met or Exemplary
English/Language Arts							
2011	3	94	100	11.8	32.9	55.3	88.2
	4	111	100	11	32	57	89
	5	111	100	16.8	43.6	39.6	83.2
	6	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	7	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	8	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2012	3	77	100	12.2	28.4	59.5	87.8
	4	105	99.1	16.3	31.5	52.2	83.7
	5	104	100	23	35	42	77
	6	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	7	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	8	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Mathematics							
2011	3	94	100	20	41.2	38.8	80
	4	111	100	16	37	47	84
	5	111	100	10.9	56.4	32.7	89.1
	6	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	7	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	8	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2012	3	77	98.7	26	31.5	42.5	74
	4	105	99.1	16.3	42.4	41.3	83.7
	5	104	100	23	38	39	77
	6	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	7	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	8	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Science							
2011	3	48	100	31.8	40.9	27.3	68.2
	4	111	100	14	73	13	86
	5	55	100	32.7	49	18.4	67.3
	6	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	7	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	8	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2012	3	40	100	32.4	43.2	24.3	67.6
	4	105	99.1	22.6	71	6.5	77.4
	5	52	100	28.6	51	20.4	71.4
	6	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	7	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	8	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

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PASS Performance By Grade Level

	Grade	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Not Met	% Met	% Exemplary	% Met or Exemplary
Social Studies							
2011	3	46	100	22	56.1	22	78
	4	111	100	10	52	38	90
	5	56	100	21.2	48.1	30.8	78.8
	6	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	7	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
8	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2012	3	37	100	27	54.1	18.9	73
	4	105	99.1	12.9	53.8	33.3	87.1
	5	52	100	23.5	37.3	39.2	76.5
	6	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	7	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
8	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Writing							
2011	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	109	100	13.9	37.6	48.5	86.1
	6	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	7	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
8	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2012	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	104	100	16.8	34.7	48.5	83.2
	6	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	7	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
8	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

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