



Independence Elementary

132 West Springdale Rd
Rock Hill, SC 29730

Grades	PK-5 Elementary School	
Enrollment	536 Students	
Principal	Marc Swygert	803-981-1135
Superintendent	Dr. Lynn P. Moody	803-981-1000
Board Chair	Bob Norwood	803-329-5014

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2012 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD



RATINGS OVER 5-YEAR PERIOD

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

* The School's 2012 Growth Rating was raised one level because of substantial improvement in the achievement of students belonging to historically underachieving groups of students. The Growth Rating may or may not have been affected by the performance of these groups in prior years.

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

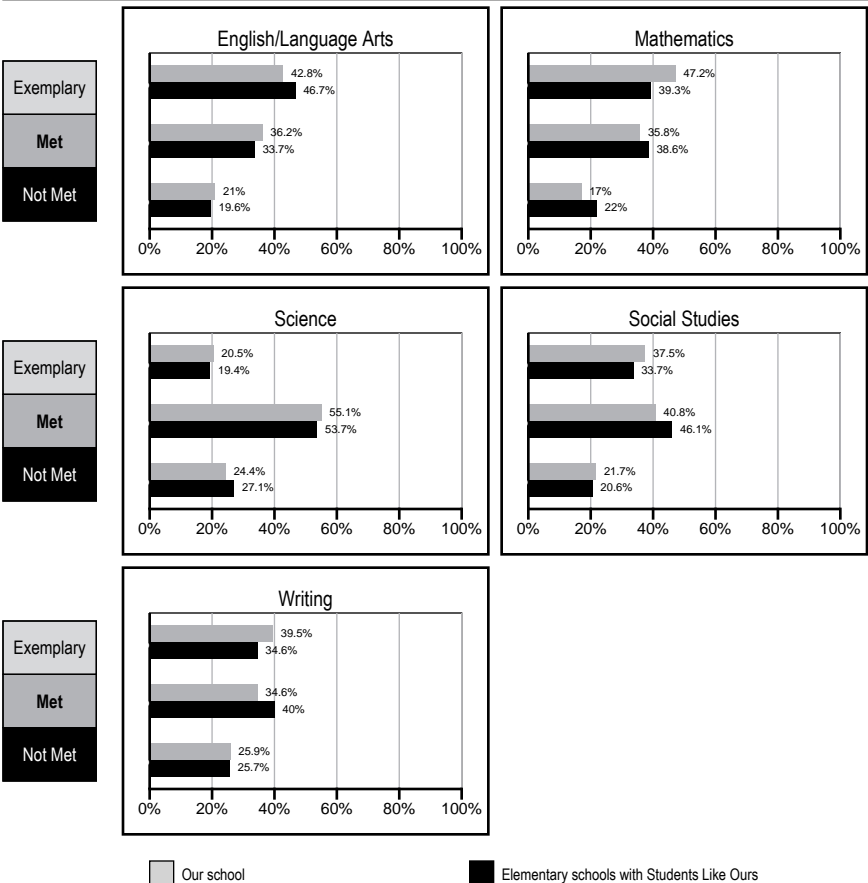
96.9%

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	At-Risk
31	42	29	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=536)				
First graders who attended full-day kindergarten	100.0%	Up from 0.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Retention rate	0.0%	Down from 0.2%	1.1%	1.0%
Attendance rate	96.2%	Up from 96.1%	96.5%	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=33)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	63.6%	Down from 65.6%	61.8%	63.0%
Continuing contract teachers	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
Teachers returning from previous year	93.9%	Up from 90.0%	89.1%	88.7%
Teacher attendance rate	95.6%	Down from 97.2%	95.2%	95.1%
Average teacher salary*	\$47,960	Up 3.6%	\$47,390	\$47,210
Professional development days/teacher	9.9 days	Up from 6.6 days	11.3 days	10.5 days
School				
Principal's years at school	2.0	Up from 1.0	5.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	21.6 to 1	Up from 21.4 to 1	20.2 to 1	20.0 to 1
Prime instructional time	89.4%	Down from 92.2%	90.3%	90.5%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No Change	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	96.7%	Up from 76.3%	100.0%	100.0%
Character development program	Good	Up from Average	Excellent	Excellent
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$5,926	Down 12.1%	\$6,788	\$7,247
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	73.4%	Down from 74.7%	68.0%	68.2%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	73.4%	Down from 73.9%	66.1%	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

Independence Elementary School serves a diverse suburban population of over 500 students and has celebrated many successes in the 2011-12 school year. Based on our district strategic plan and information gathered about our school, we chose to continue our work on writing instruction and focusing on building a positive environment for students and staff at our school.

We have strengthened community connections by getting more parents involved with our PTO and SIC. The PTO hosted many well-attended events, including a Fall Festival, Student Showcase/Family Night, and Spring Bingo Night. With the money raised, we have been able to purchase classroom supplies, purchase basketball goals for recess, recognize student achievements, purchase books for a summer literacy program, and maintain the school aviary. Our school has also partnered with Rock Hill High School to invite high school students to assist and mentor our students through the Teacher Cadet program and Winthrop University students spent the fall working on literacy skills with our after school Challenger program students. This year we expanded our WatchD.O.G.S. Dads program designed to invite and encourage dads and other important male figures to volunteer in our school. We plan to continue and expand on these achievements in the coming year.

Academically, we received state recognition with a Palmetto Silver Award for overall performance. Our PASS scores show that we continue to increase math achievement. While we continue many of the programs that have helped our students to be successful in the past, our Response to Intervention teams were implemented on every grade level. We provided students and teachers with access to over 40 iPads that help with enriching and remediating classroom instruction.

We have used late start dates and after-school professional development time for teachers at all grade levels to collaborate and develop common lessons develop writing goals, strengthening the understanding of writing instruction, to create instruction that meets the needs of all students, and developing plans and strategies for students who do not initially master all of the academic standards. We have focused on intervention in math and English/ Language Arts by involving students and their families through workshops, both during and after school hours. We have hosted a nationally renowned story teller. Each month we held "Town Hall" meetings with each grade level. We focused on positive character development and themes that would make our school a more positive environment.

To do this in the coming year, we will continue to implement our district strategic plan, the Rock Hill Climb, by increasing parental involvement and strategies to enrich student learning across the curriculum.

Marc Swygert, Principal
Heather Giles, SIC President

Evaluations by Teachers, Students and Parents

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	24	78	71
Percent satisfied with learning environment	95.8%	93.6%	95.5%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	100.0%	89.7%	95.6%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	83.3%	88.5%	95.7%

* 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	89.0
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

Independence 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	0.7%	2.6%
Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.0%	5.1%

	Our School	State Objective	Met State Objective
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.0%	0.0%	Yes
Student attendance rate	96.2%	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	662.3	670.2	631.3	647.8	100.0	100.0
Male	655.8	670.5	628.0	653.1	100.0	100.0
Female	667.6	670.0	633.7	642.9	100.0	100.0
White	664.4	675.8	636.7	650.6	100.0	100.0
African American	657.2	655.9	619.5	644.0	100.0	100.0
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Disabled	612.6	618.9	598.7	605.9	100.0	100.0
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Subsidized meals	648.6	656.4	620.1	634.1	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	82	91.5	17.6	19.1	63.2	82.4
	4	89	91	22.4	40.8	36.8	77.6
	5	78	100	24.3	51.4	24.3	75.7
	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
2012	3	75	100	21.7	29	49.3	78.3
	4	89	100	20.3	30.4	49.4	79.7
	5	89	100	21	48.1	30.9	79
	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	82	100	17.6	23	59.5	82.4
	4	89	100	16.7	45.2	38.1	83.3
	5	78	100	18.6	48.6	32.9	81.4
	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
2012	3	75	100	26.1	29	44.9	73.9
	4	89	100	8.9	30.4	60.8	91.1
	5	89	100	17.3	46.9	35.8	82.7
	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	41	100	21.6	40.5	37.8	78.4
	4	89	100	27.4	60.7	11.9	72.6
	5	38	97.4	50	47.1	2.9	50
	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
2012	3	40	100	32.4	56.8	10.8	67.6
	4	89	100	20.3	57	22.8	79.7
	5	44	100	25	50	25	75
	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	41	100	16.2	37.8	45.9	83.8
	4	89	100	31	39.3	29.8	69
	5	40	100	33.3	36.1	30.6	66.7
	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	35	100	31.3	40.6	28.1	68.8
	4	89	100	17.7	41.8	40.5	82.3
	5	45	100	22	39	39	78
	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
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	79	100	25	34.7	40.3	75
	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	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	89	98.9	25	35	40	75
	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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