



## Palmetto State E-cademy

115 Atrium Way, Suite 200  
Columbia, SC 29016

|                       |                      |              |
|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| <b>Grades</b>         | 9-12 High School     |              |
| <b>Enrollment</b>     | 347 Students         |              |
| <b>Principal</b>      | Dr. Barbara Stoops   | 803-227-6670 |
| <b>Superintendent</b> | Wayne Brazell, Ph.D. | 803-734-8322 |
| <b>Board Chair</b>    | Don McLaurin         | 803-603-1441 |

# THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2012 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD



## RATINGS OVER 5-YEAR PERIOD

| YEAR        | ABSOLUTE RATING | GROWTH RATING  |
|-------------|-----------------|----------------|
| <b>2012</b> | <b>At-Risk</b>  | <b>At-Risk</b> |
| 2011        | At-Risk         | N/A            |
| 2010        | N/A             | N/A            |
| 2009        | N/A             | N/A            |
| 2008        | 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://www.eoc.sc.gov>

**ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF HIGH SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS**

| Excellent | Good | Average | Below Average | At-Risk |
|-----------|------|---------|---------------|---------|
| 14        | 20   | 9       | 0             | 3       |

\* Ratings are calculated with data available by 11/14/2012.

**High School Assessment Program (HSAP) Exam Passage Rate: Second Year Students**

| Percent                | Our High School |       |       | High Schools with Students Like Ours |       |       |
|------------------------|-----------------|-------|-------|--------------------------------------|-------|-------|
|                        | 2010            | 2011  | 2012  | 2010                                 | 2011  | 2012  |
| Passed 2 subtests (%)  | 63.3%           | 68.8% | 55.7% | N/A                                  | 77.7% | 78.2% |
| Passed 1 subtest (%)   | 23.3%           | 19.8% | 31.4% | N/A                                  | 12.8% | 13.5% |
| Passed no subtests (%) | 13.3%           | 11.5% | 12.9% | N/A                                  | 9.5%  | 8.4%  |

**HSAP Passage Rate by Spring 2012**

| Percent | Our High School | High Schools with Students Like Ours |
|---------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
|         | 70.5%           | 91.0%                                |

**Four-Year Cohort Graduation Rate**

|  | Our High School |       | High Schools with Students Like Ours |       |
|--|-----------------|-------|--------------------------------------|-------|
|  | 2011*           | 2012  | 2011                                 | 2012  |
| Number of Students in Four-Year Cohort | 293             | 368   | 292                                  | 272   |
| Number of Graduates in Cohort          | 55              | 61    | 211                                  | 197   |
| Rate                                   | 18.8%           | 16.6% | 72.6%                                | 73.8% |

\*Used to calculate current ESEA/Federal Accountability Grade.

**Five-Year Graduation Rate**

|                               | Our High School |       | High Schools with Students Like Ours |       |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|-------|--------------------------------------|-------|
|                               | 2011            | 2012  | 2011                                 | 2012  |
| Number of Students in Cohort  | 204             | 285   | 292                                  | 273   |
| Number of Graduates in Cohort | 25              | 62    | 208                                  | 207   |
| Rate                          | 12.3%           | 21.8% | 70.1%                                | 76.6% |

**End of Course Tests**

| Percent of tests with scores of 70 or above on: | Our High School | High Schools with Students Like Ours* |
|---|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2           | 63.6%           | 74.2%                                 |
| English 1                                       | 65.5%           | 66.3%                                 |
| Biology 1/Applied Biology 2                     | 88.6%           | 76.8%                                 |
| US History and the Constitution                 | 28.3%           | 48.5%                                 |
| All Tests                                       | 55.5%           | 66.4%                                 |

\* High Schools with Poverty Indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this school.

## 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 | High Schools with Students Like Ours | Median High School |
|--|------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Students (n=347)</b>  |            |                       |                                      |                    |
| Retention rate   | 11.6%      | Down from 11.7%       | 3.2%                                 | 3.0%               |
| Attendance rate  | 86.3%      | Up from 85.9%         | 95.4%                                | 95.3%              |
| 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             | 0.8%                                 | 0.9%               |
| Enrolled in AP/IB programs   | 4.5%       | Up from 2.2%          | 13.5%                                | 13.4%              |
| Successful on AP/IB exams  | N/A        | N/A                   | 47.5%                                | 50.9%              |
| Eligible for LIFE Scholarship  | 36.1%      | Up from 7.9%          | 30.3%                                | 30.1%              |
| Annual dropout rate  | 14.4%      | Up from 10.3%         | 3.0%                                 | 2.3%               |
| Career/technology students in co-curricular organizations                    | 0.0%       | No Change             | 2.3%                                 | 2.7%               |
| Enrollment in career/technology courses                                      | 117        | Up from 1             | 432                                  | 395                |
| Students participating in work-based experiences                             | 0.0%       | No Change             | 9.2%                                 | 7.4%               |
| Career/technology students attaining technical skills                        | 37.6%      | N/A                   | 82.9%                                | 84.0%              |
| Career/technology completers placed  | N/A        | N/A                   | 98.9%                                | 98.4%              |
| <b>Teachers (n=22)</b>   |            |                       |                                      |                    |
| Teachers with advanced degrees   | 72.7%      | Down from 86.7%       | 63.2%                                | 63.2%              |
| Continuing contract teachers   | N/AV       | N/AV                  | N/AV                                 | N/AV               |
| Teachers returning from previous year  | 88.8%      | N/A                   | 87.9%                                | 86.6%              |
| Teacher attendance rate  | 99.5%      | Up from 96.5%         | 95.2%                                | 95.2%              |
| Average teacher salary*  | \$40,500   | Down 4.7%             | \$48,004                             | \$47,326           |
| Professional development days/teacher  | 9.4 days   | Down from 9.5 days    | 9.7 days                             | 9.7 days           |
| <b>School</b>  |            |                       |                                      |                    |
| Principal's years at school  | 4.0        | Up from 1.0           | 4.0                                  | 4.0                |
| Student-teacher ratio in core subjects                                       | 16.8 to 1  | N/R                   | 28.1 to 1                            | 27.1 to 1          |
| Prime instructional time   | 85.6%      | Up from 81.6%         | 89.4%                                | 89.4%              |
| Dollars spent per pupil**  | \$5,243    | Down 8.5%             | \$7,570                              | \$7,708            |
| Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**                               | 71.9%      | Up from 39.0%         | 57.1%                                | 57.1%              |
| Percent of expenditures for instruction**                                    | 73.0%      | Up from 57.0%         | 59.5%                                | 59.6%              |
| Opportunities in the arts  | Poor       | No Change             | Excellent                            | Excellent          |
| SACS accreditation   | No         | Down from Yes         | Yes                                  | Yes                |
| Parents attending conferences  | 64.8%      | Down from 99.9%       | 98.4%                                | 97.8%              |
| Character development program  | Excellent  | Up from Good          | Good                                 | Good               |
| Modern language program assessment   | N/A        | N/A                   | Average                              | Good               |
| Classical language program assessment  | N/A        | N/A                   | N/A                                  | Average            |

\* 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

## Performance By Student Groups

|                              | HSAP Passage Rate by Spring 2012 |       | End of Course Tests Passage Rate |       | On-time Graduation Rate, 2012 |       |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------|----------------------------------|-------|-------------------------------|-------|
|                              | n                                | %     | t                                | %     | n                             | %     |
| All Students                 | 61                               | 70.5% | 146                              | 55.5% | 368                           | 16.6% |
| <b>Gender</b>                |                                  |       |                                  |       |                               |       |
| Male                         | 25                               | 56.0% | 55                               | 54.5% | 152                           | 13.8% |
| Female                       | 36                               | 80.6% | 91                               | 56.0% | 216                           | 18.5% |
| <b>Racial/Ethnic Group</b>   |                                  |       |                                  |       |                               |       |
| White                        | 49                               | 75.5% | 109                              | 59.6% | 269                           | 18.2% |
| African American             | N/A                              | N/A   | 27                               | 48.1% | 70                            | 11.4% |
| 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   | 14                            | 14.3% |
| <b>Disability Status</b>     |                                  |       |                                  |       |                               |       |
| Disabled                     | N/A                              | N/A   | N/A                              | N/A   | 25                            | 4.0%  |
| <b>Migrant Status</b>        |                                  |       |                                  |       |                               |       |
| Migrant                      | N/A                              | N/A   | N/A                              | N/A   | N/A                           | N/A   |
| <b>English Proficiency</b>   |                                  |       |                                  |       |                               |       |
| Limited English Proficient   | N/A                              | N/A   | N/A                              | N/A   | N/A                           | N/A   |
| <b>Socio-Economic Status</b> |                                  |       |                                  |       |                               |       |
| Subsidized meals             | 26                               | 65.4% | 59                               | 59.3% | 127                           | 14.2% |

NOTE: n=number of students on which percentage is calculated; t=number of tests taken.

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Report of Principal and School Improvement Council

Palmetto State E-cademy (PSE) is a public virtual charter school founded in 2008 to serve students in grades 9-12 throughout the state. School offices are located in Columbia and our student body of 350 students demonstrates a blend of diversity equal to the diversity of the state. Teachers work from their homes in various locations throughout the state and they along with the PSE staff are dedicated to the success of our students. Each student is assigned to a homeroom that consists of students and at least one teacher within the same geographic location. This structure provides the students with local social gatherings, service opportunities, and academic support. Palmetto State E-cademy's curriculum is rigorous and includes AP and dual credit courses. During the past academic year, PSE offered dual credit courses and students earned 142 college credits at Southern Wesleyan University. In addition, our 2012 graduating class earned over \$1,000,000 in awarded scholarships from universities throughout the country. A Freshman Academy was implemented to support new students in the virtual environment. Learning Coaches worked one-on-one with these new students to guide them through the processes of virtual learning and to ensure academic success in their future high school and college years. Subject specific Learning Coaches also worked with students in English and math courses providing an additional level of instruction and tutoring. Finally, a Graduation Coach guided seniors and jumping-juniors through their last high school courses to further assist them in their goals of earning a diploma. Each of these programs provided an additional level of support for students who can frequently feel alone in their virtual educational world. The mission of Palmetto State E-cademy is to provide South Carolina youth an opportunity to realize their full potential in a superior online learning environment. To that end, the staff and Board of Directors have implemented a rigorous curriculum developed within the state to challenge students at the appropriate level. Quality professional development for staff, regular interaction with students and parents, and engaging delivery of instruction through live teaching and coaching have led to the continued success of Palmetto State E-cademy.

May Peach, Board Chair  
 Dr. Barbara Stoops, Principal

Evaluations by Teachers, Students and Parents

|  | Teachers | Students* | Parents* |
|--|----------|-----------|----------|
| Number of surveys returned                             | 19       | 0         | 0        |
| Percent satisfied with learning environment            | 94.7%    | N/R       | N/R      |
| Percent satisfied with social and physical environment | 84.2%    | N/R       | N/R      |
| Percent satisfied with school-home relations           | 84.2%    | N/R       | N/R      |

\* Only eleventh grade students and their parents were included. For schools without grade eleven, only the highest grade was 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.

|                                      |             |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Overall Weighted Points Total</b> | <b>47.6</b> |
| <b>Overall Grade Conversion</b>      | <b>F</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**

Palmetto State E-cademy 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 Data**

|   | <b>Our District</b> | <b>State</b> |
|---|---------------------|--------------|
| Classes in low poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers  | 13.1%               | 2.6%         |
| Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers | 13.6%               | 5.1%         |

|   | <b>Our School</b> | <b>State Objective</b> | <b>Met State Objective</b> |
|---|-------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers | 0.0%              | 0.0%                   | Yes                        |

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Performance By Group

| Subgroups                         | ELA Mean | Math Mean | Science Mean | Social Studies Mean | ELA % Tested | Math % Tested | Graduation Rate |
|-----------------------------------|----------|-----------|--------------|---------------------|--------------|---------------|-----------------|
| <b>Grades 9-12</b>                |          |           |              |                     |              |               |                 |
| All Students                      | 228      | 215       | 72           | 67                  | 93.2         | 93.2          | 18.8            |
| Male                              | N/A      | N/A       | N/A          | 69                  | N/A          | N/A           | 17.1            |
| Female                            | N/A      | N/A       | 73           | 66                  | 92.2         | 92.2          | 20.0            |
| White                             | N/A      | N/A       | 73           | 68                  | 94.5         | 94.5          | 20.7            |
| African American                  | N/A      | N/A       | N/A          | N/A                 | N/A          | N/A           | 9.8             |
| Asian/Pacific Islander            | N/A      | 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           | N/A             |
| American Indian/Alaskan           | N/A      | N/A       | N/A          | N/A                 | N/A          | N/A           | N/A             |
| Disabled                          | N/A      | N/A       | N/A          | N/A                 | N/A          | N/A           | 35.3            |
| Limited English Proficient        | N/A      | N/A       | N/A          | N/A                 | N/A          | N/A           | N/A             |
| Subsidized meals                  | N/A      | N/A       | N/A          | 66                  | 93.9         | 93.9          | 17.2            |
| Annual Measurable Objective (AMO) | 223      | 220       | 76           | 71                  | 95.0         | 95            | 73.1            |

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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**Two-Year HSAP Trend Data**

|                              | School Year | Enrollment 1st Day of Testing | % Tested | % Below Basic | % Basic | % Proficient | % Advanced | School % Proficient or Advanced* |
|------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------|----------|---------------|---------|--------------|------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>English/Language Arts</b> |             |                               |          |               |         |              |            |                                  |
| All Students                 | 2011        | 99                            | 97.0     | 13.7          | 25.5    | 31.4         | 29.4       | 68.6                             |
|                              | 2012        | 74                            | 93.2     | 15.6          | 34.4    | 34.4         | 15.6       | 56.3                             |
| <b>Mathematics</b>           |             |                               |          |               |         |              |            |                                  |
| All Students                 | 2011        | 99                            | 97.0     | 23.5          | 37.3    | 25.5         | 13.7       | 52.9                             |
|                              | 2012        | 74                            | 93.2     | 37.5          | 28.1    | 21.9         | 12.5       | 43.8                             |

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