



Sims Middle School

2200 Whitmire Highway
Union, SC 29379

Grades	6-8 Middle School	
Enrollment	789 Students	
Principal	Mickey Connolly	864-429-1755
Superintendent	Dr. Kristi V. Woodall	864-429-1740
Board Chair	Ms. Betty JoAnn McMorris	864-427-4149

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2012 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD



RATINGS OVER 5-YEAR PERIOD

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

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

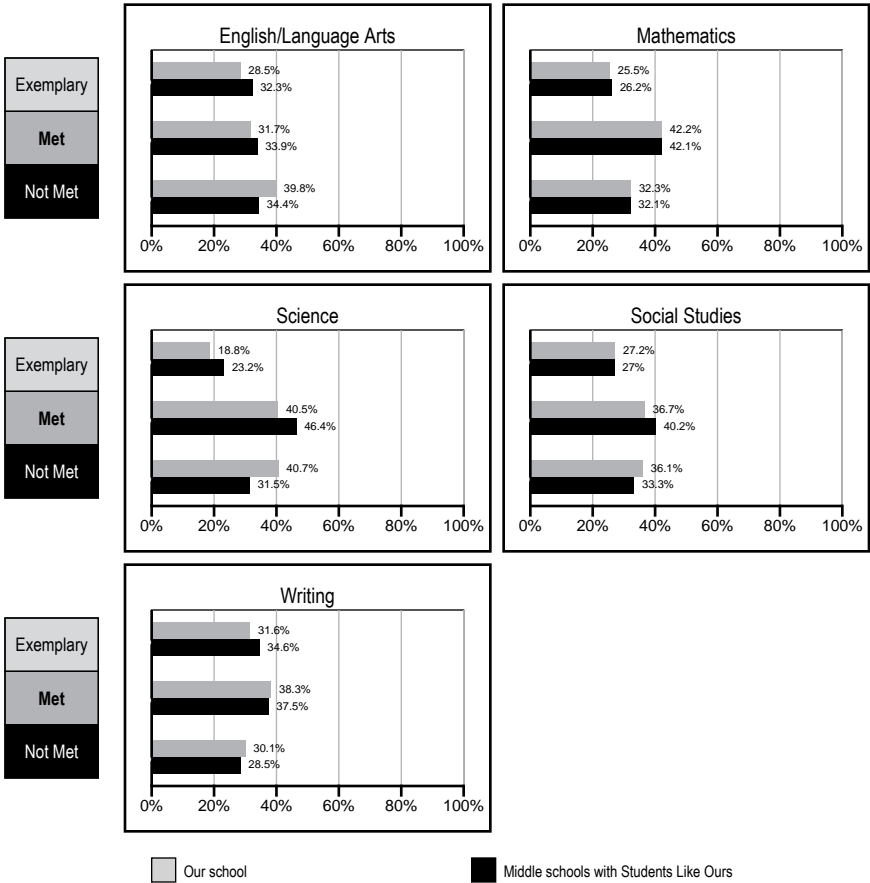
Percent of students tested in 2011-12 whose 2010-11 test scores were located | 98.2%

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF MIDDLE SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	At-Risk
5	8	41	3	2

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

Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (PASS)



* Middle schools with Students Like Ours are middle 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

End of Course Tests

Percent of tests with scores of 70 or above on:	Our Middle School	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours
Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2	100.0%	96.6%
English 1	98.6%	95.3%
Physical Science	N/A	N/A
US History and the Constitution	N/A	N/A
All Subjects	99.5%	96.5%

School Profile

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Middle School
Students (n=789)				
Students enrolled in high school credit courses (grades 7 & 8)	14.3%	Up from 12.7%	21.7%	22.9%
Retention rate	2.7%	Up from 2.6%	0.8%	0.8%
Attendance rate	95.0%	Down from 95.1%	96.0%	96.2%
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	0.6%	0.5%
Annual dropout rate	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=58)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	70.7%	Down from 70.9%	59.7%	61.3%
Continuing contract teachers	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
Teachers returning from previous year	92.0%	Up from 91.5%	86.7%	86.7%
Teacher attendance rate	91.6%	Down from 93.9%	95.4%	95.2%
Average teacher salary*	\$47,188	Up 3.5%	\$45,551	\$46,422
Professional development days/teacher	23.0 days	Up from 21.2 days	10.3 days	10.0 days
School				
Principal's years at school	7.0	Up from 6.0	5.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	17.2 to 1	Down from 21.0 to 1	22.4 to 1	22.0 to 1
Prime instructional time	85.5%	Down from 88.4%	89.8%	90.1%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No Change	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	94.6%	Down from 96.2%	98.5%	98.8%
Character development program	Good	No Change	Good	Good
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$5,900	Down 3.5%	\$7,283	\$7,245
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	73.8%	Up from 70.1%	61.9%	63.1%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	73.1%	Up from 69.3%	60.1%	60.9%

* 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

The staff at Sims Middle School continues its efforts to provide our students with a high-quality education. Our students were provided diverse and rigorous educational experiences with high expectations and academic excellence as our primary goals.

The 2011-2012 school year provided many challenging and stimulating opportunities to move toward successfully accomplishing our school's goals. Our students, faculty, and staff experienced a great deal of success in academics, the arts, athletics, and various service-learning activities. SMS accomplishments included 9 students being recognized as SC Junior Scholars, 1 student being named Duke TIP Scholar, and 79 students being inducted to the National Jr. Beta Club. The academic efforts continued through our End of Course tests with averages in English I, Algebra I, and Biology I exceeding the state average in every subject. The SMS Wrestling team won the Peachtree Conference Championship, and our girls' softball team had an undefeated season. Our band, chorus, and orchestra received Excellent ratings at the South Carolina Concert Festival.

In the classroom, our teachers continue the refinements of their professional learning community by making steady improvement in the instructions provided to the students. What is more notable is how our entire faculty analyzes classroom and statewide test data in striving to find ways to improve student learning. Teachers used common planning times to collaborate and align instruction to state supported documents. Teachers analyzed test data in an effort to identify the academic strengths and weaknesses of individual students, and used this information to implement instructional practices that will lead all students to strong academic achievement.

Administrators and teachers consistently seek new instructional strategies that will enable them to move all students to their greatest academic potential. With the implementation of SMS Reads during our daily SSR time, we noted an increase in students' reading, as well as the number of books checked out in our library. Advanced level instruction was offered in ELA, Math, and Science. The daily schedule was structured in order to allow 6th and 7th grader more instructional time in ELA and math. Single gender classes were offered to students in order to promote improvement in academic achievement and behavior. In an effort to maintain a positive school climate, we continued to recognize students who exhibited good behavior with celebrations and field trips.

Sims Middle School is fortunate to have a new facility, and a caring community which provides support and assistance to our students and staff. We had a successful year and will continue to provide as many opportunities for success as possible. Our school is dedicated to helping students achieve both in and out of the classroom.

Melissa Gregory, SIC Chairperson
Mickey Connolly, Principal

Evaluations by Teachers, Students and Parents

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	55	235	196
Percent satisfied with learning environment	94.5%	78.7%	70.7%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	92.7%	74.9%	75.8%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	67.3%	77.5%	74.0%

* Only students at the highest middle 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	79.6
Overall Grade Conversion	C

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

Sims Middle School 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	N/A	2.6%
Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	N/A	5.1%

	Our School	State Objective	Met State Objective
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	1.0%	0.0%	No
Student attendance rate	95.0%	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 6-8						
All Students	633.3	640.0	613.4	625.4	100.0	99.7
Male	627.1	635.5	615.3	629.5	100.0	99.8
Female	640.3	645.0	611.1	621.3	100.0	99.7
White	648.1	652.4	623.3	637.8	100.0	99.5
African American	615.6	625.0	599.4	610.8	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	587.1	591.6	566.7	578.0	100.0	99.2
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Subsidized meals	620.9	628.6	603.1	612.5	100.0	99.6
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	624.0	624.0	624.0	624.0	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	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	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	262	99.6	34.3	37.4	28.3	65.7
	7	271	99.6	43.5	29.8	26.7	56.5
	8	269	100	43.3	30.4	26.2	56.7
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	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	250	100	39.9	30	30	60.1
	7	254	100	36.6	33.3	30.1	63.4
	8	269	100	41.4	31.2	27.4	58.6
Mathematics							
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	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	262	99.6	27.2	46.1	26.8	72.8
	7	271	99.6	39.7	37	23.3	60.3
	8	269	100	27.8	51	21.3	72.2
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	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	250	100	31.3	40.7	28	68.7
	7	254	99.2	32.2	34.7	33.1	67.8
	8	269	100	31.9	50.2	17.9	68.1
Science							
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	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	131	99.2	47.6	48.4	4	52.4
	7	270	99.6	46.7	44.4	8.8	53.3
	8	134	100	30.5	38.2	31.3	69.5
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	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	125	100	50	45.8	4.2	50
	7	253	99.6	35.1	42	22.9	64.9
	8	136	100	40.6	32.3	27.1	59.4

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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	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	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	130	99.2	27.8	50.8	21.4	72.2
	7	271	99.6	55.7	28.6	15.6	44.3
	8	135	99.3	25.8	39.4	34.8	74.2
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	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	128	100	28.6	50.8	20.6	71.4
	7	253	99.6	42	33.1	24.9	58
	8	133	100	30	30	40	70
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	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	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	270	99.3	40.5	43.5	16	59.5
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	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	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	274	99.3	29.9	38.4	31.7	70.1

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