



Sandhills Primary School

140 Lewis Rast Road
Swansea, SC 29160

Grades	1-2 Primary School	
Enrollment	486 Students	
Principal	Donna Goodwin	803-568-1250
Superintendent	Linda G. Lavender, Ph.D.	803-568-1000
Board Chair	Jeff Hart, Jr.	803-568-2262

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2012 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD



RATINGS OVER 5-YEAR PERIOD

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING
2012	N/A	N/A
2011	N/A	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 PRIMARY SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	At-Risk
12	0	0	0	0

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 11/13/2012. 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	88.5%
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	22.6 to 1
Teachers with advanced degrees	58.6%
Teachers returning from previous year	N/A
Percent of parents attending conferences	100.0%
Days of professional development devoted exclusively to knowledge and skills working with children less than eight years old	9.8 days

Types Of Accreditation (More Than One May Apply)

	Not pursuing accreditation
X	Conducting a self-study
X	South Carolina Department of Education
X	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=486)				
First graders who attended full-day kindergarten	98.0%	Down from 98.4%	100.0%	100.0%
Retention rate	0.0%	No Change	2.7%	2.5%
Attendance rate	94.7%	Up from 94.1%	95.8%	95.8%
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=29)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	58.6%	Up from 57.1%	70.0%	62.5%
Continuing contract teachers	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
Teachers returning from previous year	N/A	N/A	91.1%	91.0%
Teacher attendance rate	95.0%	Up from 92.9%	94.9%	94.9%
Average teacher salary*	\$45,875	Down 1.2%	\$48,148	\$47,047
Professional development days/teacher	11.7 days	Up from 5.3 days	16.9 days	13.2 days
School				
Principal's years at school	11.0	Up from 10.0	7.0	6.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	22.6 to 1	Up from 20.3 to 1	21.0 to 1	21.1 to 1
Prime instructional time	88.5%	Up from 85.8%	89.1%	89.5%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No Change	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	100.0%	Up from 99.4%	100.0%	100.0%
Character development program	Good	No Change	Excellent	Excellent
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$6,888	Down 9.4%	\$6,888	\$6,841
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	62.0%	Up from 59.4%	68.6%	68.5%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	53.6%	Down from 55.1%	67.3%	65.2%

* 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

Sandhills Primary School celebrated the combination of first and second grades from both Frances Mack Primary and Swansea Primary schools over the last two years. Teachers have done a wonderful job of developing a professional learning community that supports all learners. We have approximately 500 first and second graders that have made very good progress.

Our school has embraced school choice by offering two methods of instruction. Parents are able to choose either the Integrated Literacy Model where literacy goals are woven into science and social studies content areas or the Montessori model which emphasizes more independent learning and multi-age classrooms. Integrated Literacy and Montessori models have proven to be successful, and both models offer parents a chance to be included in making decisions regarding instruction that is just right for their child.

In preparation for an accreditation visit from AdvancEd, our School Improvement Council (SIC) and all staff have been involved in evaluating the progress we have made toward school goals. Groups of stakeholders have completed surveys aimed at determining the current reality for our school. MAP data indicated we surpassed our five-year School Renewal Plan reading goal in both first and second grades! Based on all data gathered, our school has developed plans to further improve student achievement. One target that was established through this self-study was student reading engagement. Teachers have had professional development on the importance of the actual amount of reading a student is engaged in every day. We have learned strategies this year that we will implement next year to strengthen student engagement and reading achievement.

Our Positive Behavior Intervention Supports (PBIS) team implemented many activities to engage students with our character goals. A highlight for us was the collaboration with senior citizens and SPS students through our Grand Cub program. Seniors from the Agape Senior Center were adopted by classrooms. The Grand Cubs were involved in activities designed to help students hone social skills and develop respect for our seniors.

During the last week of school, students had the exciting opportunity to browse through a varied selection of books on their individual reading levels. Students selected eight books to keep for their own personal libraries at home. It is our hope that our students will read these books and many more over the summer to prevent summer reading loss.

Our goal is to prepare first and second graders as independent thinkers and problem solvers in an ever-changing world. Thank you for your support throughout the year as we work together as a professional learning community!

Donna Goodwin, Principal

Gloria Williams, Chairperson

Evaluations by Teachers

	Teachers
Number of surveys returned	30
Percent satisfied with learning environment	100.0%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	100.0%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	66.7%

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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	N/A
Overall Grade Conversion	N/A

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

Sandhills Primary 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	0.9%	5.1%

	Our School	State Objective	Met State Objective
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.0%	0.0%	Yes
Student attendance rate	94.7%	94.0%*	Yes

* Or greater than last year

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