



## A. J. Whittenberg Elementary School of Engineering

420 Westfield Street  
Greenville, SC 29601

<b>Grades</b>	PK-4 Elementary School	
<b>Enrollment</b>	412 Students	
<b>Principal</b>	Margaret Thomason	864-452-0500
<b>Superintendent</b>	Mr. Burke Royster	864-355-3100
<b>Board Chair</b>	Mr. Chuck Saylor	803-360-3527

# THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2013 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

### RATINGS OVER 5-YEAR PERIOD

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING
<b>2013</b>	<b>Excellent</b>	<b>Good</b>
2012	Excellent	N/A
2011	N/A	N/A
2010	N/A	N/A
2009	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>

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

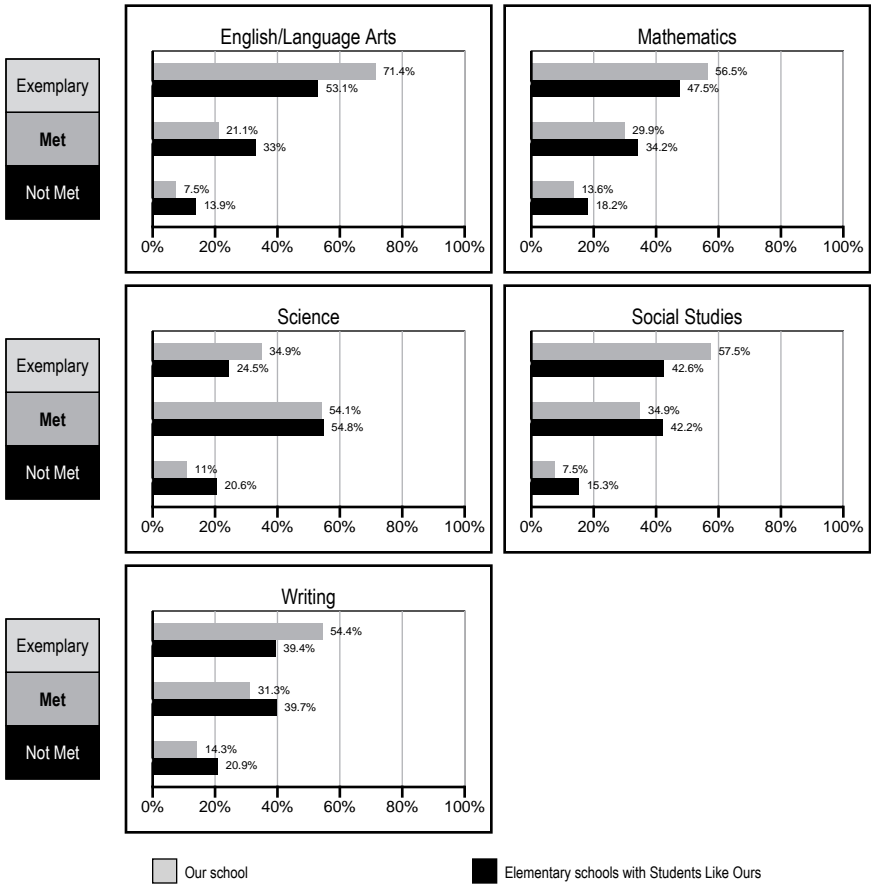
Percent of students tested in 2012-13 whose 2011-12 test scores were located | 98.7%

**ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS\***

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	At-Risk
38	26	4	0	0

\* Ratings are calculated with data available by 12/14/2013.

**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
<b>Students (n=412)</b>				
First graders who attended full-day kindergarten	92.9%	Down from 95.3%	100.0%	100.0%
Retention rate	3.0%	Down from 4.3%	0.8%	0.9%
Attendance rate	97.1%	Down from 97.4%	96.7%	96.3%
Served by gifted and talented program	11.1%	N/A	10.1%	7.2%
With disabilities	11.5%	N/A	11.3%	12.4%
Older than usual for grade	2.9%	N/A	1.4%	1.9%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Teachers (n=28)</b>				
Teachers with advanced degrees	71.4%	No Change	63.8%	62.5%
Continuing contract teachers	78.6%	Up from 66.7%	83.3%	83.3%
Teachers returning from previous year	N/A	N/A	89.7%	88.3%
Teacher attendance rate	97.1%	Up from 94.7%	95.4%	95.0%
Average teacher salary*	\$48,103	Up 8.9%	\$49,240	\$48,193
Professional development days/teacher	11.2 days	Up from 9.6 days	11.0 days	11.0 days
<b>School</b>				
Principal's years at school	3.0	Up from 2.0	4.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	17.7 to 1	Down from 20.7 to 1	20.8 to 1	20.1 to 1
Prime instructional time	94.0%	Up from 91.9%	90.7%	90.0%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No Change	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	100.0%	No Change	100.0%	100.0%
Character development program	Excellent	No Change	Excellent	Excellent
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$7,001	Down 15.4%	\$6,871	\$7,364
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	55.0%	Up from 48.2%	69.0%	68.0%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	55.0%	Up from 43.8%	67.0%	66.0%

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

\*\* Prior year audited financial data are reported.

## Abbreviations for Missing Data

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## Report of Principal and School Improvement Council

On August 2, 2012, the South Carolina Department of Education released its report card on schools, including letter grades for each school in South Carolina. A.J. Whittenberg Elementary School of Engineering was the only elementary school in the Greenville County School District to receive a Perfect "100 – A" ranking. The ranking system is part of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Federal Accountability System required by the U. S. government to assure education quality. The reporting also included results of the Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (PASS) testing taken by AJW third graders for the first time. The South Carolina Department of Education rated AJW as an "Excellent" school. Ninety- five percent of our third grades received a rating of "Met or Exemplary" in English and Language Arts (ELA), and ninety-four percent received a rating of "Met or Exemplary" in Math. The school's amazing success far exceeded the required eighty percent rating for all students.

Several staff members were recognized for their excellence in academics. Shasta Looper, fourth grade teacher, won the \$25,000 Milken Educator Award for the State of South Carolina; Amanda LaBlanc, Media Specialist was selected one of 25 teachers in the nation to participate in the Fulbright USA Japan Exchange Program; and Shannon Lawton, fourth grade teacher, was one of 60 teachers in the world selected for the NASA Education Program. Ms. Durant and the Green Team were selected to receive the Champion of the Environment Grant by the SC Department of Environment Control (SCDHEC) to build a Greenhouse from recycled materials. The award is presented annually to Champion schools for their outstanding environmental efforts. Ms. Durant received a grant to plant trees on Hudson Street from AJW to the Salvation Army. Mrs. Mann secured a private grant to fund an after school intervention program for 3rd and 4th graders.

As the first public elementary school in South Carolina with a school –wide engineering curriculum available to all students beginning at 4K, our students have many opportunities available to them. Students create Lego robots, design, and develop products using computers. Our 4th Grade FLL Lego Robotics Team was invited to represent the state of South Carolina (one of only 3 teams in North America) at the International FLL Tournament in Paderborn, Germany. At ages 9 and 10 years old, AJW was the youngest team participating with middle and high school students from around the world.

Under the leadership of our PTA, our students are protected by our men's mentoring group, "Watch Dogs – Dads of Great Students" who greet the children each morning and make sure that our building is safe. Our Engineering Partner Program with local organizations brings engineering to life for students. This amazing success is the result of hard work by our students, staff, administration and all of our parents and community partners. We all have something to celebrate!

Margaret Thomason, Principal

Jamie Howard, SIC Chairman

## Evaluations by Teachers, Students and Parents

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	28	70	35
Percent satisfied with learning environment	92.8%	95.7%	85.7%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	96.4%	91.2%	85.3%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	96.4%	89.6%	80%

\* 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 2013, 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>98.3</b>
<b>Overall Grade Conversion</b>	<b>A</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**

A. J. Whittenberg Elementary School of Engineering 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**

	<b>Our District</b>	<b>State</b>
Classes in low poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	1.8%	2.3%
Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	2.7%	4.9%

	<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
Student attendance rate	97.1%	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
<b>Grades 3-5</b>						
All Students	686.1	673.0	647.6	673.7	100.0	100.0
Male	686.7	676.0	652.2	677.8	100.0	100.0
Female	685.4	669.0	641.5	668.0	100.0	100.0
White	708.5	702.1	676.3	691.8	100.0	100.0
African American	667.7	644.7	620.5	659.7	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	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Subsidized meals	663.1	649.0	622.6	656.2	100.0	100.0
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	635.0	635.0	635.0	635.0	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
<b>English/Language Arts</b>							
<b>2012</b>	3	88	100	4.7	11.6	83.7	95.3
	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
<b>2013</b>	3	80	100	6.3	16.5	77.2	93.7
	4	72	100	8.8	26.5	64.7	91.2
	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	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Mathematics</b>							
<b>2012</b>	3	88	100	5.8	15.1	79.1	94.2
	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
<b>2013</b>	3	80	100	19	30.4	50.6	81
	4	72	100	7.4	29.4	63.2	92.6
	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	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Science</b>							
<b>2012</b>	3	44	100	7	48.8	44.2	93
	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
<b>2013</b>	3	41	100	17.1	43.9	39	82.9
	4	72	100	7.4	60.3	32.4	92.6
	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	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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PASS Performance By Grade Level

	Grade	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Not Met	% Met	% Exemplary	% Met or Exemplary
<b>Social Studies</b>							
<b>2012</b>	3	44	100	4.7	39.5	55.8	95.3
	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	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>2013</b>	3	39	100	13.2	50	36.8	86.8
	4	72	100	4.4	26.5	69.1	95.6
	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	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Writing</b>							
<b>2012</b>	3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	7	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	8	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>2013</b>	3	80	100	12.7	30.4	57	87.3
	4	72	100	16.2	32.4	51.5	83.8
	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	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

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