



River Springs Elementary

115 Connie Wright Road
Irmo, SC 29063

Grades	K-5 Elementary School	
Enrollment	629 Students	
Principal	Melanie Cohen	803-476-4400
Superintendent	Stephen W. Hefner, Ed.D.	803-476-8000
Board Chair	Robert Gantt	803-781-5408

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2013 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

RATINGS OVER 5-YEAR PERIOD

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING
2013	Excellent	Good
2012	Excellent	Excellent
2011	Excellent	Excellent
2010	Excellent	Excellent
2009	Excellent	Excellent

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

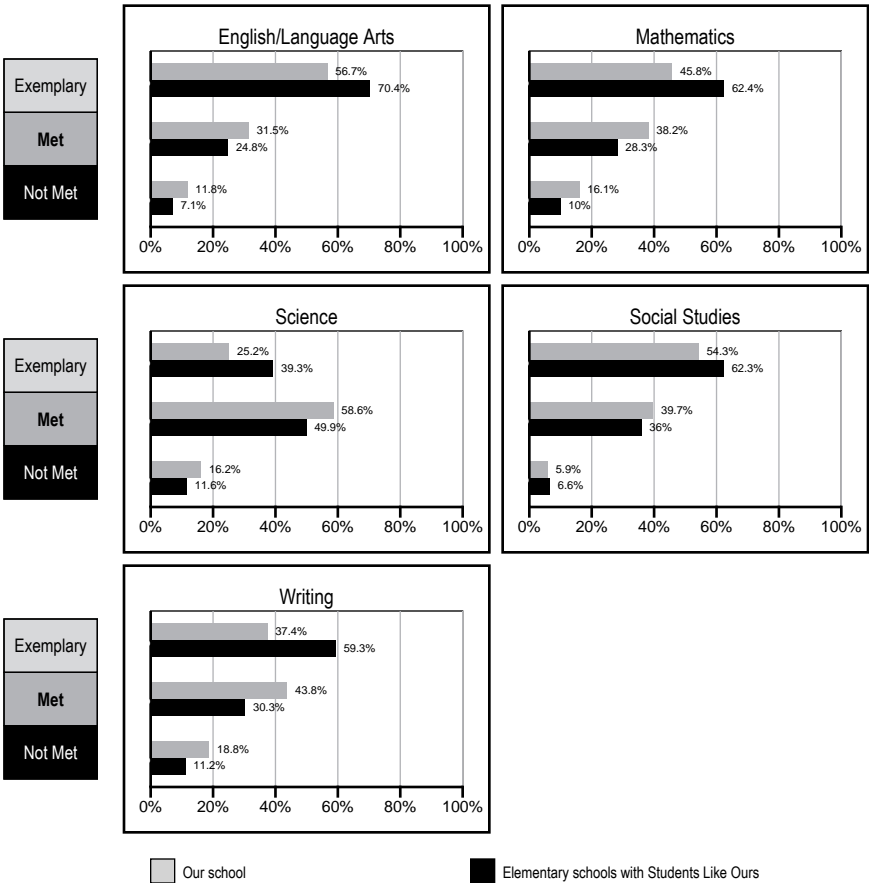
Percent of students tested in 2012-13 whose 2011-12 test scores were located | 97.4%

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	At-Risk
14	0	0	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
Students (n=629)				
First graders who attended full-day kindergarten	100.0%	No Change	98.8%	100.0%
Retention rate	0.0%	Down from 0.2%	0.4%	0.9%
Attendance rate	97.1%	Down from 97.3%	97.2%	96.3%
Served by gifted and talented program	17.8%	N/A	18.5%	7.2%
With disabilities	10.6%	N/A	10.8%	12.4%
Older than usual for grade	0.2%	N/A	0.8%	1.9%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.0%	Down from 0.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=45)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	68.9%	No Change	63.1%	62.5%
Continuing contract teachers	97.8%	Down from 100.0%	86.2%	83.3%
Teachers returning from previous year	94.1%	Up from 93.4%	90.4%	88.3%
Teacher attendance rate	95.1%	Up from 93.8%	95.4%	95.0%
Average teacher salary*	\$51,385	Up 2.7%	\$48,975	\$48,193
Professional development days/teacher	9.6 days	Down from 10.9 days	9.4 days	11.0 days
School				
Principal's years at school	4.0	Up from 3.0	5.5	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	20.3 to 1	Up from 18.5 to 1	20.8 to 1	20.1 to 1
Prime instructional time	91.2%	Up from 90.5%	92.0%	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**	\$8,094	Up 2.7%	\$7,259	\$7,364
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	67.0%	Up from 65.9%	71.5%	68.0%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	66.0%	Up from 65.2%	70.0%	66.0%

* 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 2012-2013 school year at River Springs Elementary has proven to be another year of excellence for our students and faculty. The school continues to thrive thanks to our dedicated PTO and SIC. This year, our PTO continued their focus on increasing physical activity among our students by starting a running club for students. This was a tremendous success with more than 100 student runners participating in the "Gators on the Go" program. Several students have taken this initiative a step further by participating in community running events, and RSES won the School Participation Award from the Columbia Marathon for having the most student participants. In addition to supporting the Running Club, the PTO's dedicated volunteer hours also donated the funds needed to expand the playground with equipment that encourages fitness and fun. All students have enjoyed the new addition to our playground.

The faculty and staff have collaborated in staff development focused on Common Core State Standards, technology, and instructional best practices. The hallmark of the school year was a graduate-credit class offered to teachers focusing on inquiry as an instructional model for learning. More than twenty teachers participated in this class that required teachers to think and teach in new ways. The impact of this class has been felt by students throughout the school as they have learned to ask questions, think, and research through planned units of inquiry. The culture of learning is changing at River Springs!

While River Springs has enjoyed many years of excellence, we know that tomorrow brings us new challenges. River Springs is poised to meet the challenge of preparing our students for an ever-changing future. We will immerse our students in rigorous and meaningful curriculum. We will prepare our students to become productive members of a global society by encouraging them to ask questions and think about the world around them. By preparing our students to become the leaders of tomorrow, we will continue our long-standing tradition of excellence.

Respectfully submitted,
Melanie Cohen, Principal
Michael Schlenk, SIC Chair

Evaluations by Teachers, Students and Parents

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	48	111	83
Percent satisfied with learning environment	89.6%	96.4%	92.8%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	93.6%	98.2%	92.8%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	100%	95.5%	95.1%

* 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.

Overall Weighted Points Total	94.1
Overall Grade Conversion	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

River Springs 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	5.9%	2.3%
Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	N/A	4.9%

	Our School	State Objective	Met State Objective
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	1.8%	0.0%	No
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
Grades 3-5						
All Students	677.1	666.4	639.7	670.8	100.0	100.0
Male	670.4	664.2	640.9	672.5	100.0	100.0
Female	682.6	668.2	638.7	669.5	100.0	100.0
White	683.1	671.5	645.9	672.3	100.0	100.0
African American	651.0	641.2	615.2	655.9	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	638.8	629.2	620.1	650.2	100.0	100.0
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Subsidized meals	644.5	635.3	622.1	639.9	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
English/Language Arts							
2012	3	106	100	12.9	17.8	69.3	87.1
	4	117	100	11.3	34.8	53.9	88.7
	5	107	100	9.8	29.4	60.8	90.2
	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
2013	3	103	100	11.9	16.8	71.3	88.1
	4	115	100	10.8	38.7	50.5	89.2
	5	119	100	12.7	37.3	50	87.3
	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							
2012	3	106	100	19.8	29.7	50.5	80.2
	4	117	100	6.1	40	53.9	93.9
	5	107	100	9.8	35.3	54.9	90.2
	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
2013	3	103	100	24.8	30.7	44.6	75.2
	4	115	100	11.7	44.1	44.1	88.3
	5	119	100	12.7	39	48.3	87.3
	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							
2012	3	53	100	19.6	45.1	35.3	80.4
	4	117	100	16.5	69.6	13.9	83.5
	5	53	100	12.2	32.7	55.1	87.8
	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
2013	3	52	100	17.3	48.1	34.6	82.7
	4	115	100	16.2	60.4	23.4	83.8
	5	60	100	15.3	64.4	20.3	84.7
	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

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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							
2012	3	53	100	16	34	50	84
	4	117	99.2	9.6	46.5	43.9	90.4
	5	54	100	13.2	22.6	64.2	86.8
	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
2013	3	51	100	8.2	51	40.8	91.8
	4	115	100	4.5	37.8	57.7	95.5
	5	59	100	6.8	33.9	59.3	93.2
	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							
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	106	99.1	19.8	39.6	40.6	80.2
	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
2013	3	103	99	22	29	49	78
	4	114	99.1	19.1	50.9	30	80.9
	5	118	100	14.5	50.4	35	85.5
	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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