



## Whale Branch Middle School

2009 Trask Parkway  
Seabrook, SC 29940

<b>Grades</b>	5-8 Middle School	
<b>Enrollment</b>	393 Students	
<b>Principal</b>	Matthew D. Hunt	843-466-3000
<b>Superintendent</b>	Dr. Jackie Rosswurm	843-322-2300
<b>Board Chair</b>	Bill Evans	843-322-2357

# THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2013 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

## RATINGS OVER 5-YEAR PERIOD

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING
<b>2013</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Average</b>
2012	Average	Average
2011	Average	Good
2010	Below Average	Average
2009	Below Average	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 2012-13 whose 2011-12 test scores were located

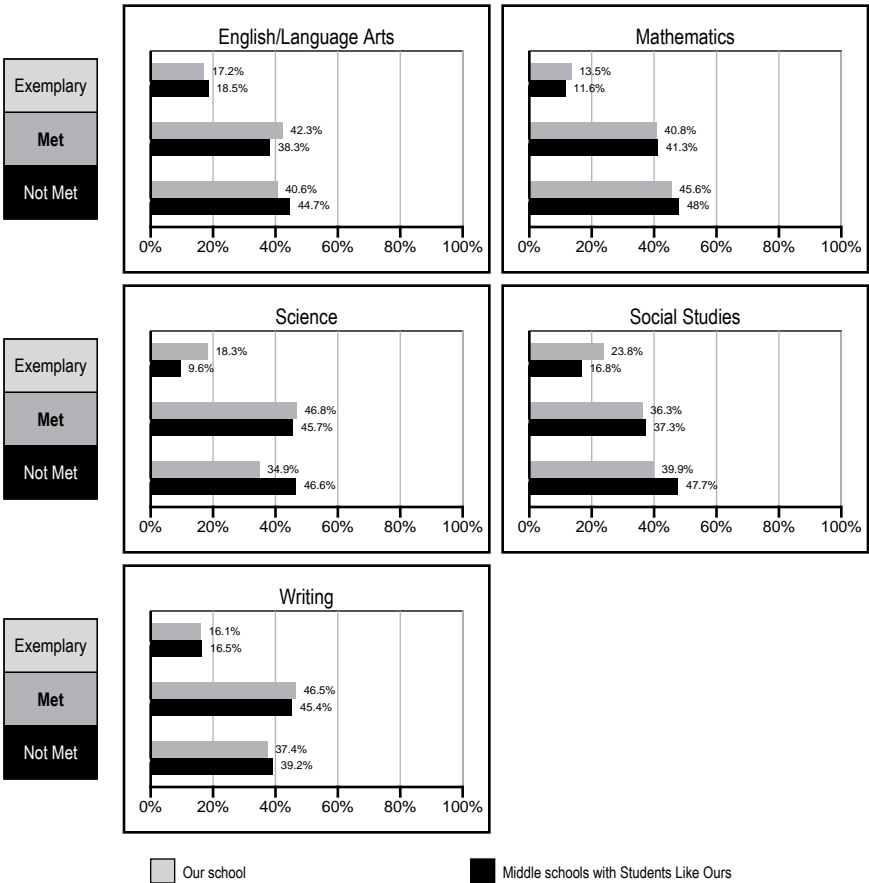
96.5%

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

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	At-Risk
0	0	28	27	15

\* Ratings are calculated with data available by 03/14/2014.

**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	76.9%	89.2%
English 1	40.0%	87.0%
Physical Science	N/A	N/A
US History and the Constitution	N/A	N/A
All Subjects	73.7%	89.6%

## School Profile

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Middle School
<b>Students (n=393)</b>				
Students enrolled in high school credit courses (grades 7 & 8)	31.7%	Down from 53.3%	14.2%	24.6%
Retention rate	0.3%	Down from 0.8%	1.1%	0.6%
Attendance rate	97.5%	Down from 97.6%	95.3%	95.9%
Served by gifted and talented program	10.5%	N/A	7.0%	18.5%
With disabilities	14.3%	N/A	15.8%	13.0%
Older than usual for grade	4.5%	N/A	7.7%	4.8%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.5%	Down from 9.6%	0.5%	0.6%
Annual dropout rate	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Teachers (n=34)</b>				
Teachers with advanced degrees	64.7%	Up from 61.3%	59.6%	61.5%
Continuing contract teachers	64.7%	Up from 45.2%	68.0%	77.2%
Teachers returning from previous year	74.0%	Up from 69.3%	79.0%	85.9%
Teacher attendance rate	95.5%	Up from 94.2%	95.2%	94.9%
Average teacher salary*	\$47,468	Down 2.6%	\$44,388	\$47,313
Professional development days/teacher	10.4 days	Down from 16.3 days	9.3 days	10.1 days
<b>School</b>				
Principal's years at school	2.0	Up from 1.0	3.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	21.3 to 1	Down from 21.9 to 1	18.5 to 1	22.1 to 1
Prime instructional time	91.4%	Up from 89.3%	89.4%	89.6%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No Change	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	99.7%	Down from 99.8%	98.7%	99.0%
Character development program	Excellent	Up from Good	Good	Good
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$11,547	Down 9.1%	\$9,480	\$7,239
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	56.0%	Up from 54.7%	60.0%	63.0%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	54.0%	Up from 52.1%	55.0%	61.0%

\* 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

The mission of Whale Branch Middle School is to provide challenging and diverse educational opportunities in a safe and supportive environment using the strengths and resources of the community to prepare students to become responsible, productive citizens and lifelong learners. During the course of the 2012-2013 school year, staff, students, and parents worked together to continue the quest for excellence. Students were afforded multiple opportunities to participate academically, artistically, and athletically, and to give back to their community.

Academics: one to one iPad implementation; Quarterly Academic Awards Celebration; Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Academy; Environmental Studies; Gateway to Technology (GTT); Project Lead the Way (PLTW); Technical College of the Lowcountry Upward Bound Program; South Carolina Junior Scholars; Duke TIP; National Junior Honor Society; SC GEAR-UP Program; It's Your Game, Keep it Real Health Curriculum; Family Literacy Night; Lunchtime Book Club; and the ORCA Reporter student produced school newspaper.

Visual Arts: Studies in Pottery, Ceramics, Molas, Mandala, Murals, Relief Print Making, Tessellations; River of Words Publication.

Performing Arts: Steel Band; Hand Chimes; Drum Line; Concert Band; Advanced Choir; Step Team; (district and state festival participation and multiple performing venues).

Athletics: Basketball (Girls=District Semi-Finalist); Football; Volleyball; Cheer; Baseball; Softball; Track; Jr. Varsity and Varsity participation in Baseball, Softball, Track, and Wrestling; Hoops for Heart.

Community: Gentlemen's Club; Men of Strength Club (MOST); V-Girls; College and Career Days; Student Government; Student Advisory Council; Greenhouse Studies and collaboration with the SC Department of Natural Resources, Spring Island, and Waddell Mariculture Center; School Counseling Advisory Committee; and Pathways in STEP (Sheldon Township Empowerment Program).

Distinguished Guests to WBMS: Dr. Mick Zais, SC State Superintendent of Education; Carter Middle School from Tennessee; Stephen Peters, Author and Gentlemen's Club Founder; LTJG Jessica Powell, United States Navy; School Board Members: JoAnn Orischak, Jim Beckert, and Earl Campbell.

The staff, students, and parents of the Whale Branch Community will continue to promote excellence in teaching and learning through unique learning opportunities designed to prepare our students to lead in the 21st century.

## Evaluations by Teachers, Students and Parents

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	28	79	37
Percent satisfied with learning environment	92.8%	68.3%	72.9%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	92.8%	83.4%	83.3%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	71.4%	69.2%	77.8%

\* 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 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>50.8</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

Whale Branch 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

	<b>Our District</b>	<b>State</b>
Classes in low poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	7.6%	2.3%
Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	4.1%	4.9%

	<b>Our School</b>	<b>State Objective</b>	<b>Met State Objective</b>
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	3.9%	0.0%	No
Student attendance rate	97.5%	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	619.5	608.0	594.3	590.0	100.0	100.0
Male	609.7	603.2	592.9	589.8	100.0	100.0
Female	627.8	612.1	595.7	590.3	100.0	100.0
White	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	100.0	100.0
African American	616.9	607.3	592.0	587.7	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	100.0	100.0
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Subsidized meals	617.2	605.6	593.4	585.9	100.0	100.0
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	635.0	635.0	635.0	635.0	95.0	95.0
<b>Grades 6-8</b>						
All Students	630.9	627.9	621.9	627.8	100.0	100.0
Male	622.6	625.6	621.8	627.9	100.0	100.0
Female	638.2	629.9	622.0	627.8	100.0	100.0
White	662.9	651.3	652.8	662.0	100.0	100.0
African American	624.3	622.3	615.5	618.6	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	577.7	584.4	569.5	585.8	100.0	100.0
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Subsidized meals	626.1	625.3	619.7	621.6	100.0	100.0
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	628.0	628.0	628.0	628.0	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	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	99	100	46.2	39.6	14.3	53.8
	6	92	100	36.8	33.3	29.9	63.2
	7	96	100	43	36	20.9	57
	8	75	100	45.1	38	16.9	54.9
<b>2013</b>	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	96	100	43.8	46.1	10.1	56.2
	6	109	100	32	46.4	21.6	68
	7	91	100	36	40.7	23.3	64
	8	97	100	47.8	34.4	17.8	52.2
<b>Mathematics</b>							
<b>2012</b>	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	99	100	45.1	40.7	14.3	54.9
	6	92	100	32.2	42.5	25.3	67.8
	7	96	100	39.5	43	17.4	60.5
	8	75	100	45.1	43.7	11.3	54.9
<b>2013</b>	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	96	100	55.1	34.8	10.1	44.9
	6	109	100	42.3	43.3	14.4	57.7
	7	91	100	37.2	43	19.8	62.8
	8	97	100	44.4	45.6	10	55.6
<b>Science</b>							
<b>2012</b>	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	50	100	47.7	45.5	6.8	52.3
	6	45	100	44.2	41.9	14	55.8
	7	96	100	26.7	46.5	26.7	73.3
	8	36	100	24.2	48.5	27.3	75.8
<b>2013</b>	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	48	100	46.7	48.9	4.4	53.3
	6	54	100	48.9	44.7	6.4	51.1
	7	91	100	16.3	47.7	36	83.7
	8	48	100	46.7	40	13.3	53.3

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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	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	49	98	51.1	31.9	17	48.9
	6	47	97.9	32.6	41.9	25.6	67.4
	7	96	100	38.4	34.9	26.7	61.6
	8	39	100	65.8	23.7	10.5	34.2
<b>2013</b>	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	48	100	75	20.5	4.5	25
	6	55	100	23.5	64.7	11.8	76.5
	7	91	98.9	31.4	27.9	40.7	68.6
	8	49	100	40	37.8	22.2	60
<b>Writing</b>							
<b>2012</b>	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	96	96.9	58	33	9.1	42
	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	76	100	43.1	34.7	22.2	56.9
<b>2013</b>	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	97	95.9	52.3	34.9	12.8	47.7
	6	113	95.6	30.2	51	18.8	69.8
	7	90	100	36	46.5	17.4	64
	8	98	100	31.5	53.3	15.2	68.5

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