



Merriwether Middle School

430 Murrah Road
North Augusta, SC 29860

Grades	6-8 Middle School	
Enrollment	382 Students	
Principal	Kevin Butler	803 279-2511
Superintendent	Greg W. Anderson	803-275-4601
Board Chair	J. Carroll Wates	803-637-6732

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2013 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD



RATINGS OVER 5-YEAR PERIOD

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

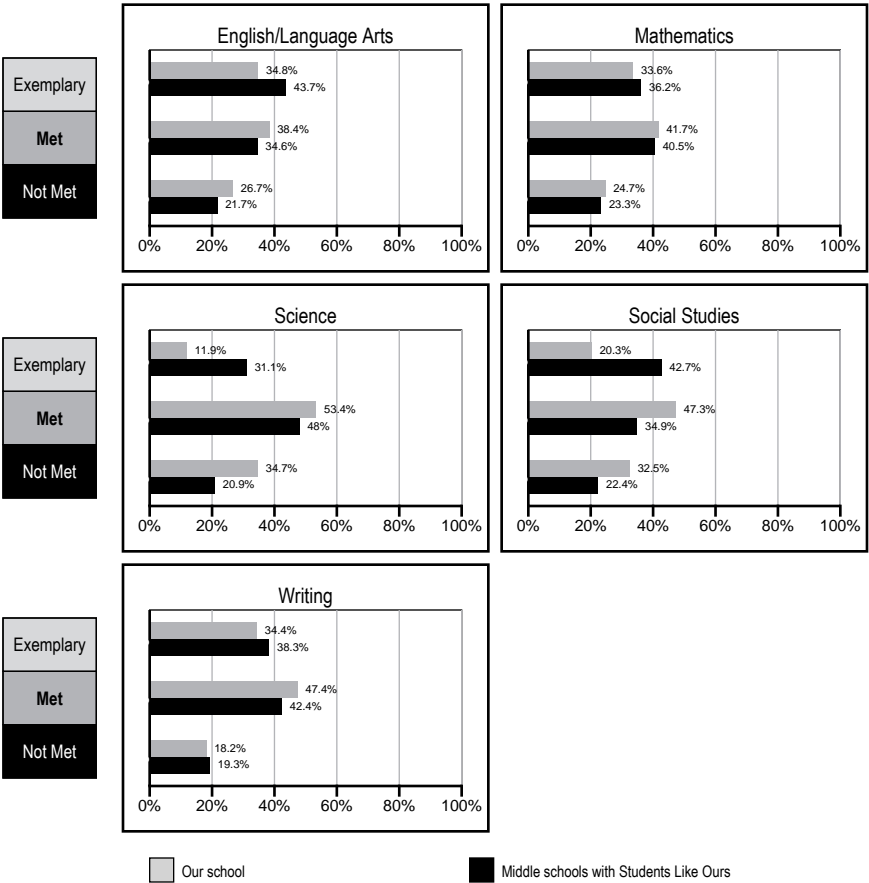
Percent of students tested in 2012-13 whose 2011-12 test scores were located | 97.8%

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF MIDDLE SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	At-Risk
16	15	10	0	0

* 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	100.0%	96.9%
English 1	95.0%	94.3%
Physical Science	N/A	N/A
US History and the Constitution	N/A	0%
All Subjects	97.6%	96.7%

School Profile

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Middle School
Students (n=382)				
Students enrolled in high school credit courses (grades 7 & 8)	73.4%	Up from 68.2%	25.7%	24.6%
Retention rate	0.3%	Down from 1.1%	0.4%	0.6%
Attendance rate	97.0%	Down from 97.3%	96.3%	95.9%
Served by gifted and talented program	17.9%	N/A	24.8%	18.5%
With disabilities	11.3%	N/A	11.7%	13.0%
Older than usual for grade	5.8%	N/A	3.4%	4.8%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	1.0%	Up from 0.3%	0.6%	0.6%
Annual dropout rate	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=24)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	50.0%	No Change	62.7%	61.5%
Continuing contract teachers	87.5%	No Change	78.9%	77.2%
Teachers returning from previous year	86.8%	Down from 87.5%	88.4%	85.9%
Teacher attendance rate	94.3%	N/R	94.4%	94.9%
Average teacher salary*	\$46,209	Down 0.1%	\$48,077	\$47,313
Professional development days/teacher	2.1 days	Down from 8.2 days	11.4 days	10.1 days
School				
Principal's years at school	1.0	Down from 5.0	5.5	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	N/R	N/R	23.3 to 1	22.1 to 1
Prime instructional time	90.1%	N/R	89.7%	89.6%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No Change	Excellent	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	94.8%	Down from 95.0%	99.8%	99.0%
Character development program	Good	No Change	Excellent	Good
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$6,814	Up 0.6%	\$6,814	\$7,239
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	63.0%	Up from 58.4%	65.0%	63.0%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	62.0%	Up from 57.6%	63.0%	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

Merriwether Middle School is located in rural Edgefield County and serves approximately 380 sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students from various economic and ethnic backgrounds. Merriwether Middle School prides itself in providing each student the opportunities for successful experiences. We strive to offer a curriculum that maximizes the intellectual, emotional, social, and physical development of our emerging adolescents. We understand the unique needs and concerns of our young adolescents as well as the developmental challenges of this age group. Our curriculum is designed to assist our middle school students through the transitional period between elementary school and high school. Every student attends five academic classes and two exploratory classes. Exploratory classes include band, chorus, keyboarding, computer assisted instruction, and art.

Students have an opportunity to take high school credit courses. English 1, Algebra 1, Band 1 and keyboarding are offered to eighth grade students for high school credit. High school credit in keyboarding and computer application is also offered to qualifying seventh grade students.

The collaboration between our community, teachers, students, and administration has proven to be an excellent recipe for success. In 2013, Merriwether Middle was recognized as a Palmetto Silver Award Winner for outstanding academic achievement on PASS. Eleven eighth grade students were recognized as S.C. Junior Scholars. Our Science ECO-Meet team competed in the CSRA regional competition. Our Mathcounts team placed 1st in the region. The Merriwether Middle School Honor Band received an Excellent rating in the SCBDA-Concert Festival and an Excellent rating in the Carowinds Music Festival. In addition, two students qualified for SCBDA region band. Several students received a superior rating for SCBDA Solo Ensemble. 100% of our students enrolled in Algebra 1 passed the end-of-course Algebra 1 test and English 1 classes are continuing to show growth as well. 25 students were qualified to participate in the Duke TIP Program. One of our biggest accomplishments was starting a gifted and talented program called GATEway. Our GATEway program targeted sixth grade gifted and talented students. The purpose of the GATEway program is to promote academic achievement through increased rigor and innovative instructional strategies. 26 sixth graders participated in GATEway this year. The GATEway students presented their project based presentations to their parents during a GATEway night in November. They also traveled to Washington D.C. and had an overnight stay in the South Carolina State Museum.

The faculty, staff, and administration at Merriwether Middle School are committed to providing the best educational experience for all of our students. Our commitment to increasing student achievement and the overall development of our students to become productive lifelong learners will be made possible by a collaborative effort of all stakeholders.

Evaluations by Teachers, Students and Parents

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	22	112	43
Percent satisfied with learning environment	86.4%	70.5%	93%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	86.4%	78.6%	93.3%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	90.9%	80.3%	81.8%

* 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.

Overall Weighted Points Total	80.4
Overall Grade Conversion	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

Merriwether 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	0.0%	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	4.6%	0.0%	No
Student attendance rate	97.0%	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	648.1	650.9	613.2	618.9	100.0	100.0
Male	648.0	650.9	615.8	624.6	100.0	100.0
Female	648.3	650.9	610.0	612.6	100.0	100.0
White	652.5	655.2	616.1	620.1	100.0	100.0
African American	630.5	635.1	600.3	613.9	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	585.1	591.3	563.4	561.9	100.0	100.0
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Subsidized meals	634.9	634.2	603.9	609.1	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
English/Language Arts							
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	126	99.2	26	33.3	40.7	74
	7	127	99.2	22.5	40	37.5	77.5
	8	114	99.1	27.8	36.1	36.1	72.2
2013	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	138	100	23.5	42.4	34.1	76.5
	7	116	100	22.3	40.2	37.5	77.7
	8	126	100	34.5	31.9	33.6	65.5
Mathematics							
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	126	99.2	22.8	43.1	34.1	77.2
	7	127	99.2	19.2	55	25.8	80.8
	8	114	99.1	12	53.7	34.3	88
2013	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	138	100	23.5	43.2	33.3	76.5
	7	117	100	31	29.2	39.8	69
	8	126	100	19.8	52.6	27.6	80.2
Science							
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	62	100	32.8	57.4	9.8	67.2
	7	127	99.2	25.8	60.8	13.3	74.2
	8	57	100	25.9	44.4	29.6	74.1
2013	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	70	100	34.3	59.7	6	65.7
	7	117	100	38.1	53.1	8.8	61.9
	8	63	98.4	26.8	48.2	25	73.2

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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	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	65	98.5	28.6	50.8	20.6	71.4
	7	126	98.4	43.7	42	14.3	56.3
	8	57	98.3	22.2	38.9	38.9	77.8
2013	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	69	100	21.2	69.7	9.1	78.8
	7	117	100	43.4	36.3	20.4	56.6
	8	63	100	23.7	44.1	32.2	76.3
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	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	115	100	22.7	29.1	48.2	77.3
2013	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	137	99.3	19.1	48.9	32.1	80.9
	7	118	100	15.7	46.1	38.3	84.3
	8	121	100	19.7	47	33.3	80.3

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