



## Palmetto Scholars Academy

2415 Avenue F  
North Charleston, SC

<b>Grades</b>	6-10 Middle School	
<b>Enrollment</b>	302 Students	
<b>Principal</b>	Martha B Hale	843 300 4118
<b>Superintendent</b>	Wayne Brazell, Ph. D.	803-734-8322
<b>Board Chair</b>	Don McLaurin	803-603-1441

# 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	Excellent
2011	Excellent	Good
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**

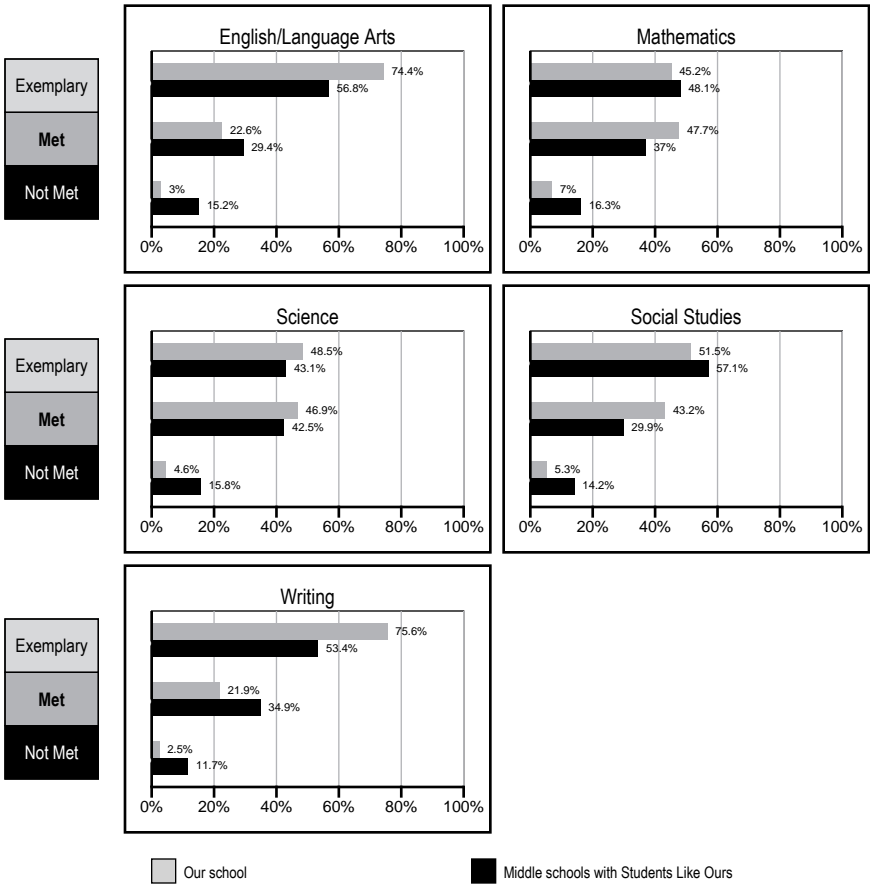
Percent of students tested in 2012-13 whose 2011-12 test scores were located | 86.6%

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

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	At-Risk
9	1	1	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**

<b>Exemplary</b>	"Exemplary" means the student demonstrated exemplary performance in meeting the grade level standard.
<b>Met</b>	"Met" means the student met the grade level standard.
<b>Not Met</b>	"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	94.5%	97.4%
English 1	98.6%	98.6%
Physical Science	N/A	N/A
US History and the Constitution	N/A	N/A
All Subjects	96.5%	98.0%

**School Profile**

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Middle School
<b>Students (n=302)</b>				
Students enrolled in high school credit courses (grades 7 & 8)	72.5%	Up from 67.4%	38.8%	24.6%
Retention rate	0.0%	No Change	0.2%	0.6%
Attendance rate	96.7%	Down from 97.3%	96.4%	95.9%
Served by gifted and talented program	51.7%	N/A	34.2%	18.5%
With disabilities	0.0%	N/A	8.1%	13.0%
Older than usual for grade	0.0%	N/A	2.0%	4.8%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.0%	No Change	0.4%	0.6%
Annual dropout rate	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Teachers (n=19)</b>				
Teachers with advanced degrees	47.4%	Down from 57.9%	60.5%	61.5%
Continuing contract teachers	47.4%	Up from 31.6%	75.0%	77.2%
Teachers returning from previous year	N/A	N/A	84.4%	85.9%
Teacher attendance rate	98.6%	Up from 98.0%	95.5%	94.9%
Average teacher salary*	\$40,049	Up 6.6%	\$46,883	\$47,313
Professional development days/teacher	0.4 days	Down from 1.4 days	8.2 days	10.1 days
<b>School</b>				
Principal's years at school	1.0	Up from 0.0	3.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	N/R	N/R	23.8 to 1	22.1 to 1
Prime instructional time	95.3%	Up from 95.0%	90.6%	89.6%
Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	No Change	Excellent	Good
SACS accreditation	No	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	87.3%	Down from 100.0%	99.7%	99.0%
Character development program	Average	Down from Good	Excellent	Good
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$6,208	Up 8.8%	\$6,555	\$7,239
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	53.0%	Down from 59.0%	60.5%	63.0%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	47.0%	Down from 49.0%	59.5%	61.0%

\* 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

Palmetto Scholars Academy provides a differentiated program designed to meet the educational needs of intellectually gifted learners, address their distinctive social and emotional needs, promote individual character development and instill a life-long love of learning. Our students engage with leading innovative organizations in higher education, business and science, to empower them to make original and impactful contributions toward the elevation of South Carolina in the areas of education, commerce, arts and science.

Our students come together from all areas of the LowCountry, including Berkeley, Charleston, Colleton, and Dorchester Counties, and represent a diverse population in terms of ethnicity, religion, and socioeconomic status. In order to meet the school’s mission, all students are in honors or advanced courses, and flexible scheduling allows faculty to meet the individual needs of each gifted learner. Visitors to the school would likely see cooperative groupings, discussion, debate, seminars, and inquiry-based learning as they walk the hallways. Most faculty have advanced degrees and all are dedicated to providing research-based, student-centered instruction for gifted learners. The development of our curriculum is facilitated by nationally recognized leaders in the field of gifted education who ensure that the latest research on best practices in gifted education is incorporated at all grade levels.

During the third year of operation, students at Palmetto Scholars Academy made tremendous positive gains, continuing to excel in statewide assessments, being selected as the first school in South Carolina to send a student research experiment to the International Space Station, being selected as a NASA Partner School through the College of Charleston’s NASA Consortium, and having several teachers selected for participation in highly sought after teacher education programs including a social studies teacher who was selected for participation in the Library of Congress’s teacher education program in Washington, DC. Community service requirements have expanded during the 2012-13 school year, and PSA continues to work supporting local charitable events on a regular basis.

The school community, which consists of faculty, staff, students, and supportive parents, is proud of the great accomplishments and successes that Palmetto Scholars Academy has been able to achieve in only three years of operation. An active parent organization, partnered with a long-range strategic plan, ensures a successful vision for our school’s future as South Carolina’s first public charter for gifted education. We are driven by our mission and strive to maintain the highest of standards in order to meet the unique needs of gifted learners.

Evaluations by Teachers, Students and Parents

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	N/A	73	14
Percent satisfied with learning environment	N/A	65.7%	78.6%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	N/A	67.1%	64.3%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	N/A	90.2%	71.4%

\* 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>100.0</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**

Palmetto Scholars Academy 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	11.8%	2.3%
Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	14.8%	4.9%

	<b>Our School</b>	<b>State Objective</b>	<b>Met State Objective</b>
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	9.0%	0.0%	No
Student attendance rate	96.7%	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 6-8</b>						
All Students	694.0	673.2	662.3	661.4	100.0	100.0
Male	701.4	685.8	673.7	675.6	100.0	100.0
Female	688.8	664.2	653.7	649.3	100.0	100.0
White	701.6	680.4	669.8	667.1	100.0	100.0
African American	677.4	660.2	646.1	648.5	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	679.3	662.1	650.4	639.8	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	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	62	100	7.7	19.2	73.1	92.3
	7	72	100	1.5	25.8	72.7	98.5
	8	69	100	7.6	18.2	74.2	92.4
<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	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	72	100	2.9	14.3	82.9	97.1
	7	65	100	4.8	27	68.3	95.2
	8	69	100	1.5	27.3	71.2	98.5
<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	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	62	100	5.8	34.6	59.6	94.2
	7	72	98.6	6.2	55.4	38.5	93.8
	8	69	100	6.1	31.8	62.1	93.9
<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	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	72	100	4.3	57.1	38.6	95.7
	7	65	100	7.9	34.9	57.1	92.1
	8	69	100	9.1	50	40.9	90.9
<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	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	30	100	8.7	65.2	26.1	91.3
	7	72	100	6.1	43.9	50	93.9
	8	35	100	15.6	40.6	43.8	84.4
<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	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	36	100	11.4	45.7	42.9	88.6
	7	65	100	1.6	46	52.4	98.4
	8	34	100	3.1	50	46.9	96.9

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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	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	32	96.9	7.1	32.1	60.7	92.9
	7	72	98.6	6.2	40	53.8	93.8
	8	34	100	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	100
<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	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	36	100	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	100
	7	65	100	6.3	42.9	50.8	93.7
	8	35	100	8.8	50	41.2	91.2
<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	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	72	100	4.4	10.3	85.3	95.6
<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	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	72	100	2.9	27.1	70	97.1
	7	65	100	3.1	17.2	79.7	96.9
	8	70	98.6	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	100

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