



SC Annual District Report Card Summary

PICKENS COUNTY School District
Grades: PK-12 Enrollment: 16,688
Superintendent: Dr. Daniel Merck, Ed. D.
Board Chair: Alex Saitta

PERFORMANCE

Comprehensive detail, including definitions of ratings, performance criteria, and explanations of status, is available on www.ed.sc.gov and www.eoc.sc.gov as well as school and school district websites. Printed versions are available from school districts upon request.

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING	PALMETTO GOLD AND SILVER AWARD		ESEA/FEDERAL ACCOUNTABILITY RATING SYSTEM	
			General Performance	Closing the Gap	ESEA Grade	Accountability Indicator
2014	Excellent	Good	N/A	N/A	B	N/A
2013	Good	Below Average	N/A	N/A	B	N/A
2012	Good	Good	N/A	N/A	B	N/A

ABSOLUTE RATING OF DISTRICTS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	BELOW AVERAGE	AT-RISK
13	2	0	0	1

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 04/27/2015. Schools with Students Like Ours with Poverty Indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this district.

SC PASS

SC PASS	2014 Reading	2014 Math	2014 Science	2014 Social Studies	2014 Writing
	% Met or above	% Met or above	% Met or above	% Met or above	% Met or above
District	76.9%	73.8%	76.2%	78.2%	80.0%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	76.8%	75.2%	73.2%	78.4%	79.0%
Average District	73.9%	72.3%	70.2%	75.9%	76.2%

SC PASS

SC PASS	2014 Reading	2014 Math	2014 Science	2014 Social Studies	2014 Writing
	% Exemplary	% Exemplary	% Exemplary	% Exemplary	% Exemplary
District	45.6%	37.6%	31.4%	41.2%	44.4%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	46.1%	40.1%	29.0%	41.0%	42.8%
Average District	42.4%	36.6%	26.6%	37.5%	38.6%

HSAP

HSAP: 2nd Year Students	Passed 2 Subtests	Passed 1 Subtest	Passed No Subtests
District	79.3%	14.2%	6.5%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	79.7%	13.3%	7.0%

HSAP Passage Rate by Spring 2014 (%)

District	94.2%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	92.8%

End of Course Test Passage Rate (%)

District	79.0%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	80.5%

On-Time Graduation Rate (%)

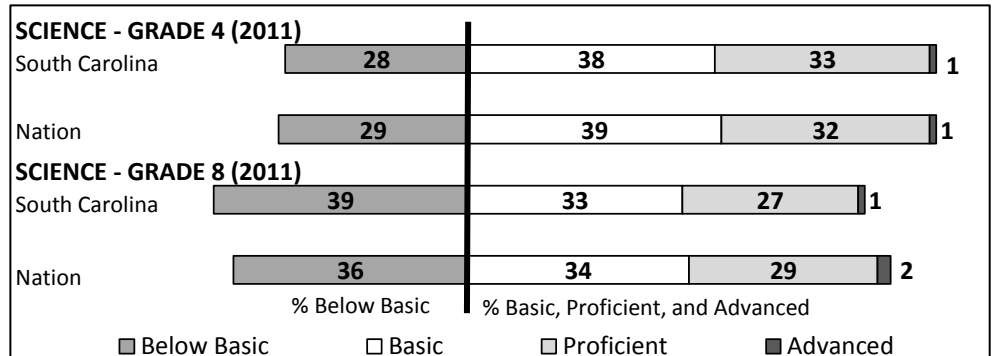
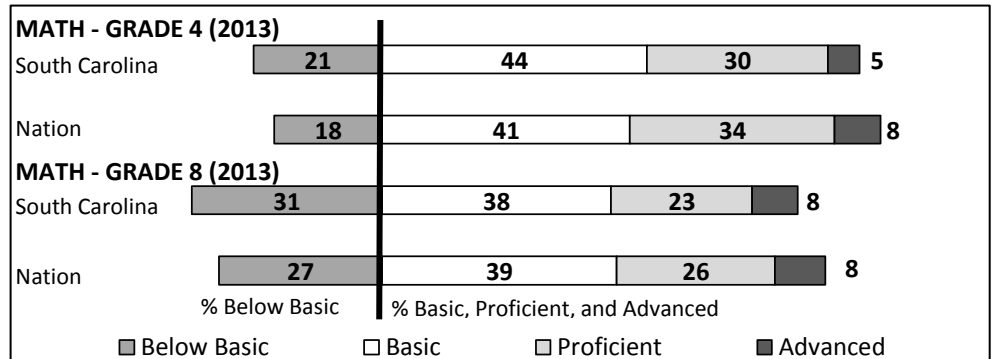
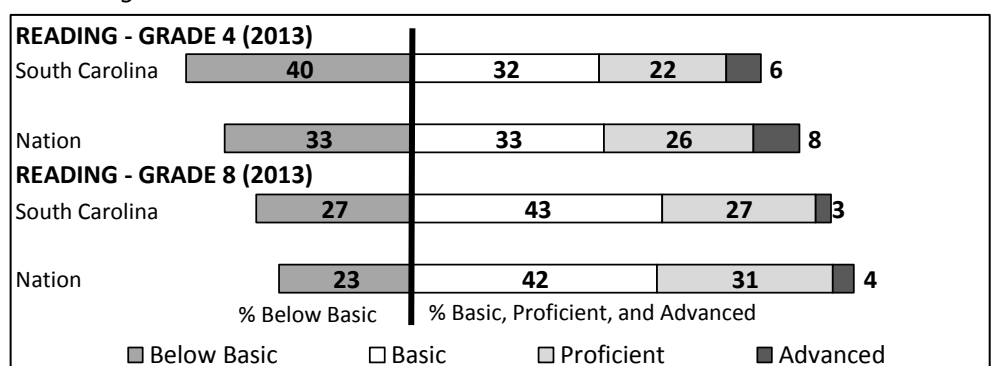
District	80.5%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	79.6%

** Districts with Students Like Ours are districts with Poverty Indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this district.

NAEP*

*Performance reported for SC and nation, data not available at school level.

Percentages at NAEP Achievement Levels.



SC 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.

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Abbreviations Key

N/A-Not Applicable

N/AV-Not Available

N/C-Not Collected

N/R-Not Reported

I/S-Insufficient Sample

TBD-To Be Determined

PICKENS COUNTY School District

DISTRICT PROFILE

	Our District	Change from Last Year	Districts with Students Like Ours	Median District
Students (n = 16,688)				
Retention Rate	1.7%	Up from 1.5%	1.7%	2.1%
Attendance Rate	95.5%	Down from 95.7%	96.5%	96.2%
Served by gifted and talented program	18.2%	Down from 19.0%	18.9%	11.5%
With disabilities other than speech	12.1%	Down from 12.3%	11.7%	13.1%
Older than usual for grade	4.0%	Down from 4.1%	3.7%	4.6%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.4%	Down from 0.8%	0.7%	0.7%
Enrolled in AP/IB programs	24.8%	Down from 26.5%	21.2%	15.7%
Successful on AP/IB exams	65.0%	Down from 66.1%	51.0%	51.6%
Eligible for LIFE Scholarship	66.5%	Up from 56.6%	41.4%	31.1%
Enrolled in adult education GED or diploma programs	462	Up from 155	147	115
Completions in adult education GED or diploma programs	123	Down from 150	53	31
Annual dropout rate	4.0%	Up from 3.3%	2.8%	2.3%
Teachers (n = 1,058)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	64.2%	Up from 63.7%	61.1%	60.4%
Continuing contract teachers	87.1%	Down from 88.4%	81.8%	79.6%
Teachers returning from previous year	92.4%	Down from 92.9%	91.4%	90.1%
Teacher attendance rate	95.2%	Up from 94.7%	95.4%	95.2%
Average teacher salary*	\$47,903	Down 0.2%	\$48,851	\$47,169
Vacancies for more than nine weeks	0.4%	Up from 0.0%	0.2%	0.1%
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.7%	Up from 0.5%	1.8%	4.2%
Professional development days/teacher	11.4 days	Down from 12.5 days	11.3 days	11.1 days
District				
Superintendent's years at district	0.5	Down from 1.0	5.0	5.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	23.3 to 1	Up from 22.5 to 1	21.2 to 1	20.7 to 1
Prime instructional time	89.6%	Up from 88.7%	90.8%	90.0%
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$7,891	Up 1.9%	\$8,754	\$9,403
Percent expenditures for teacher salaries**	55.5%	Down from 56.0%	54.9%	52.6%
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	58.4%	Down from 59.0%	58.2%	55.6%
Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	No change	Excellent	Excellent
Number of schools	26	No change	19	9
Portable classrooms	0.9%	Down from 2.0%	1.0%	0.8%
Number of schools with SACS accreditation	26.0	No change	16.0	9.0
Parents attending conferences	99.4%	No change	99.4%	100.0%
Average administrator salary	\$77,149	Down 1.9%	\$79,639	\$79,777
Number of charter schools	0	No change	0	0
ESEA composite index score	86.2	Up from 83.7	86.1	79.5
* Length of contract = 185+ days.		**Prior year audited financial data available.		

RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT FACILITIES STUDENT PERFORMANCE

	SC PASS	HSAP	End-of-Course Tests
Passage Rate	I/S	I/S	N/A

CHARTER SCHOOLS IN DISTRICT

School Name	Absolute Rating	Growth Rating	ESEA Grade
There are no charter schools in this district.			

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

The 2013-2014 school year was a year of accomplishment in the School District of Pickens County. SDPC was reaccredited by AdvancED for another five years, ensuring that our graduates will continue to be accepted into the top colleges and universities in the world.

Our district continued our strong emphasis on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Education with the Second Grade Sailboat Challenge, Fifth Grade JetToy Competition, and Eighth Grade Glider Challenge. In fact, our students won international recognition for their STEM skills when a team from Forest Acres Elementary took first place in the Accuracy portion of the International JetToy Competition in Detroit, competing against 125 other teams from around the world. We also continued the expansion of our middle school STEM programs with the addition of Gateway to Technology classes at Pickens Middle School.

SDPC also rose to the challenge of innovating ways to put technology in the classroom by unveiling a district-wide Bring Your Own Device Program. The program allows students to use their own mobile devices to uncover new ways of learning. Teachers were trained on how to use emerging online tools like Safari Montage to integrate digital media into their curriculum, and the district installed more than 1,550 wireless access points to ensure that our internet connections meet the needs of the Information Age.

The district also distinguished itself in its commitment to the health and safety of our students. SDPC was named a Partner in Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse by the Darkness to Light organization for training more than 90 percent of our staff how to prevent, recognize the signs of, and react to child sexual abuse. Also, West End Elementary and A.R. Lewis Elementary were recognized by the Alliance for a Healthier Generation for fighting childhood obesity.

Finally, 2014 saw the end of the district's \$377 million Building Futures construction program with the move of Gettys Middle School to a newly renovated campus. We're excited to begin the 2014-2015 school year knowing that every student will learn in a portable-free, technology-rich environment.

Dr. Daniel B. Merck, Ed. D., Superintendent

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