

South Middle School

1551 Billings Drive
Lancaster, SC 29720



South Carolina State Report Card

State and federal laws require public schools to release report cards to the public each year. This year, the report card has been updated to reflect changes in reporting directed by the SC Education Oversight Committee. Schools will not be rated for state accountability purposes until Fall 2017 when the state will transition to a single accountability system. The following reports student performance in school year 2014-15.

Grades:	6-8 Middle	Principal:	Joyce Crimmigner
Enrollment:	531 students	Superintendent:	Dr. Richard E. Moore
School Phone:	803-283-8416	Board Chair:	Robert Parker
School Website:	http://sms.lancastercsd.com		



Profile of the SC Graduate

World Class Knowledge

- Rigorous standards in language arts and math for career and college readiness
- Multiple languages, science, technology, engineering, mathematics (STEM), arts and social sciences*

World Class Skills

- Creativity and innovation
- Critical thinking and problem solving
- Collaboration and teamwork
- Communication, information, media and technology
- Knowing how to learn

Life and Career Characteristics

- Integrity
- Self-direction
- Global perspective
- Perseverance
- Work ethic
- Interpersonal skills

* 21st Century core courses in Social Sciences include History, Geography, Economics, Government and Civics.

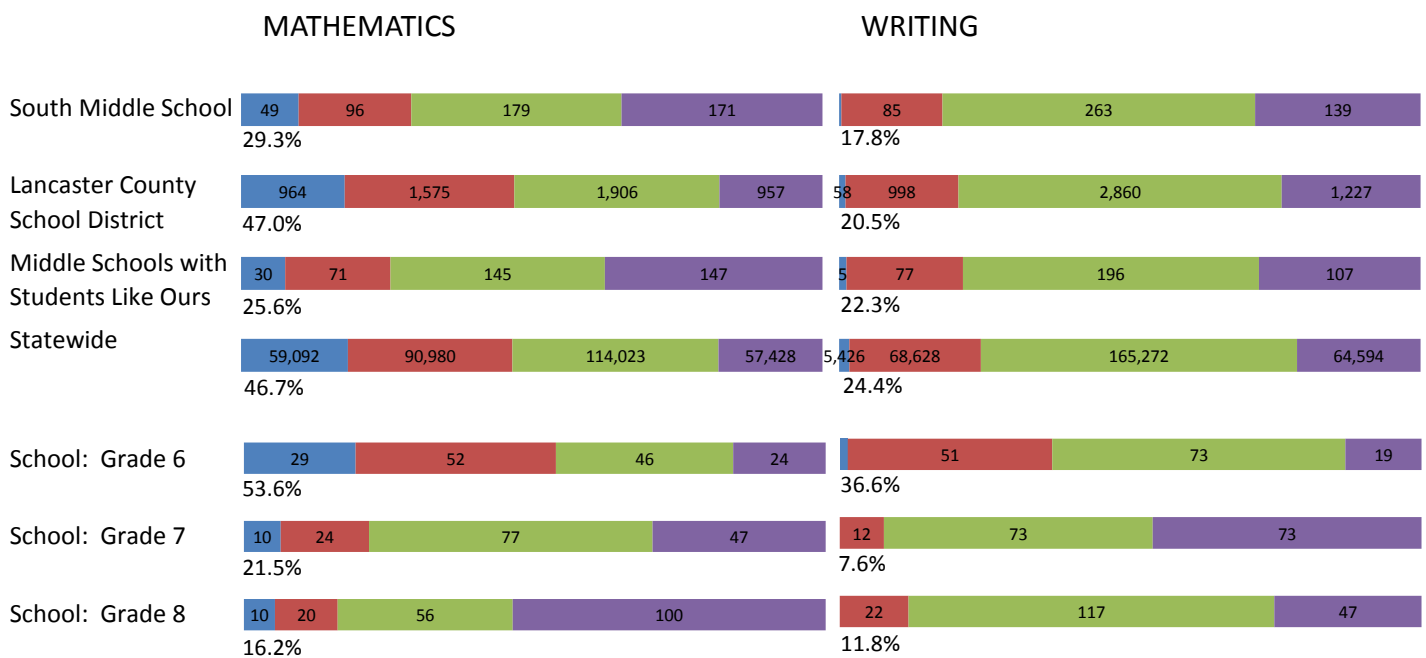
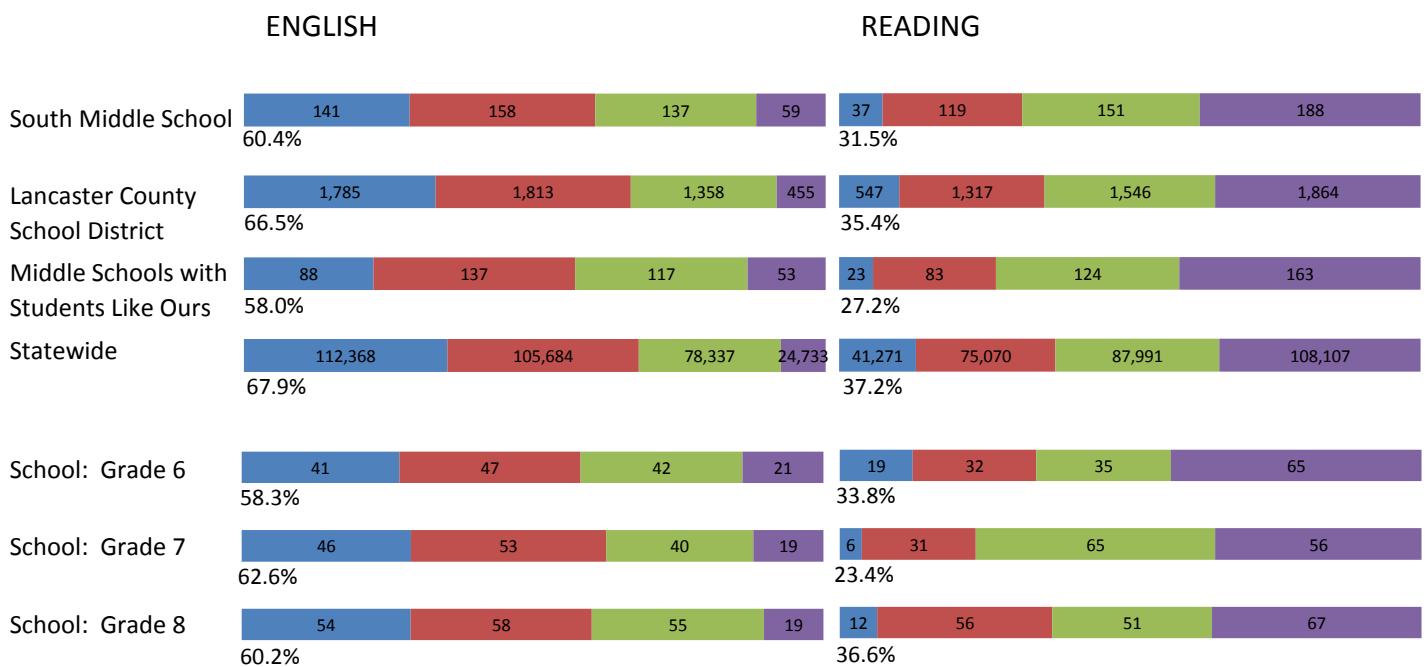
WORLD CLASS SKILLS & LIFE AND CAREER CHARACTERISTICS

Our school is helping all students develop the world class skills and life and career characteristics of the Profile of the Graduate by ...

South Middle School #2901010 Our school is helping all students develop the world class skills and life and career characteristics of the Profile of the Graduate by actively following the National Schools to Watch criteria. South Middle continues on a sustained trajectory toward meeting the rigorous criteria in the areas of academic excellence, development responsiveness, organizational structure, and social equity. All students are expected to meet high academic standards in all classes. The curriculum is rigorous, non-repetitive, and moves forward by adhering to district-designed curriculum maps. Teachers meet twice a week with their academic partners to plan and analyze student data. All teachers document each week's objectives on the school instructional board in order for exploratory and core teachers to make connections across disciplines. Common benchmark assessments are administered twice a year with follow up analysis. Teachers use this data to continue their planning and assessments. A major focus on literacy is evident. Read-alouds are conducted by all teachers. Since we are a 1-1 school with Chromebooks, teachers utilize this technology in much of their curriculum strategies and activities. In order to reach all students, teachers draw from instructional strategies such as project-based learning, cooperative learning, hands-on learning, integrated technology, and direct instruction. Students are also given opportunities to succeed through co-teaching by Winthrop University interns, academic teachers, and resource teachers. Gifted and talented students are taught by GT endorsed teachers in their ELA and math classes. In order to create a personalized environment that supports each student's intellectual, ethical, social, and physical development, our students are grouped into smaller communities of two teams on each grade level in order to enhance teaching and learning. The curriculum is socially significant and relevant to the personal and career interests of young adolescents. Students experience a day of job shadowing, career lessons with guidance counselors, and an individual meeting with all 8th grade students and parents to plan their high school careers. South provides every student with middle-level certified, highly-qualified teachers who understand and work well with our student and parent population. Families are an integral part of our school. Once a semester a Family Night is held to showcase what our students are learning in their classrooms. Our school leadership fosters independent and collaborative planning and decisions. Constant improvement is sustained through data analysis and staff, student, and parent surveys. South embraces every student and continuously strives to find ways to educate the whole child and to do our part to make them career and college ready by the time they graduate.

KNOWLEDGE

The ACT Aspire assessment was given to students in grades 3-8 in Spring 2015. Students were assessed in the subject areas of Reading, English, Mathematics and Writing



Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A-Not Applicable

N/AV-Not Available

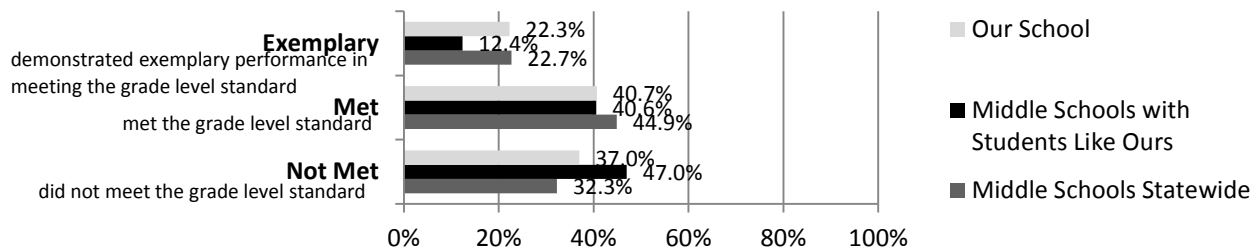
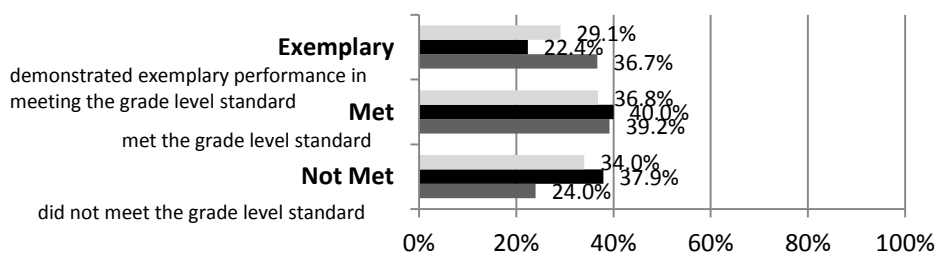
N/C-Not Collected

N/R-Not Reported

I/S-Insufficient Sample

KNOWLEDGE

The SC Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (SCPASS) was given to students in grades 4 - 8 in Spring 2015. Students were assessed in the subject areas of Science and Social Studies.

Science**Social Studies****Science SCPASS**

Our School: Percent Met and Above for each grade level

6th grade	7th grade	8th grade
59.3	70.1	59.9

Social Studies SCPASS

Our School: Percent Met and Above for each grade level

6th grade	7th grade	8th grade
72.7	57.3	67.9

Note: Results include SC-Alt assessment results.

Exemplary

"Exemplary": student demonstrated exemplary performance in meeting the grade level standard.

Met

"Met": student met the grade level standard.

Not Met

"Not Met": student did not meet the grade level standard.

End of Course Tests

Percent of tests with scores of 70 or above on:	Our School	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours
Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2	98.6	95.6
English 1	96.1	91.8
Biology 1	N/A	49.8
US History and the Constitution	N/A	50
All Subjects	97.3	92.9

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.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A-Not Applicable

N/AV-Not Available

N/C-Not Collected

N/R-Not Reported

I/S-Insufficient Sample

OPPORTUNITIES

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Middle Schools with students like ours
Students (n = 531)			
Percent of students participating in Medicaid, SNAP, or TANF; homeless, foster, or migrant students (poverty index)	85.7	Down from 88.1%	N/A
Percent of students (grade 7 & 8) enrolled in HS credit courses	44.9	Up from 27.0%	23.5
Attendance Rate	95.9	Down from 96.2%	94.9
With disabilities	13.2	Up from 13.0%	15.4
Out of school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	2.1	Up from 1.4%	0.6
Percentage of students served by gifted and talented programs	15.8	Up from 12.8%	14.1
Percentage of students retained	0.2	Down from 1.0%	1.0
Annual dropout rate	0.0	No change	0.0
Teachers (n = 40)			
Percentage of teachers with advanced degrees	65.0	Up from 63.2%	60.0
Percentage of teachers on continuing contract	70.0	Down from 76.3%	71.4
Teachers returning from previous year	84.4	Down from 86.4%	81.4
Teacher attendance rate	96.1	Down from 96.4%	94.7
Average teacher salary*	\$49,261	Up 2.0%	\$46,433
Professional development days / teacher	12.7 days	Up from 12.1 days	11.4 days
Percentage of teacher vacancies for more than 9 weeks	0.0	N/A	0.9
School			
Principal's years at school	10.0	Up from 9.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	31.6 to 1	Up from 0.4 to 1	19.3 to 1
Prime instructional time	91.0	Down from 91.6%	88.4
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No change	Good
Opportunities in foreign languages	Poor	N/A	Poor
AdvancEd (SACS) accreditation	Yes	No change	Yes
Parents attending conferences	89.4	Up from 84.6%	99.0
Character development program	Excellent	No change	Good
Avg. age of books / electronic media in the school library	10.0	N/A	14.9
Number of resources available per student in the school library media center	23.0	N/A	25.7
Bandwidth capacity per student	<25 Mbps	N/C	N/A
Percent of classrooms with wireless access	76-100%	N/C	N/A
District-issued learning devices per student	2.0	N/C	0.8
District-issued technology devices per teacher	2.8	N/C	2.0
Percentage of classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	2.9	Down from 11.8%	5.1
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$7,735	Up 14.5%	\$8,820
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	67.8	Up from 67.6%	59.9
Percent of expenditures for teachers' salaries**	69.0	Up from 68.0%	61.5

* Includes current year teachers contracted for 190 days or more.

** Prior year audited financial data are reported.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A-Not Applicable

N/AV-Not Available

N/C-Not Collected

N/R-Not Reported

I/S-Insufficient Sample

OPPORTUNITIES**Evaluations by Teachers, Students, and Parents****Evaluations by Teachers, Students, and Parents**

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	42	185	129
Percent satisfied with learning environment	95.2	79.5	86.9
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	100.0	76.1	81.7
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	61.9	89.5	67.9

* Only students at the highest middle school grade and their parents were included.

State Ratings History of School

Year	Absolute Rating	Growth Rating
2014	Average	Below Average
2013	Average	Average
2012	Average	Average

Based on state law, schools will not be rated for state accountability purposes until Fall 2017.

Additional Resources

SC State Content Standards
[Family-Friendly Guides to the SC Content Standards](#)
[2014-15 Accountability Manual](#)
[Report Card Data Files](#)
[ESEA Data Files](#)

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A-Not Applicable

N/AV-Not Available

N/C-Not Collected

N/R-Not Reported

I/S-Insufficient Sample