




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.

<b>Grades:</b>	6-8 Middle	<b>Principal:</b>	Maria Newton-Ta'Bon
<b>Enrollment:</b>	775 students	<b>Superintendent:</b>	J. Frank Baker
<b>School Phone:</b>	803-481-8519	<b>Board Chair:</b>	Daryl McGhaney
<b>School Website:</b>	<a href="http://fms.sumterschools.net/">http://fms.sumterschools.net/</a>		



**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

**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 ...*

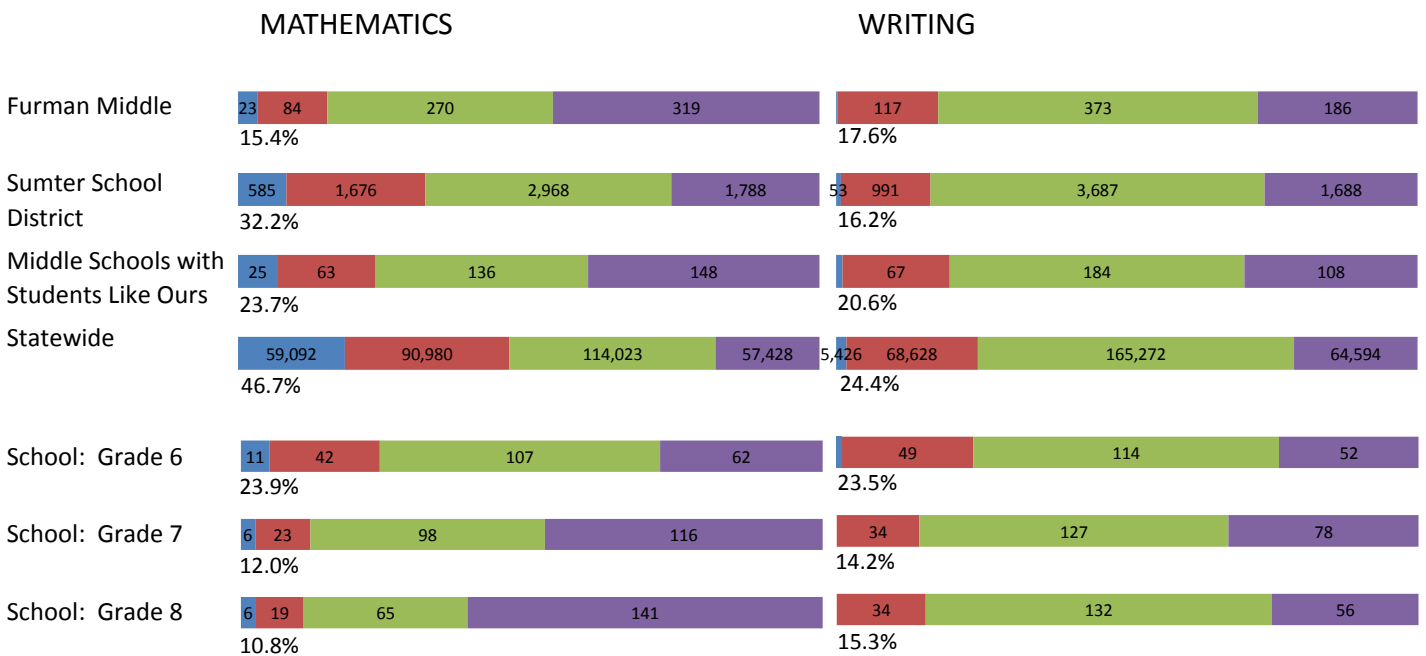
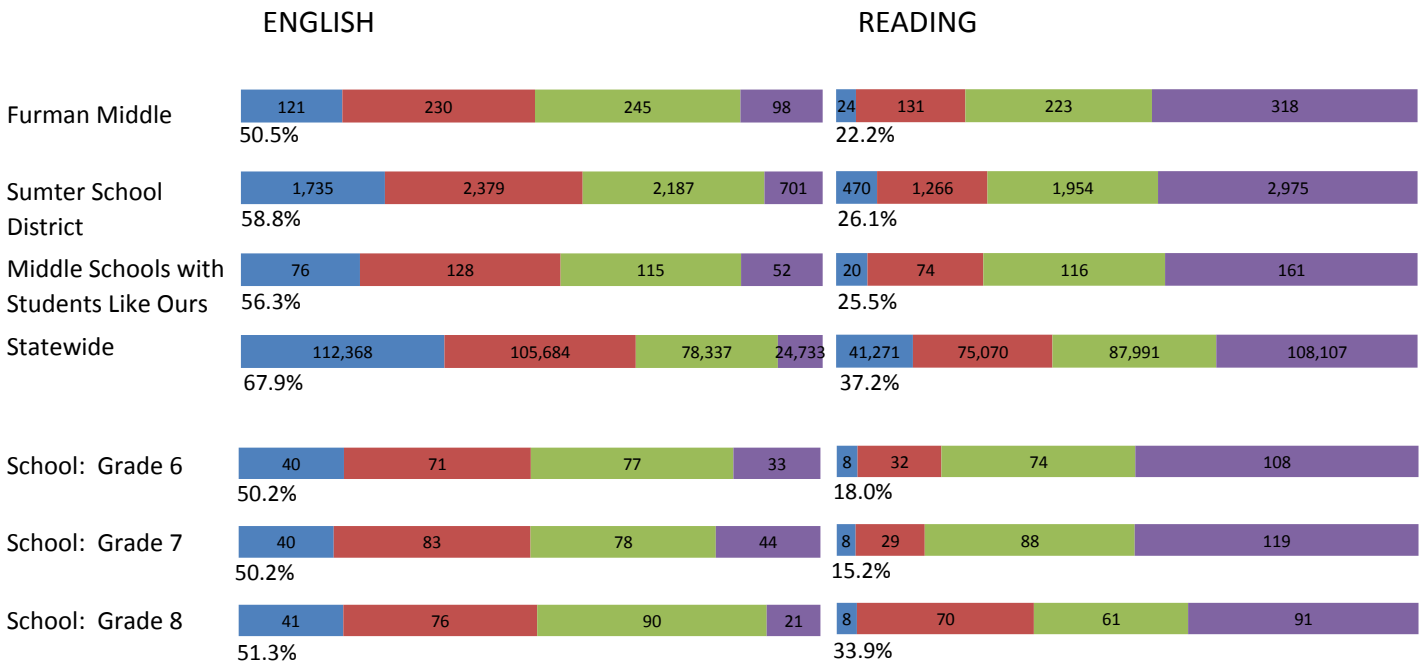
At Furman Middle School, the faculty and staff are committed to developing the world class skills and life and career characteristics of the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate by providing challenging opportunities for all students to be successful in a safe and caring environment. Students, parents, faculty, staff and community members support each other in our endeavors to achieve this goal. Implementation of the Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) and personalized school professional development play an intricate part in our learning environment for students and teachers. Tutoring for mathematics and English language arts allowed for one-to-one and small group instruction. A STEM after school program provided academic support to thirty male athletes. Single-gender classes continued in ELA and mathematics in 6th-8th grades to address the different needs, learning styles, and interests of students. Parents continue to take advantage of parent conference nights, provided to discuss academic progress and growth of each student. The increase in parental involvement allowed us to be recognized as an Oak Leaf Award Goal recipient for meeting the 2014-2015 membership goal assigned by the SCPA. Furman is known as a Silver Oak Leaf Association by PTA. At Furman Middle, we participate in various programs outside the academic world to focus on the development of the whole child. Our students, parents, faculty and staff give monetary donations to organizations seeking cures for diseases. Furman received special commendation from Mayor McElveen Jr. in recognition of outstanding participation by donating 65 dozen cookies in the "Shower Shaw with Cookies" project. Twelve students were honored by the Sumter Chamber of Commerce during the Golden Apple Award breakfast which recognized good character and outstanding citizenship. Student recognition was held every month for those exemplifying the character education word of the month. Community officials were invited to add a special touch by giving words of encouragement, award certificates, medallions and gift cards to students. We continue to show our appreciation to our community and parent volunteers by providing a special volunteer luncheon. At Furman Middle we believe the continued collaboration between school, family, and community is imperative to the success of our students. Thank you for all of your support in helping in the development of our future South Carolina graduates and world leaders!

Maria Newton-Ta'Bon, Principal  
 Robert Pumphrey, School Improvement Council, Chairperson Evaluations by

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

**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



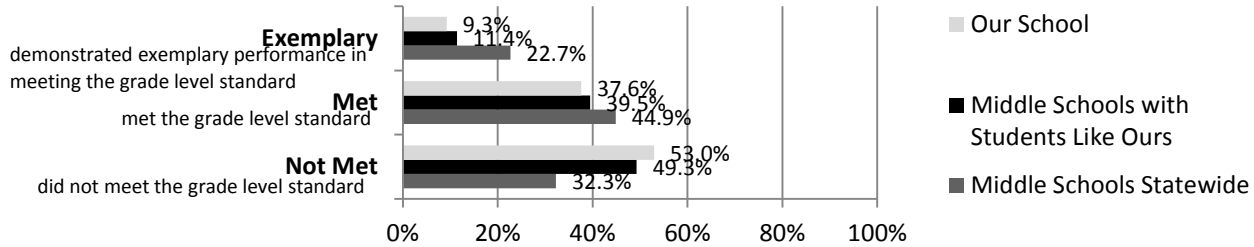
Abbreviations for Missing Data

- N/A-Not Applicable
- N/AV-Not Available
- N/C-Not Collected
- N/R-Not Reported
- I/S-Insufficient Sample

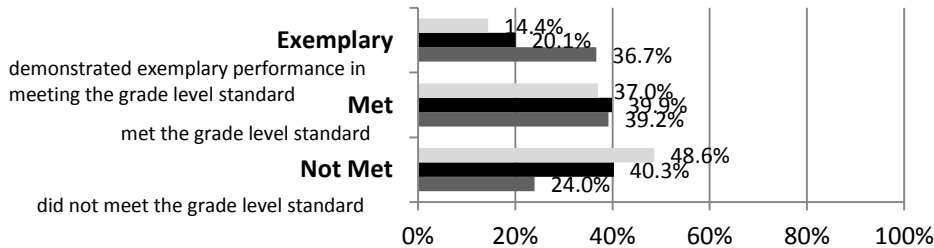
**KNOWLEDGE**

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
42.2	45.0	53.7

Social Studies SCPASS		
Our School: Percent Met and Above for each grade level		
6th grade	7th grade	8th grade
55.2	49.8	49.4

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	84.1	94.8
English 1	87.2	88.7
Biology 1	N/A	49.0
US History and the Constitution	N/A	55
All Subjects	85.7	91.7

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.

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**OPPORTUNITIES**

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Middle Schools with students like ours
<b>Students (n = 775)</b>			
Percent of students participating in Medicaid, SNAP, or TANF; homeless, foster, or migrant students (poverty index)	87.5	Down from 92.8%	N/A
Percent of students (grade 7 & 8) enrolled in HS credit courses	17.2	Up from 9.6%	26.3
Attendance Rate	92.1	Up from 91.6%	94.9
With disabilities	16.8	No change	15.3
Out of school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	1.9	Down from 13.8%	0.6
Percentage of students served by gifted and talented programs	18.3	Down from 19.8%	10.9
Percentage of students retained	2.7	Up from 2.2%	0.9
Annual dropout rate	0.0	No change	0.0
<b>Teachers (n = 53)</b>			
Percentage of teachers with advanced degrees	49.1	No change	62.0
Percentage of teachers on continuing contract	56.6	Up from 47.2%	69.7
Teachers returning from previous year	75.2	Down from 77.7%	78.8
Teacher attendance rate	96.3	Up from 95.8%	95.0
Average teacher salary*	\$43,354	Down 0.7%	\$46,658
Professional development days / teacher	15.8 days	Up from 11.4 days	10.7 days
Percentage of teacher vacancies for more than 9 weeks	2.0	N/A	1.1
<b>School</b>			
Principal's years at school	3.0	Up from 2.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	N/A	N/A	19.4 to 1
Prime instructional time	87.9	Up from 86.8%	88.4
Opportunities in the arts	Good	Up from Poor	Good
Opportunities in foreign languages	Poor	N/A	Poor
AdvancEd (SACS) accreditation	Yes	No change	Yes
Parents attending conferences	98.5	Up from 92.7%	99.0
Character development program	Excellent	Up from Good	Good
Avg. age of books / electronic media in the school library	12.0	N/A	15.2
Number of resources available per student in the school library media center	21.4	N/A	27.3
Bandwidth capacity per student	50-100 Mbps	N/C	N/A
Percent of classrooms with wireless access	51-75%	N/C	N/A
District-issued learning devices per student	0.2	N/C	0.8
District-issued technology devices per teacher	2.3	N/C	2.0
Percentage of classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	9.8	Down from 34.9%	6.3
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$6,925	Up 7.9%	\$8,890
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	61.2	Up from 61.0%	56.7
Percent of expenditures for teachers' salaries**	62.3	Up from 62.0%	58.5

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

\*\* Prior year audited financial data are reported.

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**OPPORTUNITIES**

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

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	<b>Teachers</b>	<b>Students*</b>	<b>Parents*</b>
Number of surveys returned	51	203	60
Percent satisfied with learning environment	76.5	54.1	70.0
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	76.9	58.6	56.0
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	53.8	76.3	53.6

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

**State Ratings History of School**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Absolute Rating</b>	<b>Growth Rating</b>
2014	Below Average	Below Average
2013	Average	Below 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](#)

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