



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>	Tarsha B. Staggers
<b>Enrollment:</b>	406 students	<b>Superintendent:</b>	J. Frank Baker
<b>School Phone:</b>	803-499-3341	<b>Board Chair:</b>	Daryl McGhaney
<b>School Website:</b>	<a href="http://hms.sumterschools.net/">http://hms.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**

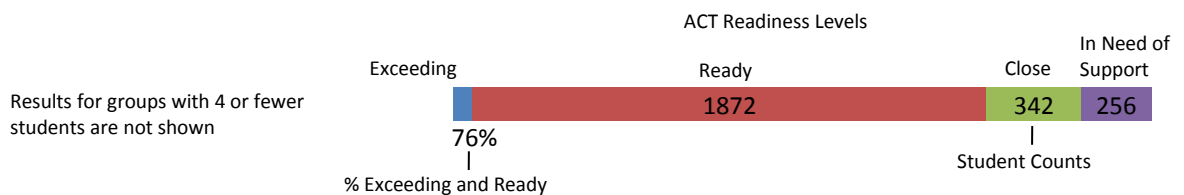
*Our school is helping all students develop the world class skills and life and career characteristics of the Profile of the Graduate by ...*

Hillcrest Middle School is helping all students develop the world class skills and life and career characteristics of the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate by providing a challenging academic learning environment that focuses on creativity, critical thinking, and collaboration. We provide such an environment through the implementation of our school vision where the emphasis is on the total child. We demonstrate this vision by challenging our students with creative and innovative best practices and continuous professional development for our teachers. Our developmentally appropriate school-wide curriculum is fully aligned to state standards. We continue to work hard to increase academic achievement of all students and improve teacher quality through professional development. Faculty and support staff members are dedicated to concentrating on best practices and strategies that continue to improve the educational profile and academic standing of our school. Hillcrest continues to bring new strategies into the classroom through ALEKS, READ 180, Differentiated Instruction, benchmark assessments, STEM activities, Making Middle Grades Work, workshops, content specific conferences, increased use of technology, and Powerful Pedagogy Sessions. A few of our highlights for 2014-2015 include: quarterly perfect discipline recognition, quarterly academic awards program, All County Band participants, four SC Junior Scholars, Crystal Apple/Golden Pen Award recipients, twelve Golden Apple Award Winners, The Evening Optimist Club Program, Sumter Education Foundation Mini Grant recipients, Department of Defense Grant, eight FBLA District Winners, South Carolina Academy of Science recognition, STEM Symposium participants, Go Green Projects, and Sumter County Middle School Football Championship Team. It is evident that character education is embedded in all courses by continuing the tradition of giving back to the community. Some of our service projects include: food drives, Caps for Kids, American Heart Association, Relay for Life, Shower Shaw with Cookies, We Choose Life Walk, Cystic Fibrosis Fundraiser, Operation Angel Tree, Catchall Senior Citizens Luncheon, Pennies for Patients, Breast Cancer Awareness, and annual book and coat drives. We believe that teamwork is necessary to achieve the goals of our school. Therefore, we thank our teachers, students, SIC, parents, volunteers, Shaw Air Force Base, and the community for playing an integral part in the success of our school. Tarsha B. Staggers, Principal  
 Jennifer Barger, SIC Chair

\* 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



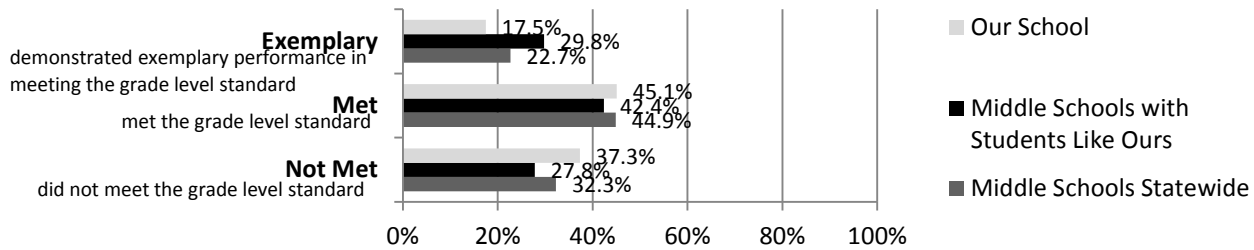
Abbreviations for Missing Data

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

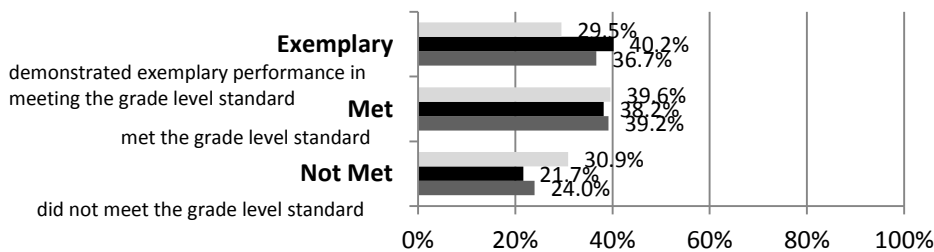
**KNOWLEDGE**

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
65.0	60.8	62.1

Social Studies SCPASS		
Our School: Percent Met and Above for each grade level		
6th grade	7th grade	8th grade
79.7	60.0	67.2

Note: Results include SC-Alt assessment results.

Exemplary	<b>"Exemplary"</b> : student demonstrated exemplary performance in meeting the grade level standard.
Met	<b>"Met"</b> : student met the grade level standard.
Not Met	<b>"Not Met"</b> : 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	92.7	98.2
English 1	95.2	97
Biology 1	N/A	62.1
US History and the Constitution	N/A	64.9
All Subjects	94.0	97.5

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 = 406)</b>			
Percent of students participating in Medicaid, SNAP, or TANF; homeless, foster, or migrant students (poverty index)	58.6	Down from 74.9%	N/A
Percent of students (grade 7 & 8) enrolled in HS credit courses	14.6	Down from 17.7%	26.2
Attendance Rate	95.3	Up from 94.0%	95.9
With disabilities	11.8	Down from 16.4%	12.0
Out of school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	7.4	Up from 0.0%	0.5
Percentage of students served by gifted and talented programs	27.1	Down from 29.9%	23.7
Percentage of students retained	1.0	Up from 0.7%	0.5
Annual dropout rate	0.0	No change	0.0
<b>Teachers (n = 24)</b>			
Percentage of teachers with advanced degrees	66.7	Down from 79.2%	61.9
Percentage of teachers on continuing contract	66.7	Down from 75.0%	77.6
Teachers returning from previous year	83.4	Down from 87.8%	86.1
Teacher attendance rate	94.7	Down from 97.0%	95.2
Average teacher salary*	\$45,554	Down 0.5%	\$47,247
Professional development days / teacher	6.3 days	Down from 7.4 days	10.8 days
Percentage of teacher vacancies for more than 9 weeks	3.8	N/A	0.5
<b>School</b>			
Principal's years at school	3.0	Up from 2.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	23.5 to 1	Down from 23.8 to 1	22.8 to 1
Prime instructional time	94.5	Up from 90.3%	89.5
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	100.0	Up from 97.3%	99.7
Character development program	Fair	Up from Poor	Good
Avg. age of books / electronic media in the school library	12.0	N/A	13.3
Number of resources available per student in the school library media center	18.0	N/A	19.4
Bandwidth capacity per student	25-50 Mbps	N/C	N/A
Percent of classrooms with wireless access	76-100%	N/C	N/A
District-issued learning devices per student	3.1	N/C	0.7
District-issued technology devices per teacher	2.3	N/C	1.7
Percentage of classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	21.4	Up from 17.1%	2.3
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$7,784	Up 5.5%	\$7,399
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	53.4	Up from 53.0%	62.3
Percent of expenditures for teachers' salaries**	55.0	Up from 53.5%	64.2

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

	<b>Teachers</b>	<b>Students*</b>	<b>Parents*</b>
Number of surveys returned	28	104	79
Percent satisfied with learning environment	85.7	62.5	78.5
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	85.7	56.2	74.3
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	85.7	75.5	57.0

\* 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	Average	Average
2013	Average	Below Average
2012	Good	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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