



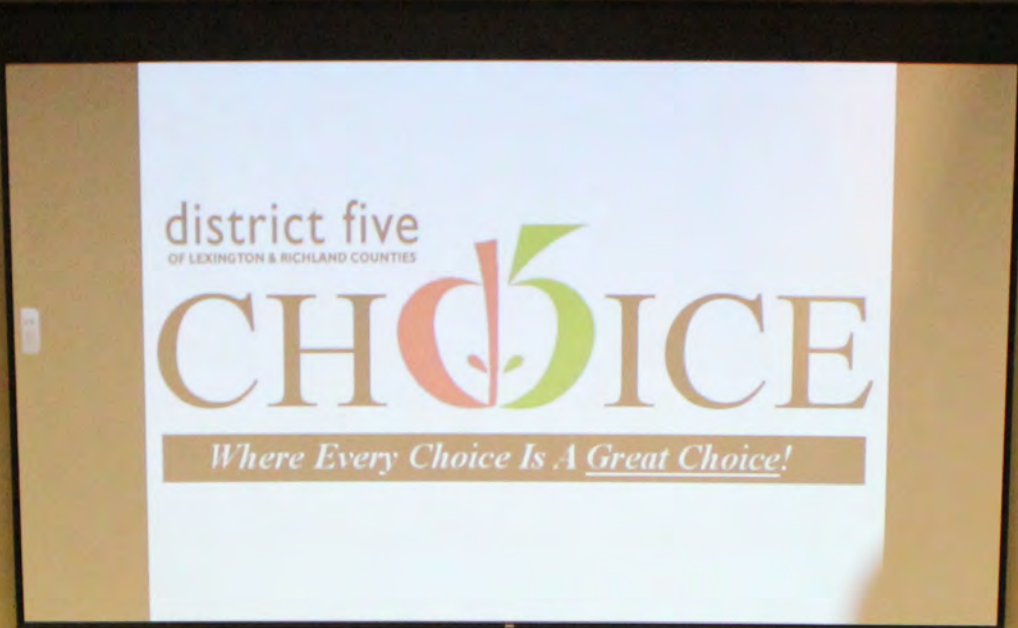
district five
OF LEXINGTON & RICHLAND COUNTIES

YEAR IN REVIEW

2013-2014



PURSUING EXCELLENCE
for tomorrow's challenges



Hundreds attended District Five's first Choice Fair on Nov. 21, 2013. The event featured interactive booths and detailed information about each of the district's choice programs.

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Each year our community, businesses, school leaders, teachers, staff, parents and students come together and achieve great things. In this publication, we will highlight some of the accomplishments from the 2013-2014 school year as we look forward to continued high achievement in 2014-2015.

To obtain additional copies of Lexington-Richland School District Five's Year In Review publication, contact the district's Office of Public Information at 803-476-8118 or view the publication online at lexrich5.org.

DISTRICT FIVE CHOICE:

GIVING FAMILIES OPTIONS



DISTRICT FIVE HAS LONG PLACED A PRIORITY ON GROWING ACADEMIC PROGRAMS THROUGH MAGNET AND OTHER OFFERINGS. IT'S A COMMITMENT TO PROVIDE FAMILIES WITH THE CHOICES THEY NEED TO MAKE THEIR STUDENTS SUCCESSFUL.

*The Academy of Environmental Sciences at Dutch Fork Elementary gives students a unique opportunity to study the environment and its effects.

*The STEM program at Dutch Fork High School is an honors magnet program that accelerates and enriches experiences for academically gifted students.

*Escolares Academy at Harbison West Elementary is a full-day magnet program for academically gifted 2nd—5th grade elementary school students in District Five.

*The Leader in Me program at H.E. Corley Elementary is a whole-school transformative model, improving the performance of all other programs.

*The International Academic Magnet (IAM) @ Irmo Middle School inspires learners to compete and collaborate in the International community.

*Leaphart Engineering Arts Program (LEAP) offers a school-wide engineering program. Engineering concepts are interwoven into all subject areas.

*Spring Hill High is an all-magnet school, offering a collaborative learning community cultivating innovative thinkers to meet 21st century challenges.

*Irmo International High School for the Arts offers a rigorous, standards-based curriculum that challenges students. The school also houses a prestigious International Baccalaureate program.

*Seven Oaks Elementary Media Magnet programs will foster a range of content and digital literacies.

D5 CHOICE SCHOOLS

AFS, CRMS, DFES, HECES, HWES, IES, LES, NRES, OPES, RSES, SOES, IMS, DFMS, DFHS AND IHS

MAGNETS DEFINED

Magnet schools have courses in special subjects and are designed to attract students from all parts of a community.

MAGNET THEMES

New magnet school themes were developed in response to a community-wide survey administered in fall 2012

MAGNET GRANT

District Five was awarded a federal three-year grant totaling more than \$10 million to bolster magnet programs.

TO GET MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE OF INSTRUCTION

AT 803.476.8000 OR VISIT WWW.LEXRICH5.ORG

THE MISSION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT FIVE OF LEXINGTON AND RICHLAND COUNTIES, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE COMMUNITY, IS TO PROVIDE CHALLENGING CURRICULA WITH HIGH EXPECTATIONS FOR LEARNING THAT DEVELOP PRODUCTIVE CITIZENS WHO CAN SOLVE PROBLEMS AND CONTRIBUTE TO A GLOBAL SOCIETY.



DISTRICT FIVE of Lexington & Richland Counties

5 FACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW

1 TOP FEDERAL RATING

District Five retained its "A" rating on the 2013-2014 federal accountability report.

2 #1 COLLEGE READINESS

A national publication ranked District Five among the top in the state for preparing its students for college.

3 PALMETTO AWARDS

District Five schools earned Palmetto Gold and Silver awards for academic performance and closing the achievement gap.

4 CHOICE PROGRAMS

District Five magnet programs received a boost from a \$10.3 million federal grant.

5 2014 GRADUATES

District Five 2014 graduates were offered nearly \$120 million in college scholarships.



PURSuing EXCELLENCE FOR TOMORROW'S CHALLENGES

LEXINGTON-RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT FIVE ONCE AGAIN ACHIEVED EXCELLENCE THIS SCHOOL YEAR. OUR EXCELLENCE WAS EVIDENT IN ACADEMICS, THE ARTS, ATHLETICS, LEADERSHIP AND COMMUNITY SERVICE. OUR ACHIEVEMENTS ARE THE RESULT OF THE COMBINED EFFORTS OF SCHOOL LEADERS, ENGAGED PARENTS AND EXCEPTIONAL STUDENTS.



Dr. Stephen Hefner
Superintendent

This school year, the district received an "A" rating under the Federal Accountability System and an "Excellent" rating on the state report card. Despite tougher standards, eighteen of our schools received either Palmetto

Gold or Silver awards. Our students also were state leaders on both the SAT and ACT examinations. This is significant because we lead the state in the percentage of students who take these examinations.

District Five also expanded and enhanced choice offerings with the help of a federal grant. We are proud to say that Dis-

trict Five is a school system "Where Every Choice is a Great Choice." The graduating classes of 2014 earned nearly \$120 million in scholarships and the district boasts student individual

accomplishments with two new Carolina Scholars and eight new National Merit Scholars.

Improvements to our school facilities continued on track. Spring Hill High opened its doors in August 2014, and major renovations are reshaping the campuses at all our district high schools. Construction also began this year on our new middle school in Chapin.

This has been another stellar year for District Five, and we look forward to the next school year as we strive to continue of legacy of excellence.

"...District Five is a school system 'Where Every Choice is a Great Choice.'"



ENRICHING ACTIVITIES

- Students Shine in District Production of *AIDA*
- District Five basketball and football teams win state championships
- District Five students earn top prizes in "Art of Healing" student art contest
- District Five school named Champion of the Environment
- Several District Five Students Win Top Prizes In State Level Trade, Technical and Professional Skills Competition
- District Five FFA chapter receives top honors at state convention
- District Five high school student places 4th at International Science And Engineering Fair
- District Five middle and high school bands receive SC Band Directors Association top award
- District Five students win statewide SC Economics' poster contest

IMPROVED SCHOOL FACILITIES



BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

Great strides were made in 2013-2014 to upgrade the district's infrastructure and facilities in preparation for the future.

Spring Hill High opened in August 2013 as an academic magnet high school open to any student in District Five.

The complete overhaul of Chapin High School is helping to create a state-of-the-art campus while honoring its legacy, and ongoing renovations at Dutch Fork High and Irmo High will rejuvenate those cam-

pus and provide great learning environments. Renovations and upgrades were also completed at other school as part of the 2008 bond referendum.

District Five held a groundbreaking ceremony on May 29, 2014 for its new middle school. Officials say the new school in Chapin will help maintain good class sizes, prepare for the ongoing growth in enrollment and maintain existing academic excellence. The school, which will serve seventh and eighth graders, is slated to open in the fall of 2015.

TEACHERS & STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS



Julie Krusen
2013-14
Teacher of the Year



Kim Cash
2013-14
Support Employee of the Year

District Five teachers, school leaders and other staff continued to shine in the 2013-2014 school year. Many have been recognized with state and national honors, and teachers continue to implement plans and techniques to ensure students receive the instruction they need to succeed. Among the accolades, 18 District Five teachers received National Board Certification this year, bringing the district's total to 393.

OTHER STAFF HONORS:

- District Five educator Kristi Grooms receives Milken Educator Award.
- District Five Principal Anna Miller earns Wil Lou Gray Outstanding Educator Award.
- District Five HR Chief Angela Bain named state Personnel Administrator of the Year.
- District Five Superintendent Dr. Stephen Hefner named SCAAA Outstanding Superintendent for 2014.
- District Five Basketball Coach Tim Whipple named Coach of the Year by national association.
- District Five Secondary Education Director Reggie Dean receives SCASA Lifetime Achievement Award.
- District Five educator Susan Vaughn named Middle School P.E. Teacher of the Year.

LEXINGTON-RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT FIVE IS WELCOMING NEW FACES TO IMPORTANT LEADERSHIP ROLES DURING THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR, FROM INCOMING PRINCIPALS TO DISTRICT STAFF. NEW PRINCIPALS INCLUDE TINA MCCASKILL (IRMO ELEMENTARY), HARRIET WILSON (SEVEN OAKS ELEMENTARY) AND LAUREN PROCHAK (CHAPIN ELEMENTARY).



DISTRICT FIVE New Leadership Roles

NEW FACES AT THE LEXINGTON-RICHLAND FIVE'S DISTRICT OFFICE



Len Richardson

District Five Chief Financial Officer

District Five officials named Len Richardson its chief financial officer during the 2013-2014 school year.

Richardson had previously served as chief financial officer for the South Carolina Department of Education, where he also served as director of finance from October 2000 to January 2013. He worked at the School District of Newberry County from October 1988 to October 2000, holding various positions that included Assistant Superintendent for Operations and director of finance. Richardson assumed his new role at District Five on Jan. 6, replacing Dr. Karl Fulmer who is retiring after more than 45 years in public education.

A resident of District Five, Richardson has received various awards and accolades throughout his career. In 2010, he was named Outstanding Business Official by the South Carolina Association of School Business Officials. He also has received a 1999 Governmental Finance Officer Association Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting and a 1997 Award of Financial Reporting Achievement.

Dr. Angie Slatton

District Five Director of Special Services

Lexington-Richland School District Five named Dr. Angie Slatton as its new director of special services. She replaced Marlene Metts, who retired at the end of the 2013-2014 school year.

Prior to joining the district, Slatton was director of South Carolina Gateways Project at the state Department of Education, where she provided training and support for special education teachers and speech language pathologist. Prior to her role at the state agency, Slatton served as special education coordinator at Spartanburg School District Six. She also worked in several schools in South Carolina, North Carolina and Virginia.

As District Five's special services director, Slatton will provide professional leadership in the development, implementation and oversight of the district's policies and programs for students with disabilities. She also will develop and facilitate professional development opportunities for special services staff, oversee the work and services of school psychologists and manage the district's special education coordinator and office support staff.



LEXINGTON-RICHLAND FIVE'S NEW PRINCIPALS



Tina McCaskill

Irmo Elementary School

Veteran administrator Tina McCaskill was named the new principal for Irmo Elementary School. She had previously served as the school's assistant principal.

"I am thrilled to become the principal of Irmo Elementary," McCaskill said. "The community, staff, parents, and students are a vital part of our success. I look forward to partnering with this group to continue the tradition of excellence at Irmo Elementary."

McCaskill has a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education from Francis Marion University and a master's degree in Educational Leadership from the University of South Carolina. She has worked at Irmo Elementary since 2008, overseeing several duties from professional development to student discipline. McCaskill has also worked at Crosswell Drive Elementary School in Sumter from 1999-2008 and at Manning Middle School from 1991-1999.



Harriet Wilson

Seven Oaks Elementary School

Long-serving educator Harriet Wilson is taking on a new role during the the 2014-2015 school year as principal of Seven Oaks Elementary School. She replaces long-serving principal Ann Copelan who is retiring this school year.

"I look forward to my new role at Seven Oaks Elementary School and all the students, parents and staff I will have an opportunity to foster new relationships with," Wilson said. "Ms. Copelan is a friend, and we wish her the best in her retirement. I hope to carry on the strong legacy she has left at the new media magnet school."

Wilson currently serves as principal of Chapin Elementary School, where she served for eight years. Under her leadership, Chapin Elementary has consistently excelled, receiving top ratings and accolades. District officials expect a deep pool of qualified candidates for the position at Chapin Elementary School, and anticipate filling the position quickly.



Lauren Prochak

District Five Director of Special Services

Lauren Prochak, who serves as the school's assistant principal, will take the lead role at the start of the 2014-2015 school year. She replaces Harriet Wilson, who will be the principal of Seven Oaks Elementary School.

Prochak started her career in education as a third grade teacher at Lake Murray Elementary in Lexington School District 1. She became an administrative assistant principal at Chapin Elementary in 2011 and later became assistant principal, serving as a data team trainer and leading curriculum and professional development. She earned her bachelor's degree in special education from Converse College, obtained a master's degree in divergent learning from Columbia College and gained a certification in administration from the University of Cumberlands.

Prochak has received several awards and accolades, including Converse College's Josephine Prall Award for Excellence in Deaf Education. A Chapin resident, Prochak is married and has two children, including one who will begin kindergarten in District Five this upcoming school year.

THE DISTRICT FIVE BOARD OF TRUSTEES IS THE DISTRICT'S OFFICIAL POLICY-
MAKING ENTITY. THE BOARD FORMULATES POLICIES TO ENHANCE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES
IN THE DISTRICT BY INTERPRETING THE NEEDS AND GOALS OF THE COMMUNITY. THE BOARD AL-
SO SEEKS TO DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN COMMUNICATION AMONG THE VARIOUS CONSTITUENCIES
SERVED BY THE SCHOOLS.



DISTRICT FIVE Board of Trustees



A MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD CHAIRMAN

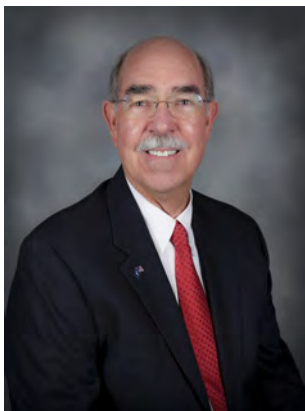
Beth Watson

bhwatson@lexrich5.org

It was a great year of achievement for students and the community, and there is a great feeling of anticipation for the 2014-2015 school year! District Five believes in our mission—Pursuing Excellence for tomorrow's challenges. From bus drivers, cafeteria personnel and support staff to teachers, coaches, administrators and most importantly the students; we all work, believe and seek to achieve this mantra every day. The exceptional work and dedication our teachers and staff have produced wonderful results and unlimited possibilities for the future of our students.

District Five celebrated top ratings on state and federal measures and a \$10 million federal grant to bolster our magnet and other choice programs. The overwhelming approval of a 2008 Bond Referendum which led to the completion of much needed renovations of several of our elementary schools is a part of the enthusiasm and excitement in our district. We also saw projects at Chapin, Irmo and Dutch Fork high schools take shape in 2013-2014. The adding of these much needed upgrades will greatly enhance safety and learning spaces for our students. Because of these renovations, our students will have access to great programs in appropriate settings. We also held a groundbreaking ceremony for our new middle school in the Spring Hill area, and we welcomed students to the new Spring Hill High School in August 2013. Thank you to the entire District Five community who has always shown pride and supported District Five schools and students. That pride is well deserved as our schools continue to demonstrate excellence in academics, the arts, athletics and community service. What a great year for School District Five. The future looks bright. I believe the best is yet to come!

Mrs. Watson works at the University of South Carolina's Honors College as the Director of Internship Programs and as an academic advisor. She has worked in higher education for 25 years, including three years at Trident Technical College in Charleston and eight years at Columbia College in Columbia. She has been elected four terms as a school board member for District Five.



ROBERT GANTT

Vice Chairman

rgantt@lexrich5.org

Robert Gantt has been involved in District Five for more than 25 years, serving in various capacities as a volunteer and 12 years as an elected School Board member. He served as president of the Irmo Elementary (IES) Parent Teacher Association (PTA) for two years, chairperson of the IES School Improvement Council (SIC) for one year and a member for four years, member of Dutch Fork Elementary SIC for two years, member of Irmo Middle Parent Teacher Student Organization (PTSO), chairperson of the Dutch Fork Middle SIC for two years, chairperson for the Dutch Fork High School SIC for three years, member of the Parents Advisory Cabinet, Calendar Committee, Building Committee, Strategic Planning Committee, Personnel Committee and Fine Arts Committee. While a member of the School Board, he has served as Board Secretary, Vice-Chairman and Chairman from 2008 to 2013. He is married to Laura Smith Gantt and is the father of three daughters, all graduates of School District Five.

ELLEN BAUMGARDNER

Secretary

jturner@lexrich5.org

Ellen Baumgardner is employed as a Disability Hearing Officer with the State of South Carolina. She is a graduate of Clemson University with a Bachelor of Science in administrative management. She also holds an Associates Degree in Respiratory Therapy from Greenville Technical College. She and her husband, Steve, have two sons that graduated from Irmo High School. Both of Ellen and Steve's sons serve in the SC National Guard. Sam was deployed in Afghanistan and Rhett is a ROTC Cadet at Coastal Carolina University.

JONDY LOVELESS

Board Member

jloveles@lexrich5.org

Jondy Loveless has been an active volunteer in Lexington-Richland School District Five for many years. She is a member of the District Five Foundation for Educational Excellence, is a member of the School Improvement Council at Chapin High School, serves on the Superintendent's Parents Cabinet and has served on the School Improvement Councils at Lake Murray Elementary and Leaphart Elementary. She assisted in the funding for curriculum development for Leaphart's Magnet School for the Engineering and Arts Program (LEAP) and the initial funding for Chapin Middle's project-based math program, Math Matters. She is married to Ken Loveless and has two step-sons, James and Reid.



JIM TURNER

Board Member

jturner@lexrich5.org

Jim Turner is a retired banker, having been in the industry for 39 years. He has been active in District Five for many years, having served on the Lexington-Richland Five Education Foundation and currently serving as a member of the District 5 Foundation for Educational Excellence. As a 30 plus year member of the Optimist Club of St. Andrews, Mr. Turner has been very involved in activities affecting District Five students, parents and faculty. He has been married to his wife Debbie, a former teacher, for more than 30 years. They have two children, both of whom graduated from Irmo High School. Jim earned a bachelor's degree from Emory University in Atlanta and a banking degree from the "Banking School of the South" at LSU. Their daughter Elizabeth is an elementary teacher in District Five.

ED WHITE

Board Member,

ewhite@lexrich5.org

Ed White is a certified public accountant and an attorney and partner with Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough, L.L.P. He is married to Bea White. They have two sons and a daughter, two of whom attend Dutch Fork High School and one who graduated Dutch Fork High School and attends Berklee College of Music in Boston, MA. He received a bachelor's degree from the University of South Carolina, a J.D. from the University of South Carolina School of Law and a LL. M. Taxation degree from New York University School of Law.



H.E. Corley Elementary Principal Dr. Judy Franchini was a finalist for the 2014 South Carolina International Reading Association (SCIRA) Administrator of the Year award. Reading initiatives like those at H.E. Corley help District Five students gain high academic achievement.

DISTRICT FIVE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

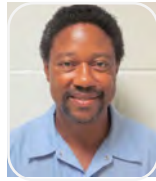
Preparing young minds for a future of excellence





**LAURA DUNCAN
TEACHER OF THE YEAR**

"Being at Ballentine these last 10 years has been one of the greatest rewards of my life! Instilling joy for learning every day and helping my students see that we are all responsible for our environment are the cornerstones of our learning experience in 1st grade."

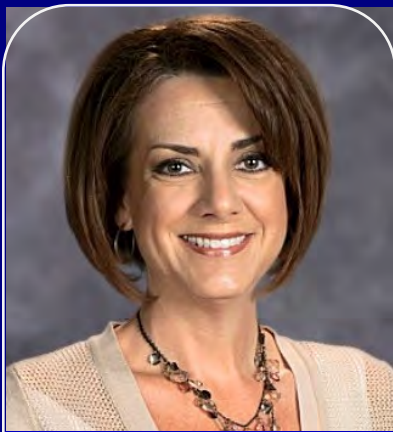


**RICHARD GEIGER
SUPPORT EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR**

Ballentine is a place to stay until you retire. I love my job because the people are very easy to get along with. We work as a team and our result is the Good School-Keeping Award!



BALLENTINE Elementary School



Robin Bright, Principal

It has been another wonderful year full of learning, fun and friendships! Our high expectations for all challenges our students to grow in character and achieve at their maximum potential. In addition to exposure to rigorous curriculum, students become "others minded" as they learn how we are all connected and how they can contribute their time and talents to make the world a better place.

We are truly fortunate to have strong partnerships between home, school, and the local community. Through communication, community service projects, an active Parent-Teacher Organization and School Improvement Council, and special family events at the school; we continue to grow. Our mission of continuously striving for excellence combined with challenging and enriching instruction fosters a safe, positive, supportive learning environment for all our students at BES!



TOGETHER, WE ARE BALLENTINE

BALLENTINE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FOURTH-GRADER JACOB CLARK COULDN'T GET THE BOOK HE READ OUT OF HIS MIND. HE APPROACHED HIS TEACHER AND ASKED A QUESTION THAT ONE YEAR LATER WOULD TURN INTO A MASSIVE 8,000 CANNED-GOODS FOOD DRIVE FOR HIS SCHOOL.

Ballentine Elementary participated in the first ever Canstruction Junior Competition in the midlands! The project was started over one year ago by fourth grade student Jacob Clark. "I asked Ms. Goforth if we could start a Canstruction project at our school. I wanted to collect cans for people who are hungry," Clark said.

Ballentine Elementary students helped to build structures using canned foods as their primary building materials. These self-supporting structures ranged from three to six feet and the product labels' colors became the palette. Ballentine students teamed up with the InvenTeam students from

District Five's Center for Advanced Technical Studies to help with the creative and constructive process of assembling their art structures.

"I didn't know it would bring so many people together to start helping," Clark said. "We have reached our goal." This was a huge accomplishment for Ballentine Elementary, which launched the project for the first time.

With the support of Ballentine Elementary students, their families, faculty and staff and the surrounding community; Ballentine exceeded its goal with more than 8000 canned food items collected!

"I am amazed that such an incredible project grew from one child being inspired by a book," said Robin Bright, Ballentine Elementary principal.

After the competition, the canned food items were donated to help children and families in the community through the district's Snack Pack program.

"I am amazed that such an incredible project grew from one child being inspired by a book."

For Ballentine Elementary School, students and staff took pride in knowing that they helped many students and families right in their very own community. "The students and staff look forward to continuously serving others in need," Bright said.

FOCUS ON ACADEMICS



BALLENTINE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS ARE EAGER AND EXCITED TO LEARN WHEN THEY ENTER THE CLASSROOM EACH DAY. THE TEACHERS AND STAFF AT BALLENTINE ARE ALWAYS READY TO TAKE ON EACH CHALLENGE THEY ARE FACED WITH TO ENSURE THAT THEIR STUDENTS GET THE QUALITY EDUCATION THEY DESERVE.

It was a great academic year for Ballentine Elementary School, thanks to the hard work of the school's students, staff and parents all working together to ensure a quality education for students. Top ratings were one of the results of that work.

This school year, Ballentine Elementary dedicated staff included nineteen National Board Certified teachers. The school also celebrated a 2014 Palmetto Gold Award for high academic performance and an "Excellent" State Report Card rating. Ballentine Elementary ranked in the top 25 percent nationally on MAP target growth, a testament to exceptional classroom instruction and a focus on improvement. Student also received awards for: Continental Math, Stock Market

Club, Economic Council, and Perfect PASS scores. The school received the District Five Volunteer Group of the Year award, and the school's chorus received a top "Superior" rating.

School officials also proudly note student participation in service-learning projects including: Construction, the district Snack Pack Program, American Heart Association through Jump Rope for Heart, American Cancer Society's Relay for Life and Sister Care. It was indeed a great year of achievements!



5 FACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW

1 "EXCELLENT" RATING

Ballentine Elementary School received an "Excellent" rating on the state report card.

2 PALMETTO AWARD

Ballentine Elementary received a Palmetto Gold Award for high academic performance.

3 TOP CERTIFICATIONS

Nineteen teachers at Ballentine Elementary have obtained their National Board Certifications.

4 DISTRICT AWARDS

Ballentine Elementary staff won the Student Nutrition Award and the Good School-Keeping award from the district.

5 TOP RATING

Ballentine Elementary is rated one of the top elementary schools in the state of South Carolina.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES: ENRICHING THE EXPERIENCE



Ballentine Elementary School third grader Drew Pifer placed in the SC Economic Poster Contest! The contest asks elementary and middle school students to illustrate economic concepts including: scarcity, opportunity cost, and goods and services.



BRANDI CANFIELD
TEACHER OF THE YEAR

I love my career. In fact, this isn't just a career, it is an opportunity. I have the opportunity to daily greet students and staff with a smile and support teachers.



NICOLE HUYCK
SUPPORT EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

I enjoy being a member of a collaborative team of administrators, faculty and staff working together as professionals to meet the individual needs of all students.



CHAPIN Elementary School



Incoming

Lauren Prochak, Principal

It is my honor to become the new principal of Chapin Elementary School. We have had a remarkable year at our school, and I am so proud of the teachers, students, parents, and community members who were committed to excellence in all aspects of learning.

We were committed to providing opportunities for students to learn at high levels. Our grade level data teams were focused on writing, and these teams made significant strides in collaboration and instructional strategies to increase student engagement and achievement. Our intervention support extended to include Tier I support for classroom teachers and students needing additional support.

I am proud of the family that is within the walls of Chapin Elementary School, and the way we extend to the outside community. Our PBIS program provided rich experiences for students to promote positive behavior.

There were many more accomplishments and accolades, and we look forward to great achievements to come during the next school year at Chapin Elementary.



COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE FOR ALL STUDENTS

CHAPIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HOUSES SELF-CONTAINED CLASSROOMS FOR PRESCHOOL, PRIMARY, AND ELEMENTARY AGES. THE NEED FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMMING IN THE CHAPIN AREA HAS INCREASED IN THE PAST FEW YEARS. OUR SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY HAVE EMBRACED THIS CHANGE AND THESE INDIVIDUAL STUDENTS WITH OPEN ARMS. WE ARE PROUD OF THE BEAUTY OUR DIVERSITY BRINGS.

This year our school celebrated our growing special education population in many ways. Our fifth grade jobs expanded to include Friendly Helpers. These fifth grade students went in to our pre-school and primary self-contained classrooms each day to work with an individual student. As they were providing a positive experience for their student, they were also learning compassion and the importance of service. Principal Prochak said, "Our Exceptional Eaglets have cultivated a new level of energy, compassion, and respect at Chapin Elementary."

Our school and community rallied around our Exceptional Eaglets attending Special Olympics for the first time through fundraising items

and participation in the Polar Plunge. Chapin Elementary School raised the most money of any elementary school. The morning of Special Olympics, the Exceptional Eaglets headed to the buses in style with a "clap out" that wrapped half of the school. Our athletes walked from their classroom, through the halls, and out to the buses with their school family cheering for them all the way. The music playing was drowned out by the claps and cheers of our students, parents, faculty and staff. Each Exceptional Eaglet was guided through the clap out and accompanied to Special Olympics by

their fifth grade Friendly Helper. One teacher said, "I teach children, not disabilities." The vision of our special education staff is one of hope and expectation. This vision has cultivated and continues to grow a compassionate and respectful community at

Chapin Elementary.

Michelle Jowers, our PTO president and a parent to a student with special needs says, "It

was amazing to see these children have a chance to shine and show the world their abilities instead of focusing on their disabilities!"

"Our Exceptional Eaglets have cultivated a new level of energy, compassion, and respect at Chapin Elementary."



5 FACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW

1 PALMETTO GOLD

Chapin Elementary was awarded the Palmetto Gold for achievement on the 2013 PASS Testing results.

2 COMMUNITY SERVICE

Chapin Elementary raised the most money of any elementary school for both Relay for Life and the Polar Plunge.

3 STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Chapin Elementary offers a wide variety of extra curricular activities to match student strengths and interests.

4 ACTIVE PTO GROUP

Chapin Elementary PTO bettered school-home relations by sponsoring monthly dinners between students and the principals and by hosting student talent shows.

5 STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Chapin Elementary offered opportunities for students to exhibit and grow leadership skills through programs like Safety Patrol, Friendly Helpers, WCES News Team, etc.

FOCUS ON ACADEMICS



OUR TEACHERS ARE 'COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE FOR ALL STUDENTS'. THEY INVEST TIME IN BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS WITH EACH STUDENT. THIS ALLOWS TEACHERS TO INCORPORATE STUDENT INTERESTS AND SPECIFIC LEARNING NEEDS AS THEY PLAN INSTRUCTION. STUDENTS ACHIEVEMENT REFLECTS THEIR COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE.

From preschool to fifth grade classrooms, our faculty and staff maintain a focus on academics. This focus is evident through collaborative teams, data teams, and our Response to Intervention Program. All teachers participate as members of

PLC and data team. Data teams this year centered around writing, and grade levels implemented the Lucy Calkins Writing Curriculum. Data Teams met weekly and were a means of planning consistent, purposeful instruction.

Teams reviewed assessment data, calibrated assessment scoring, determined the most effective research-based instructional strategies for the needs

of their students, and planned instruction accordingly. Students in fifth grade create science fair projects. The purpose of the projects is to learn process skills, and students from CES participate in the district and regional science fairs each year.

Teachers are continuously seeking new opportunities to learn and improve their instruction to meet the needs of their students. They are taking classes in the areas of reading instruction and integrating technology in a purposeful, engaging way.



STUDENT ACTIVITIES: ENRICHING THE EXPERIENCE



Eaglet Ambassadors is a selective group of fourth and fifth grade students who are charged with being positive leaders in the school and community. This year, the Eaglet Ambassadors participated in a variety of projects to enrich the experiences at CES and the community in which they live. Students met with Mrs. Wilson weekly to discuss needs and plans for improvement. Eaglet Ambassadors also were tasked with greeting our families and community. They also collected money for Relay for Life and assisted teachers in running the games for the younger grade levels at Field Day. Through their input and efforts, Eaglet Ambassadors serve our school and community and promote a positive climate at CES!



**CHRISTY EASLER
TEACHER OF THE YEAR**

My greatest accomplishments throughout my teaching career include those moments when things begin to click for students...whatever the age, it never gets old watching a student finally realize their potential and begin to find success.



**LINDA MILLER
SUPPORT EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR**

I have thoroughly enjoyed my many years at Dutch Fork Elementary, and am fortunate to work with a dedicated staff, great parents and such won-



DUTCH FORK Elementary School



Julius Scott, Principal

During the 2013-2014 academic school year we officially became a magnet school which included a change in our name to The Academy of Environmental Sciences at Dutch Fork Elementary School. More importantly, we made shifts in our beliefs and practices as it relates to thinking and learning.

We believe the cornerstone of a successful school begins with culture. The previous two years we were focused on having a school culture where collaboration, celebrations and continued improvement are embraced and practiced. With the transition to become an environmental sciences magnet school, we sensed the need to also create a culture of inquiry. We believe it is impossible to have science without inquiry and vice versa.

Throughout the school year, we committed to giving our students a quality education as well as meaningful and useful experiences outside of the classroom.

Our dedicated and top quality staff is completely committed to ensuring that Dutch Fork Elementary School remains a place where academic success is the focus and "Where Wonders Grow Every Day."



WHERE WONDERS GROW EVERY DAY

THE ACADEMY OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES AT DUTCH FORK ELEMENTARY WILL USE THE RICH LOCAL ENVIRONMENT AND SCHOOL CAMPUS CORE SUBJECTS THROUGH THE LENS OF INQUIRY. DFES STUDENTS WILL HAVE OPPORTUNITIES TO BE GUIDED IN THEIR LEARNING BY SCIENTISTS, TEACHERS, NATURALISTS, HISTORIANS, ARTISTS AND MUSICIANS AS THEY LEARN ABOUT THE AIR, LAND, WATER AND LIFE AROUND THEM.

Dutch Fork Elementary School was honored to be named one of five schools awarded a federal three-year grant totaling more than \$10.3 million to fund magnet programs in our district. The grant, funded by the U.S. Department of Education through its Magnet School Assistant Program (MSAP), is one of 27 awarded across the nation. District Five is one of only two school districts in South Carolina to receive the grant.

The Academy of Environmental Sciences at Dutch Fork Elementary School offers a comprehensive program which includes inquiry-based hands-

on studies of the environment all around us: air, land, water and life.

The program will immerse children in an environment that emphasizes discovery and exploration, collaborative study, scientific research, use of scientific tools and technology, and a strong sense of community. In addition, students have the opportunity to integrate and apply the environmental sciences in reading, math, social studies, writing, the arts and other subjects.

"The Academy of Environmental Sciences is truly a school 'Where Wonders Grow every day,'" said Dutch Fork Elementary Principal Julius Scott. "Through this grant, we were able to add a fulltime resident scientist to work with our

"The Academy of Environmental Sciences is truly a school Where Wonders Grow every day."

students and teachers. She will lead each grade level in a variety of experiences and field studies to bring science to life. Children are naturally curious about the world around them. This grant will enable us to support student interest and inquiry. Students will be able to ask themselves "What do I wonder? What do I notice?"

FOCUS ON ACADEMICS

THE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION OF OUR STUDENTS RESTS UPON THE SOLID FOUNDATION OF THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF OUR INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF. THE GOAL OF OUR INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM IS TO MEET THE INDIVIDUAL NEEDS OF CHILDREN AND HELP THEM REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL. TO ACCOMPLISH THIS, OUR EFFORT IS CONCENTRATED ON PROVIDING STUDENTS WITH A CHALLENGING CURRICULUM BASED ON WORLD CLASS STANDARDS.

Professional development at Dutch Fork Elementary began with an inquiry into writing using Lucy Calkins Units of Study in opinion, information and narrative writing. As a result teachers were able to use rubrics that span grades K-6 so that they can push or remediate students based on need. Teachers were able to use

mini-lessons that taught students how to refer to mentor texts as examples of what great writers do.

Professional development continued with Dr. Heidi Mills, a University of South Carolina professor, by exploring the relationship between beliefs and practices. Dutch Fork Elementary's staff is learning to develop new beliefs and intentionally working to live into those new beliefs. "We are working on being explicit and intentional with what students notice and observe to lead to further questions about the world around them,"

Principal Scott said about new developments.

Dr. Mills professional development is also helping teachers learn how to view teaching through the lens of inquiry. Dutch Fork Elementary's goal is for teaching practices to model the process for inquiry that they want students to use for themselves while also creating learning engagements and experiences that provide teachers and students the space to grow.

Our mission is to develop students who care about the world around them and to be a school **Where Wonders Grow every day.**



STUDENT ACTIVITIES: ENRICHING THE EXPERIENCE

Students at Dutch Fork Elementary enjoy a wide range of activities that support and enrich their educational experience. Students in grades 3-5 are elected to the Student Advisory Council and meet monthly with the principal to discuss relevant issues to the student body. Each homeroom selects at least two Recycling Captains to assist with recycling efforts. All students are able to earn awards at our quarterly Tag of Honor Ceremony. Students are honored for their achievements in academics, attendance, and related areas each nine weeks. Working together with families, we are able to provide an enriching academic and social experience to meet the needs of all students.

5 FACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW

1 MSAP GRANT

Dutch Fork Elementary was one of five schools in District Five to receive a Magnet School Assistant Program grant.

2 TOP RECYCLING AWARD

Dutch Fork Elementary was again recognized as the top elementary school for recycling efforts in District Five.

3 TEACHER DEVELOPMENT

USC Education professor, Dr. Heidi Mills, began a three-year partnership with the school to write curriculum and improve science-based instruction.

4 GENEROUS DONATIONS

Nearly \$15,000 worth of materials were donated by Carolina Biological and Irmo-Chapin Recreation Commission to enhance environmental sciences instruction.

5 FARM TO FIVE GRANT

Dutch Fork Elementary is one of eight schools to receive funding from the USDA to create a sustainable farm to school programs.





KELLEE EDWARDS
TEACHER OF THE YEAR

The past ten years have been nothing short of a success. Each year has brought new students and challenges that have affected and molded me into the teacher I am today. My career is still young, and I look forward to the memories that will be made in the many years ahead.



BARBARA COFFMAN
SUPPORT EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

The greatest reward of my job is when I hear a child say, "I really like (that subject)...I am good at this." This will happen after a few times of working together. There is no greater feeling than helping a child feel successful.



H. E. CORLEY Elementary School



Dr. Judy Franchini, Principal

As a longtime educator, I have over 25 years experience in school administration... and I love it! Where else can a person receive a hundred hugs a day, get frequent lunch invitations, be told of exciting life events—new shoes, sleepovers, finding bugs, snakes and fireflies, and see the sparkle in the eyes of a child when he figures out the hard word all by himself.

Academics is the focus at our school. Our teachers are highly qualified and continue to hone their skills to grow the leaders in all our students. In 2013-2014, we continued to make raising student achievement our number one priority. Our school grows and becomes better when our parents and community work together with the faculty and staff to build a strong school family. We treat each other with dignity and respect, we serve as role models for our children, and show them how adults can best work together.

Supporting the learning of our LEADERS, finding each child's talent and light is what brings us together. H.E. Corley Elementary School serves a wonderful school community, and we look forward to the year ahead.



COMMITTED TO FINDING THE LEADER IN ME

STUDENT AMBASSADORS WELCOMED FAMILIES INTERESTED IN LEARNING ABOUT THE H.E. CORLEY LEADERSHIP MAGNET PROGRAM, CALLED 'THE LEADER IN ME.' THEY GAVE POTENTIAL FAMILIES INFORMATION TO GUIDE THEIR DECISION-MAKING DURING DISTRICT FIVE CHOICE FAIRS. THIS IS WHAT LEADERSHIP IS ALL ABOUT AT H. E. CORLEY.

H. E. Corley Elementary, a Leader in Me Magnet School, has embraced our new mission - "in collaboration with parents, and community...to empower students to **Live** and learn together, **Encourage** each other to **Achieve** our goals by **Developing** healthy habits of mind and body; **Eager** to serve and **Ready** to change the world."

Our teachers are highly qualified and continue to hone their skills to grow the leader in all of our students. In 2013-14, we made raising student achievement through building strong relationships and focusing on improving instructional strategies our number one priority.

School-based professional development is a cornerstone in our teacher preparation efforts. All faculty and staff participated in four full days of "Leader In Me" training to complete our magnet school transition.

During the 2013-14 school year, our students conducted their own

conferences, led assemblies and gave performances. As a leadership magnet school, we find every opportunity to give students a stage upon which to demonstrate their leadership skills and use the seven

leadership habits. Students were given leadership roles within each classroom, served on the student council, the recycling team and/or were recognized each month during Leadership Assemblies. Students maintained notebooks containing achievement and personal goals and the data to support their progress. This data may have come from tests, classroom observations, and/or charts of their behavior. Student-led parent conferences celebrate the progress our students make.

"...we find every opportunity to give students a stage upon which to demonstrate their leadership skills..."

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5 FACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW

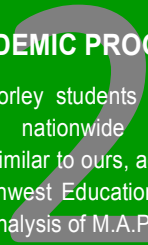
FEDERAL RATING

H. E. Corley received an "A" rating in 2013 under the federal accountability system.



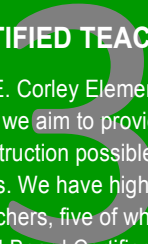
ACADEMIC PROGRESS

H. E. Corley students outperform students nationwide in school groups similar to ours, according to the Northwest Educational Association's analysis of M.A.P. scores.



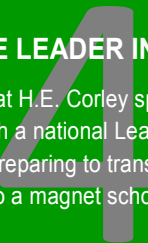
CERTIFIED TEACHERS

At H. E. Corley Elementary School, we aim to provide the best instruction possible for our students. We have highly qualified teachers, five of which are National Board Certified.



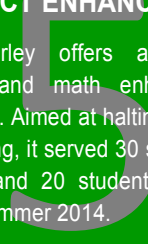
THE LEADER IN ME

Faculty at H.E. Corley spent four days with a national Leader in Me trainer preparing to transform our school to a magnet school.



SUBJECT ENHANCEMENT

H.E. Corley offers a summer reading and math enhancement programs. Aimed at halting summer backsliding, it served 30 students in reading and 20 students in math during summer 2014.



FOCUS ON ACADEMICS



SCIENTISTS ARE INVOLVED IN EXPLORATIONS AND INVESTIGATIONS NECESSARY TO FUNCTION PRODUCTIVELY AS PROBLEM SOLVERS IN A SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL WORLD. MATHEMATICS AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF SCIENCE INSTRUCTION, A COMPONENT OF COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS.

At H. E. Corley Elementary, we create classroom environments conducive to forming lifelong habits of leadership. We do this by maintaining small student/teacher ratios, providing reading and math interventionists, and offering a hands-on approach

to science and social studies as a meaningful experience. This year, we are expanding our very successful summer reading program to include a separate four week math program to support our early mathematicians. Our after school program (Champs Academy) is academically focused, offering tutoring and homework help from certified teachers.

Our goal is to provide full intervention services for all first grade students who fall below grade level in reading. These

students receive 30 minutes daily of reading instruction from highly trained Reading Recovery teachers. Our teachers collect and analyze student progress data to use when making instructional decisions. Grade level teams plan strategies to best meet the needs of their students.

Looking closely at how students respond to our instructional efforts, and valuing the contributions of parents is a fundamental component to our program. We honor the growth of all children.



STUDENT ACTIVITIES: ENRICHING THE EXPERI-

H. E. Corley offers two 6-week sessions of after school clubs. Choice and focus are two important themes for our clubs. This year we offered cooking, origami, reading, drama, tennis, running, board games, and Step dancing.

One of two Midlands schools with a disc golf tournament level course on our playground, the students get excited and are highly engaged during the fall instruction.

We offer an after school program (CHAMPS) to all of our students. We include supervised homework, snacks, organized outdoor play, crafts, and field studies during the summer.



MEGAN ELINSKI
TEACHER OF THE YEAR

"I love being apart of HWES because we continuously research and train to learn new ways to provide instruction that meets the needs of our forever changing students."



AL HOSKINS
SUPPORT EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

"It takes a team to build success. As a facilities supervisor I am but one part of the team but an equal partner in working towards the district achieving it's goals."



HARBISON WEST Elementary



Arthur Newton, Principal

It has been another stellar year at Harbison West Elementary School. Continuing to provide a world-class education for each child in our school was evident by students' achievement gains on various assessments.

At the beginning of the school year, Harbison West Elementary School hit the ground running with meaningful and engaging parent and student programs that gave us an opportunity to grow as a school family and share in the excitement of our students' academic growth. We received an "Excellent" rating on the South Carolina state report card and a top "A" rating on the current federal accountability system.

Throughout the school year, students were recognized for their achievements at various school and district programs. Additionally, we were able to form new partnerships with community organizations, which support our SIC and after school programs.

At Harbison West Elementary, we look forward to maintaining the momentum that was created this past school year with a focus on pursuing excellence and high achievement for all our students.



FOCUSED ON ACHIEVEMENT TODAY AND INTO THE FUTURE

DURING STEM NIGHTS; STUDENTS, PARENTS AND TEACHERS WATCHED CLOSELY AS OUR LEGO ROBOTICS TEAM DEMONSTRATED HOW TO COMPLETE SEVERAL CHALLENGING TASKS WITH ROBOTS THAT THEY BUILT AND PROGRAMMED. WE BELIEVE IN FOSTERING A VARIETY OF PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES TO FUEL OUR STUDENTS' LOVE OF LEARNING.

Providing Harbison West students with the best educational experience is a top priority. In doing so, school officials understand the importance of having world-class employees on our staff. It is critical that the school has staff members that are knowledgeable, caring, understanding and willing to go the extra mile for our students and school family.

This past school year, the hard work and dedication of several staff members were recognized. One of the school's first grade teachers was voted as the Columbia Area Reading Council Distinguished Reading Teacher of the Year for the

school and district. Additionally, Harbison West social worker Jennifer Dollar was named 2014-2015 District Five Support Employee of the Year.

Because of these key members of the Harbison West team, students excelled in many areas throughout

"...Because of these key members on our team, students excelled in many areas throughout the school year."

the school year. Several students participated in Continental Math and placed first in the district and state in several categories. Also, one Harbison West fourth grade student won the SC Economic Poster

Poster Contest. A fifth grade student also won the District Superintendent's Writing Contest. Other students were also recognized for their excellence in arts. We strive to meet each child's individual

needs at Harbison West Elementary by customizing and designing our curriculum to

meet students' specific needs. Students in kindergarten through fifth grade work on their skills with the help of supportive teachers and their fellow students.



5 FACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW

1 STATE REPORT CARD

Harbison West was rated "Excellent" on this year's state report card.

2 FEDERAL RATING

Harbison West received an "A" rating on the ESEA/Federal Accounting Rating System.

3 CERTIFIED TEACHERS

Harbison West has highly qualified teachers, including nine with National Board Certifications.

4 STUDENT RECOGNITION

Harbison West students placed first in the SC Economic Poster Contest, District Superintendent Writing Contest and district and state science fairs.

5 STAFF RECOGNITION

Our first grade teacher was named the district CARC Distinguished Reading Teacher of the Year, and our social worker was named district Support Employee of the Year.

FOCUS ON ACADEMICS



ACADEMIC SUCCESS IS THE FOCUS OF ALL WE DO AT HARBISON WEST. EACH NINE WEEKS, STUDENTS ARE RECOGNIZED AT OUR CELEBRATION OF LEARNING FOR ACADEMIC AND SOCIAL ACHIEVEMENT. AT HARBISON WEST, WE TRY TO ENCOURAGE OUR STUDENTS TO BUILD CHARACTER AND TAKE PRIDE IN THEIR ACADEMIC GROWTH.

Student achievement is a top priority. All teachers continue to implement innovative teaching methods and best practices for instruction with the aid of a strong support team.

Harbison West Elementary School's support team is comprised of a Math Coach, RTI Specialist, an Intec and interventionists. This support team works closely with the classroom teachers on a daily basis to meet the diverse needs of our students.

There is a strong focus on data analysis. Data teams meet weekly to discuss students' strengths and areas of improvement.

There is also a laser focus on meeting students where they are and utilizing specific research-based strategies to instruct them.



In collaboration with the teachers, the support team design relevant and meaningful lessons that enhance the educational experiences for students at Harbison West Elementary. Because of this support system, students continue to exceed expectations.

Data will continue to guide our instruction and inform our decision-making that best support student learning, develop life-long skills and meet the individual needs of all students at Harbison West Elementary.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES: ENRICHING THE EXPERIENCE



We strive to provide students at Harbison West with opportunities to grow and maximize their potential. Students have the opportunity to develop their social skills and leadership skills through after school programs such as Extra Innings, Cheerleading, LEGO Robotics, Gils on the Run and Boys Run Hard just to name a few.



JOHN GOODALE
TEACHER OF THE YEAR

It is an honor and privilege to represent Irmo Elementary! It humbles me to know that my peers voted me for this title. I see my role as one little part of the body, and I consider ALL of our staff as Teachers of the Year! The IES family is the BEST!



CALVIN GOLSON
SUPPORT EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

In working with special needs students I learned not to focus on their limitations, but on their potential.



IRMO Elementary School



Incoming

Tina McCaskill, Principal

Irmo Elementary School is an amazing environment for students, staff and our families. I am honored to move from the assistant principal position to the principal position for the 2014—2015 school year and look forward to continuing our legacy of high achievement.

Irmo Elementary has had a tradition of excellence, and I intend to guide and support our staff, students, and parents to reach even greater heights of achievement. I believe the relationships that we develop each and every day with our students and their families are the most important part of the educational experience.

Irmo Elementary received an "Excellent" rating on the state report card and a Palmetto Gold award for academic performance. Through the use of data-driven collaborative planning and ongoing formative assessment, we foster superior Schools must have a partnership with the community and parents in order to develop our students into productive citizens of an ever-changing global society.

We look forward to the next school year and many more to come.



WHERE CHARACTER IS BUILT AND CHILDHOOD IS CELEBRATED

AT IRMO ELEMENTARY, WE BELIEVE THAT EXPERIENCES ARE IMPORTANT FOR ALL OUR STUDENTS! WE ARE CONTINUING THE TRADITION OF INSPIRING AND EMBRACING SUCCESS AND ENRICHING THE EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE. IN THIS PHOTO, FOURTH GRADERS AT IRMO ELEMENTARY ARE LEARNING FROM METEOROLOGIST JOHNATHAN OH.

Irmo Elementary School (IES) has a legacy of excellence. We pride ourselves on being relationship-oriented and results-driven. Through the use of data-driven collaborative planning, and ongoing formative assessment, we foster superior achievement, responsible citizenship, and a solid foundation for life-long learning.

Our recognition by the Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence and the Palmetto Gold Award from South Carolina are indications of our commitment to student success.

Irmo Elementary is very fortunate to have parents and

community members actively involved as volunteers who are dedicated to the scaffolding and celebration of learning. Our students excitedly await PTA-sponsored reading celebrations, curriculum nights, and our SIC-sponsored Career Day.

Our Parent Teacher Association (PTA) has been committed to fundraising towards adding curbside appeal to our new school building. We have several garden areas that we lost in the new construction, but our PTA has diligently worked to help restore

these so that our "outdoor classroom" space can continue to be used by the community, staff, and students for academic, emotional and social learning.

Our Honey Bunch After-School Program offers site-based after-school and summer care for our students. Participating students take part in camp-like explorations featuring athletics, academics, and the arts.

We are creating a wonderful educational experience here at Irmo Elementary.

"...our students are excelling because we have teachers who care and parents who are involved."



5 FACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW

1 STATE RATING

Irmo Elementary received an "Excellent" absolute rating and "Good" growth rating on the 2013 State Report Card.

2 PALMETTO AWARD

Irmo Elementary was awarded the Palmetto Gold Award for academic performance. This is due to our dedicated teachers and staff.

3 CERTIFIED TEACHERS

During this past school year, Irmo Elementary had four teachers to gain their National Board Certification and two additional teachers who renewed their National Board Certification.

4 COMMUNITY SERVICE

Irmo Elementary students and staff worked on numerous community service projects. Some of the organizations included United Way, MDA, Palmetto Children's Hospital, Families Helping families and many more.

5 PBIS SCHOOL

Irmo Elementary believes in developing character in every child. We instill our three B's ~ **Be Responsible, Be Respectful, and Be Safe** ~ daily for all children.

FOCUS ON ACADEMICS



THE MISSION OF IRMO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IS TO PARTNER WITH EVERY FAMILY TO NURTURE, INSPIRE AND PREPARE EVERY CHILD WITH THE KNOWLEDGE AND PROBLEM-SOLVING SKILLS TO LEAD AND SUCCEED IN A GLOBAL COMMUNITY. BY OFFERING RIGOROUS, DIVERSE INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS THAT ARE DATA-DRIVEN, WE FOSTER SUPERIOR ACHIEVEMENT, RESPONSIBLE CITIZENSHIP AND A FOUNDATION FOR LIFELONG LEARNING.

Academic achievement is a priority at Irmo Elementary. We



partnered with IT-ology, volunteers from Colonial Life and code.org to provide our fifth graders with the experiences of basic computer science, referred to as "Hour of Code." This is one of many opportunities that are offered to students to help them develop skills needed to become 21st Century learners.

Irmo Elementary partners with our School Improvement Council and our community annually to host our Career Day. We have parent volunteers, community members, our School Improvement Council, and our PTA come together to show our

important to their futures as productive citizens. Each year we have between 25 to 30 presenters come into our building to share knowledge of the working world.

The students dress for success by dressing up as their future career choice. As our mission statement clearly states, we want every student to leave Irmo Elementary with the knowledge and skills needed to succeed in a global community!

We appreciate all of the help and support for this great learning experience for our students!

STUDENT ACTIVITIES: ENRICHING THE EXPERIENCE



Irmo Elementary provides a number of enriching activities for our students. Our student organizations include Student Council, Girls on the Run, WEE Deliver, Safety Patrol, Chorus, Newsletter Club, Yearbook Staff and a gardening club. Deeply vested in the community, Irmo Elementary has received donations from several organizations throughout the year and partnered with groups to make our school the best that it can be for our students.



NANCY BLALOCK
TEACHER OF THE YEAR

My greatest accomplishment in education is that I have empowered students to believe in themselves and develop a love of learning. I believe my students remember me as someone who believed in them and thought they were amazing. Empowering students is my greatest accomplishment.



CRAIG HINES
SUPPORT EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

My greatest reward is knowing that students and employees desire to come to Lake Murray Elementary School because of the environment I have taken part in maintaining.



LAKE MURRAY

Elementary School



Claire Thompson, Principal

It was another great year for Lake Murray Elementary School. Knowing the importance of technology in securing the jobs of tomorrow, our school has made a strong effort to integrate instructional technology resources as a tool for 21st Century learning.

Our resources were expanded during the 2013-2014 school year with the addition of an iPad cart for each grade level. Students learned computer programming through participation in the Hour of Code and learned to use iPad applications to show their learning in creative ways.

Community involvement makes Lake Murray Elementary the successful school that it is. Together with the community we celebrated a federal "A" rating, Palmetto Gold Award and many more achievements this year for our students and our staff.

It was an exceptional year for students and staff at Lake Murray Elementary. We look forward to the 2014-2015 school year and our continued effort to encourage and empower our students to learn.



ENCOURAGING LEARNING EMPOWERING STUDENTS

LAKE MURRAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (LMES) IS A NURTURING EDUCATIONAL COMMUNITY THAT WELCOMES CHILDREN EACH DAY TO EXPLORE THE WORLD OF LEARNING WITH FACULTY AND STAFF WHO ARE HIGHLY QUALIFIED AND COMMITTED TO HELPING STUDENTS LEARN AND GROW.

Academically, our students performed at high levels on national and state assessments. Students grew emotionally and socially by demonstrating empathy for others through events such as Hoops for Heart, Dance Marathon, Operation Angel, collection of food items for the district-wide Snack Pack program, and the Blankets for the Homeless.

Physical activity was emphasized through Fun and Fitness morning clubs, archery club, Girls on the Run, Jump Rope Team, and Men in Training. Students were encouraged to make healthy choices in the foods they ate. Fifth grade students were taught skills to

make healthy choices through the DARE program. Lake Murray Elementary School again earned the highest award for overall academic achievement on the SC PASS assessments.

We also moved closer to our school goal of 100 percent of our students reading on grade level by the end of second grade. Ninety-seven percent of our first graders and 96 percent of our second graders scored at or above grade level as measured on the Domine Assessment for Reading.

The school community continued to provide strong support. Business partnerships, support from local civic clubs and community and parent involvement contributed to the success of

our school. In order to make information available in a variety of ways to our community, efforts were expanded with a strong emphasis on classroom communication and the addition of the LMES Facebook page and twitter feeds. These have been very well received by our school community and have served as a means to highlight events in our school.

"...our students are encouraged, educated and empowered to explore learning in many varied ways."



5 FACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW

1 STUDENT BODY

Lake Murray Elementary is the largest elementary school in District Five with 940 students.

2 PALMETTO GOLD

Lake Murray Elementary School was awarded a Palmetto Gold Award for outstanding academic achievement.

3 FEDERAL RATING

Lake Murray Elementary School received an "A" rating on the latest federal accountability system.

4 COMMUNITY SERVICE

Lake Murray Elementary had the highest participation of any school for District Five's Dance Marathon to benefit a local children's hospital.

5 TOP STAFF

Lake Murray Elementary has 15 Nationally Board Certified teachers, 48 staff with master's degrees or above, and 47 teachers who have been at the school for more than five years.

FOCUS ON ACADEMICS



AT LAKE MURRAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS ARE CHALLENGED TO ACHIEVE AT HIGH LEVELS IN ALL SUBJECTS. INSTRUCTION IS FOCUSED ON MEETING STUDENT NEEDS WHETHER IT IS IN THE GIFTED CONTENT AREA CLASSES OR IN HELPING STUDENTS WHO ARE STRUGGLING ACADEMICALLY.

This year writing was a strong focus for our school, instruction in each grade level and shared instructional strategies to

support continued student achievement. Benchmark writing showed significant improvement in students' writing achievement based on these strategies.

These are top ratings that our school has received for several years—made possible through the hard work of our students families and staff. As part of our mission to provide top quality education to our students, our staff continue to earn certifications and gain training to sharpen their skills.

Academic strides were evident in result of several state and federal assessments including the federal accountability system, where Lake Murray Elementary School earned a top "A" rating, and the state report card, where our school received a top rating of "Excellent."

Our school has 15 National Board Certified teachers and 48 staff with master's degrees or above. We are proud of our students and look forward to more achievement in the future.



STUDENT ACTIVITIES: ENRICHING THE EXPERIENCE



Lake Murray Elementary School believes in providing a rich education experience for our students and families. We offer a variety of activities and programs for students including: Archery club, golf lessons, Girls on the Run, Jump Rope Team, chess and Men in Training. We also encourage our students to be compassionate members of society and provide opportunities to participate in a number of school-led charity events throughout the year.



**RENEE MORRIS
TEACHER OF THE YEAR**

It has been a great experience watching our school grow. The faculty and staff are supportive of each other and grow professionally together. I am challenged and inspired each day.



**SUSAN HANCOCK
SUPPORT EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR**

It is an honor to work at Leaphart. The faculty, staff and students are a joy to be with every day. We are all lucky to have such a wonderful engaging engineering magnet program for all our students.



LEAPHART Elementary School



Kelly Brown, Principal

What an incredible year it has been at Leaphart Elementary. As I look back over the 2013-2014 school year, I am constantly reminded of the endurance, the stamina, and the commitment of our teachers and students towards excellence. I have been a witness to the dedication and perseverance of our engineers in their academics which has resulted in many achievements.

Students constantly used the Engineering Design Process as they brought life to the content and were constantly challenged to solve real-world problems through the use of our science labs, PITSCO Missions, iPads, 1:1 devices in 3rd-5th grade, design challenges and LEGOs. Students moved from understanding concepts to applying concepts for creative solutions to problems. Together we have all learned so much and shared experiences that will long remain with us in the years to come.

We are thankful for the strength and dedication of our community and the passion of our staff to make our school a wonderful place of learning for our engineers. Leaphart is truly a special place in which children and adults learn and grow each day.



ENGINEERING OUR STUDENTS FOR SUCCESS

LEAPHART ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IS AN ENGINEERING MAGNET SCHOOL IN DISTRICT FIVE. THE PROGRAM AT LEAPHART GROWS EACH YEAR AS IT INCLUDES AN ELEMENTARY LEGO ROBOTICS TEAM, STEM MISSIONS IN THE SCIENCE LAB, A LEAPHART GREENHOUSE, AN ANNUAL LEAP INTO THINKING THROUGH ENGINEERING CONFERENCE HOSTED AT THE SCHOOL AND MANY NEW COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS AND PROGRAMS.

As Leaphart continues to serve students in grades K-5; Literacy by Design, units of study, and the Fountas and Pinnell Word Study program are combined with Response to Intervention (RTI) to support students in our balanced literacy core instruction.

All classroom libraries have been expanded to house a larger number of nonfiction texts. The Leaphart Media Center has grown as well to include a larger number of nonfiction texts and also contains a new engineering section of the library. Real Men Read and Read Across America brought many community members into our school to support the importance of reading.

This effort will continue with the upcoming partnership with the Midlands reading consortium through the United Way.

Engineering efforts and arts development is evident. Leaphart continues its partnership with PITSCO Education to maintain the engineering program as cutting-edge practices and resources become available. The Leaphart Greenhouse program continues to grow and thrive, and Leaphart is also the recipient of District Five's Farm to Five Grant.

Another important program this year was our Parent Power opportunities for our families. "It was amazing to see the turnout and sessions provided at our parent conferences," said Assistant Principal Jeff Lubansky. "Parents

were able to attend sessions that ranged from car care suggestions to parenting strategies.

"We were truly able to witness our community as we all came together for our students," Principal Kelly Brown said. "Leaphart is truly a special place in which children and adults learn and grow each day."

Leaphart Elementary is truly a special place in which children and adult learn and grow each day.



5 FACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW

1 ENGINEERING FOCUS

Leaphart Elementary School is the only engineering magnet school for elementary students in the Midlands.

2 GARDENING PROGRAM

Leaphart is a recipient of District Five's Farm to Five Grant, a federal grant to bolster fresh foods and school gardens.

3 LEAP CONFERENCE

Leaphart Elementary hosted its 3rd annual LEAP into Thinking Through Engineering Conference for students district-wide.

4 PALMETTO AWARD

Leaphart Elementary earned a Palmetto Silver Award for academic performance.

5 STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Leaphart provided opportunities for students to grow leadership skills through student and community programs like its Girls Who Dream Symposium.

FOCUS ON ACADEMICS



LEAPHART ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IS AN ENGINEERING MAGNET SCHOOL. IT'S MISSION IS TO INSPIRE, CHALLENGE AND EMPOWER ALL STUDENTS BY PROVIDING A RIGOROUS PROBLEM-SOLVING CURRICULUM THAT IS GROUNDED IN AUTHENTIC ENGAGEMENTS DESIGNED TO CREATE DYNAMIC AND INNOVATIVE GLOBAL CITIZENS.

As a community of learners, Leaphart engineers will be "Fused and Focused." Fused by integrating engineering concepts across all content areas and Focused on solving real-world problems. Through professional

development, creating and using powerful lessons for students, and giving students an opportunity to dive deep into the content; Leaphart ensures students can transfer the knowledge they gain through the years. Leaphart will host monthly parent workshops, "Bridging the Gap," for the

purpose of equipping parents with additional ways to engage with their children from parenting strategies and

dealing with social issues to student wellbeing and homework assistance. Leaphart strives to meet the needs and challenges that face students and their families.

Leaphart is committed to preparing its students for a world of opportunities. With that goal, officials at the school considered where education was headed and positioned Leaphart as an engineering/STEM magnet. That decision is beginning to pay off with improved test scores and praise from parents.



STUDENT ACTIVITIES: ENRICHING THE EXPERIENCE



At Leaphart, our activities are enriching the educational experience for our students. We offer opportunities for leadership through news shows, a leadership academy, gardening club and student council. We also provide chances for our students to see how the community supports them through programs like Real Men Read and Career Day. Engineering is the focus at Leaphart. That's why we offer engineering speakers for every grade level, LEGO Robotics and Girls STEM programs.



ROBERT SCHIESSER
TEACHER OF THE YEAR
 I believe my greatest contributions and accomplishments are not professional accolades or degrees or certificates, but the impact I have on my students and parents at Nursery Road.



TAMMY WATTS
SUPPORT EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR
 I feel it is important to leave your worries at the door when you enter the school and give each child your total attention and I am honored to work with a staff that feels the exact same way that I do.



NURSERY ROAD Elementary School



Love Ligons, Principal

We have had many wonderful celebrations in 2013-14! Nursery Road Elementary School received an Absolute Rating of "Excellent" on our State Report Card, for the fourth consecutive year, thus winning Palmetto Gold for the fifth consecutive year.

In addition, we have increased our use of technology by adding two portable Chromebook computer labs for technology integration in the classroom. iPads are regularly being used as an instructional tool at our school. Reflex Math is changing the way our students view math while building their fluency in the subject. One hundred percent of our student body participated in the winter and spring performance again this year. Our community involvement is growing daily. One hundred and seventy-six students and families participated in our Walk to School Day-the largest participation ever. Our Veteran's Day Assembly was also a success as we welcomed many of our heroes to our school.

At Nursery Road, we will continue to focus on achievement and what's best for students as we look forward to another amazing year in 2014-2015!



INSPIRING & EMPOWERING ALL OUR STUDENTS

NURSERY ROAD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IS A PLACE "WHERE CHAMPIONS GROW EVERY DAY." OUR STUDENTS ARE EMPOWERED TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR OWN LEARNING. BY GROWING STUDENTS INTO SUCCESSFUL AND PRODUCTIVE CITIZENS, THEY WILL BE READY TO ACCEPT CHALLENGES. OUR GOAL IS TO MAKE NURSERY ROAD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL A RICH LEARNING ENVIRONMENT THAT PREPARES TOMORROW'S LEADERS.

In fall 2013, Nursery Road Elementary School implemented the father involvement program, Watch D.O.G.S. (Dads of Great Students). The program provides a mechanism for fathers, step-fathers, grandfathers or father figures to spend a day at school.

The WATCH D.O.G.S. program is organized by the National Center for Fathering. The school invites fathers, grandfathers, uncles, or other father figures to volunteer at least one full day at their child's/student's school during

the school year. Watch DOG volunteers perform a variety of tasks during their volunteer day, including: monitoring the school entrance, assisting with unloading and loading of buses and cars, monitoring the lunch room, or helping in the classroom with a teacher's guidance in addition to working with small groups of students on homework, flashcards, or spelling. At Nursery Road Elementary, guidance

At Nursery Road Elementary School, students benefit greatly from the program; they see these men, willing to take off time from work, to spend it at their school. The men are also building relationships with their own children, as well as providing a positive male role model for all children.

We are very grateful for the men who volunteer their time for this important project.

"...they see these men, willing to take off time from work to spend it at their school."



5 FACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW

1 STATE RATING

Nursery Road received an Excellent absolute rating on the state report cards. It's the fifth consecutive year of the top rating for the school.

2 PALMETTO AWARD

Nursery Road earned a Palmetto Gold Award, the fifth consecutive year the school has received the award for academic achievement.

3 MENTOR OF THE YEAR

Nursery Road Elementary Mentor of the year Mr. A. Madison was selected District Five's Mentor of the Year.

4 STUDENT AWARDS

A Nursery Road student won the SC Economic Poster Contest, and two student at the school were science fair winners.

5 PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

More than 30 fathers volunteered to spend a day at Nursery Road Elementary School as part of a school event.

FOCUS ON ACADEMICS



IN 2013-2014, WE CELEBRATED AN ABSOLUTE RATING OF "EXCELLENT" ON OUR S.C. SCHOOL REPORT CARD FOR THE FIFTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR AND WERE AWARDED PALMETTO GOLD FOR THE FIFTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR FOR STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT. PICTURED ARE NURSERY ROAD NEW NATIONAL BOARD CERTIFIED TEACHERS: MARY BETH LAMBERT, CYNTHIA KENNEDY AND FANCES SCOTT.

Nursery Road's instructional focus is centered on academic rigor, relevance, student-to-student collaboration, and teacher-to-student collaboration. Teachers use this focus to drive

instruction in the classroom with their students. They also practice it with their colleagues, and our teachers realize that we are always teaching and learning. As a result, we have built a culture of pursuing excellence in teaching techniques and instructional tools.

opportunities for teachers at Nursery Road Elementary School, including: writing, data teams and arts integration. These offerings are in line with our motto that we are "Green and Growing" and constantly looking for ways to continue our legacy of strong academic achievement.



Many of our teachers continue to develop professional growth through courses at the college and district level. We also provide many professional development

Through professional development, continued data analysis, and collaboration; we will continue to grow our students to greatest as we motive, empower and support them to achieve their best.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES: ENRICHING THE EXPERIENCE



Our students benefit greatly from student activities at our school. We have a number of student activities and parental involvement is critical to the success of our strong school community. Our students continue to learn and serve by leading in community outreach and other service projects. They include Special Olympics, Student Government Association, Safety Patrol and more.



BRIAN MINCEL
TEACHER OF THE YEAR

We had a very successful year at Oak Pointe Elementary! We were a WIS "Cool School" and won the Reading with the Gamecocks program. We kept to our motto of Oak Pointe "Rocks"!



VALERIE DECOTEAU
SUPPORT EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

Oak Pointe students and staff have such a sense of pride in their school community. This past year, we were happy to share the positive and energetic environment of OPES with others in the community including artists, authors, members of the military and business partners.



OAK POINTE Elementary School

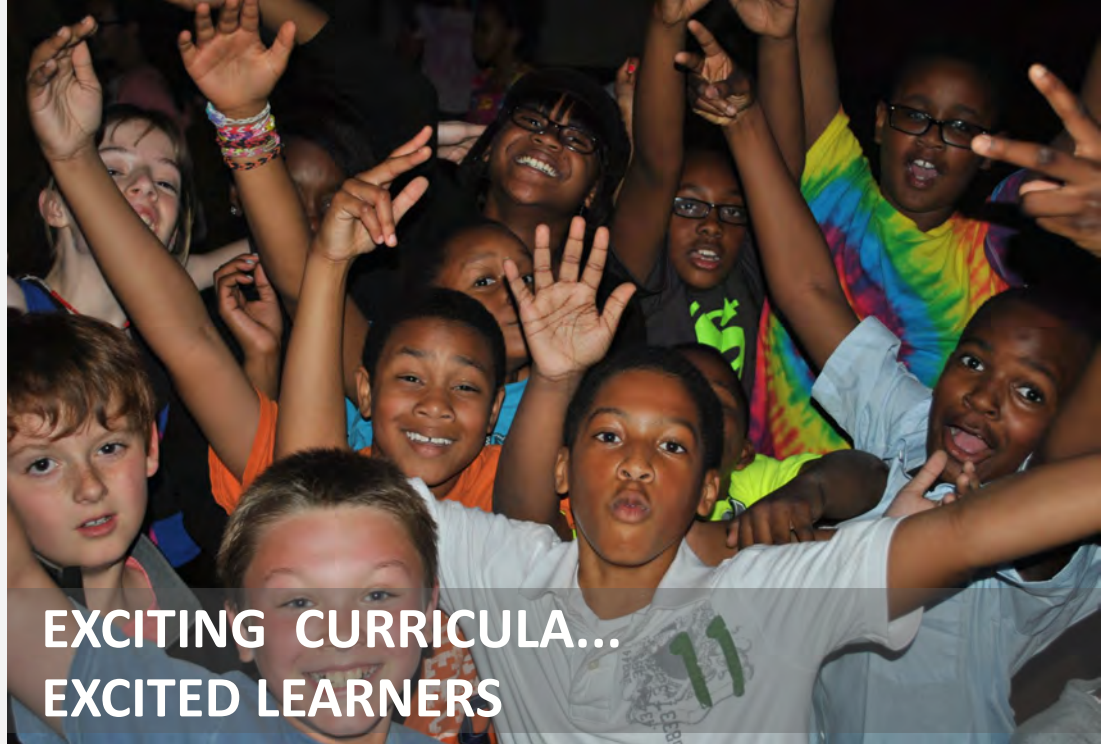


Cassy Paschal, Principal

It was another exciting year at Oak Pointe Elementary, the "Best School Ever!"

The faculty, staff, students, parents, and community supporters of Oak Pointe live our mission statement- "Oak Pointe Rocks!" As a group, we are committed to meeting the instructional, social, and emotional needs of all of our students. As the instructional leader of Oak Pointe, I work to enhance students' opportunities to achieve and to support the efforts of our dedicated faculty and staff. As we enter our ninth school year, I cannot help but reflect on our accomplishments with even higher expectations and enthusiasm.

At Oak Pointe Elementary, we aim to set a good educational foundation—one where teachers love to teach and students love to learn. It's been a great year, and we are looking forward to another rockin' school year in 2014-2015.



EXCITING CURRICULA... EXCITED LEARNERS

THE FACULTY, STAFF, STUDENTS, PARENTS AND COMMUNITY SUPPORTERS OF OAK POINTE LIVE OUR STUDENT MISSION STATEMENT—"OAK POINTE RULES!" AS A GROUP, WE ARE COMMITTED TO MEETING THE INSTRUCTIONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL NEEDS OF ALL OUR STUDENTS.

The 2013-2014 school year was another successful one for Oak Pointe Elementary. OPES received the Palmetto Gold Award for exemplary academic achievement. Our students demonstrated commitment to literacy by participating in the Reading with the Gamecocks program, where we were a state winner, and in the Columbia Blowfish Reading program.

OPES was highlighted as a WISTV "Cool School". While filming, Cassidy Paschal highlighted the importance of a positive environment to promote academic success. "I think its imperative that the

educational foundation for our young children is fun and exciting so that they fall in love with learning." Also, one of our teachers, Mr. Gillcrese, was the recipient

of the WLTX Golden Apple Award. The OPES Community Relations Team sponsored its first annual open house at OPES and showcase for community and business partners. Also, the OPES Student Government sponsored fundraising events and

financially contributed to the American Heart Association, The American Cancer Society and the United Way.

The following afterschool programs brought additional opportunities for our students: LEGO Club, Lego Robotics League, Girls on the Run, Good News club, golf, chess, student newsletter and yearbook.

We appreciate the support and look forward to more success to come.

"I think its imperative that the educational foundation for our young children is fun and exciting so that they fall in love with learning."

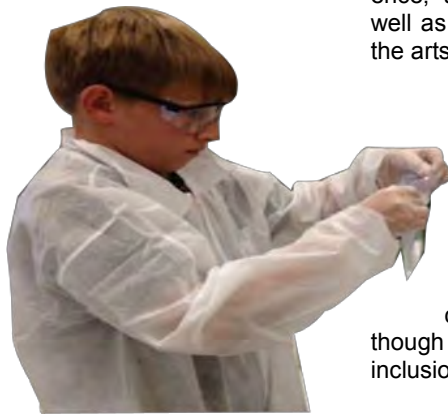
FOCUS ON ACADEMICS

OAK POINTE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL WAS NAMED A WINNER OF THE READING WITH THE GAMECOCKS CONTEST DURING THE 2013-14 SCHOOL YEAR. STUDENTS READ MORE THAN 145,000 PAGES TO BECOME STATEWIDE WINNERS. IN APRIL, MEMBERS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA'S WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM VISITED THE SCHOOL. STUDENTS AND STAFF WERE ALSO RECOGNIZED DURING A GAMECOCK BASKETBALL GAME.

Oak Pointe Elementary School (OPES) is a thriving school community committed to promoting excellence while ensuring academic, personal,

physical, and social development for each child. The focus of our school is the improvement of reading, mathematics, writing, science, and social studies as well as quality experiences in the arts.

A characteristic of OPES that sets us apart from other schools is our weekly Friday Morning Meetings where the whole school meets in our commons area to celebrate each other, highlight accomplishments, and set school-wide expectations.



OPES maintains high expectations for academic achievement and character education standards with an emphasis on celebrating diversity through community-building, inclusion, and mainstreaming.

At Oak Pointe Elementary School, our vision is to continue providing superior expectations and academic instruction for our students. We strive to provide experiences and prepare our students for success in a diverse and global society.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES: ENRICHING THE EXPERIENCE



Our school continues to successfully implement Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) school-wide. Oak Pointe earned Banner Status from the S.C. State Department of Education for our PBIS program. The school's expectations encourage all students to be a P.A.L. by showing their personal best, acceptance, and living responsibly. Celebrations of positive behaviors occurred throughout the school year with dances, P.A.L. Picnic, Haystack Hangout, and Rockin' Lunch.

5 FACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW

1 PALMETTO GOLD

Oak Pointe Elementary earned the Palmetto Gold award for Academic Achievement for the 2013-2014 school year.

2 READING AWARD

Oak Pointe was a state winner for the Reading with the Gamecocks program through the University of South Carolina.

3 COOL SCHOOL

Oak Pointe Elementary was highlighted as a WIS-TV as a "Cool School" for the 2013-2014 school year.

4 OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP

Cassandra Paschal was awarded the 2013 superintendent award for exemplifying superior leadership.

5 POSITIVE BEHAVIOR

Oak Pointe Elementary earned Banner Level Achievement for Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) for the 2013-2014 school year.



ANNE DOWNS
TEACHER OF THE YEAR

"My biggest contribution to River Springs is having taught many children to believe in themselves and their abilities, as well as how to be thinkers and learners."



KELLY KIRTLEY
SUPPORT EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

"I love being able to work and interact with students and staff here at River Springs. I enjoy making the education process run smoother simply by supporting the students and teachers with their needs."



RIVER SPRINGS

Elementary School



Melanie Cohen, Principal

River Springs Elementary School is a special place where children and adults are committed to learning and growing each day. In fact, the school's motto, "Working Together to Build the Future", is at the heart of everything we do. Our teachers collaborate for student success, our parents work hand-in-hand with our faculty as our partners in education and our children work together each day as they learn and grow.

Our children are our most precious resource and the River Springs Community is committed to the success of each child.

As principal, it is my pleasure to be a part of a school with such a rich academic tradition and a supportive community. Each faculty member is committed as much to their own professional growth as they are to the success of each child, making this school a community of learners.

As we look at the highlights of this past year at River Springs Elementary School, the fruits of our learning are evident in the success of our children. We look forward to next year and commit to our students and parents that we will continue to learn and grow together as we build the future of community.



WORKING TOGETHER.... BUILDING THE FUTURE

RIVER SPRINGS STUDENTS AND TEACHERS ADVENTURED INTO IMPROVING WRITING INSTRUCTION. WITH THE HELP OF LUCY CALKINS: UNITS OF STUDY, TEACHERS LEARNED NEW AND ENGAGING WAYS TO TEACH WRITING TO STUDENTS, AND STUDENTS WERE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPERIENCE LIFE AS A WRITER.

River Springs Elementary School's teachers and students made giant leaps as writers this year! In order to achieve this level of sophistication in writing, the teachers first made a committed decision to their craft to engage in a rigorous professional study of writing. The study centered around three types of writing: opinion, informational, and narrative. Lucy Calkin's *Units of Study* were used as a mentor. The administration committed to professional study by providing grade levels three half-day planning sessions. Each type of writing was studied thoroughly through data teams and the entire school became confident and effective teachers of writers. Each cycle through a type of writing began with a pre-

assessment. With data teaming, teachers were able to determine what students' strengths and needs were as writers. Teachers then began the journey of learning how to be the most effective teachers of each type of writing. Students wrote stories from their lives, wrote lab reports and informational texts on topics of interest and history. Students also wrote their opinions on everything including the best way to do something, whether chocolate milk was nutritionally okay to serve in the cafeteria, as well as their opinions on books. The instruction was rigorous and as a result, our students

grew tremendously. Post assessments proved that our students had grown in every area of writing, including craft, development, spelling, and organization. We celebrate this success and look forward to continuing to grow our writers in the years to come.

"...students wrote stories from their lives, wrote lab reports and informational texts on topics of interest."

Change is a hard but necessary concept in teaching and learning. At River Springs, teachers are dedicated to

providing best practices. Because of that dedication, they rose to meet the demands of change. As a school, River Springs is celebrating the incredible writing the students produced in 2013-2014 and look forward to them returning with all they learned to grow even more!

FOCUS ON ACADEMICS



TEACHERS AT RIVER SPRINGS ELEMENTARY STRATEGICALLY EMBRACED DATA TEAMING THIS YEAR TO SUPPORT THE ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT OF THEIR STUDENTS. WRITING WAS A FOCUS ACROSS ALL GRADE LEVELS.

During the 2013-2014 school year, teachers at River Springs Elementary School worked together to strategically analyze and make instructional decisions based on common writing assessments. Each grade level and other supporting teachers around the

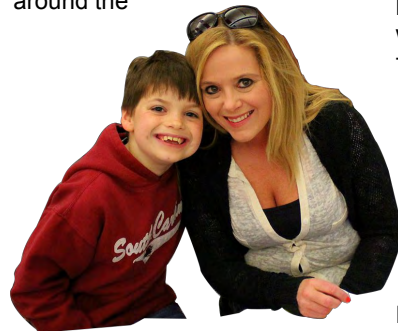
school looked for specific Strengths and weaknesses within students' writing. After determining the strengths and weaknesses, the grade level decided on highly successful instructional strategies to use to help their students grow as writers.

This year the administrative team led the way by modeling the 5-step process of data teaming to the entire faculty and staff. With the support and teamwork provided throughout the course of the school year, River Springs students

were able to make substantial gains in their ability to write. This was achieved through the professional conversations that occurred during data team meetings.

First grade teacher, Maxcy Westmoreland wrote about data teaming, "We are very pleased overall with our students' improvements. You can really see the growth when you compare our charts, that include their scores in each category, for both assessment pieces."

RSES looks forward to Data Teaming in 2014-2015!



5 FACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW

1 FEDERAL "A" RATING

Student performance at River Springs Elementary substantially exceeds the state's expectation in all content areas.

2 PALMETTO GOLD AWARD

River Springs continued to attain high levels of absolute performance and earned Palmetto Gold.

3 NOTEWORTHY NAVIGATORS

First ever Noteworthy Navigators Ceremony was actualized for students who achieved academic excellence.

4 4K PROGRAM LAUNCH

River Springs Elementary welcomed its first 4K classroom as they kicked off the program in 2013-2014.

5 UPGRADED PLAYGROUND

Our PTO completed its final phase of our playground improvements and upgrades. This focused initiative has led to more playground options for our

STUDENT ACTIVITIES: ENRICHING THE EXPERIENCE



This school year marked our inaugural Noteworthy Navigators Ceremony. Students in grades 3-5 were honored quarterly for their academic achievements, perfect attendance, and their dedication to completing their homework. Each student in grades 3-5 received a green and white lanyard at the beginning of the year. At the end of each quarter, during the Noteworthy Navigators Ceremony, students received pins in the areas described above. Parents and family members were invited to celebrate these accomplishments with our students!



ERICA LIVINGSTON
TEACHER OF THE YEAR
 "My greatest accomplishment is becoming a teacher and doing what I love most everyday here at Seven Oaks Elementary. I strive everyday to give the students the



TERRI BOLTIN
SUPPORT EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR
 "The old saying "it takes a village to raise a child" is so true. Here at Seven Oaks we all collaboratively work together to contribute to the education of our students, and I wouldn't have it any other way."



SEVEN OAKS Elementary School



Incoming

Harriet Wilson, Principal

It's my honor to become the new principal of Seven Oaks Elementary School MEDIA Magnet: A school of academic excellence and a place where staff and students support each other. The school was awarded Palmetto Gold and Closing the Achievement Gap Silver for academic achievement in 2013-14.

In the state Department of Education Parent, Teacher and Student Survey for 2014, 91% of the parents who responded were satisfied with home-school relations and 90% of the teachers were satisfied with the learning environment in the school. Seven Oaks is a school where community is highly respected and students excel in learning.

Our school received a 1.7 million dollar grant to transition our school into a MEDIA magnet. Through this transition, Seven Oaks students were introduced to Chromebooks and iPads and engaged in a Project Based Learning activity to culminate the first year of magnet implementation. Our school is "Plugging Students In" and involving our students and staff in interactive learning that will pave the way for future college and career readiness skills.



MIGHTY OAKS FROM LITTLE ACORNS GROW

STUDENTS AND STAFF AT SEVEN OAKS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STRIVE FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE BY ENGAGING STUDENTS THROUGH AN INTERACTIVE AND DIGITAL CURRICULUM THAT ENCOMPASSES REAL-WORLD PROBLEM-SOLVING. THE MISSION OF SEVEN OAKS ELEMENTARY IS TO ENABLE ALL CHILDREN TO REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL.

Seven Oaks Elementary School MEDIA Magnet is "Plugging Students In!" Our students use technology and multimedia tools throughout the day for research, learning, critical thinking, and creation. Our magnet school offers a professional Audio-Video Studio and Radio-Podcasting Studio for students to engage in production while improving their skills of communication and collaboration. Our school also utilizes collaborative partnerships to support our staff and students to be productive members of an ever-

changing, digital, and global society.

We understand that in order for our students to grow, our staff must do the same. Classroom teachers will be participating in a week long staff development involving both the Buck Institute for Education and the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE). During the Buck Institute training our teachers will be

learning from the experts on Project Based Learning and how to meaningfully integrate technology into the curriculum standards from ISTE.

Seven Oaks Elementary School MEDIA Magnet is excited to open its doors in the 2014-2015 school year with a full implementation of our magnet program for all of our students.

"We are excited to open our doors in the 2014-2015 school year with a full implementation of our magnet program."



5 FACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW

1 ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Due to the high academic achievement of Seven Oaks Elementary students, the school was awarded Palmetto Gold.

2 MEDIA MAGNET GRANT

\$1.7 million was awarded to transition our school into a Magnet School with a focus on media, technology and communications.

3 EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Our students received opportunities and accolades in: Student Council, Champions, Recycling Club, Lego Club, D5 and SC State Honor Choirs, Columbia Marathon, D5 Science Fair, and Chess Club.

4 COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Our community partners, Ashland United Methodist Church, Seven Oaks Presbyterian and CrossRoads Church, have provided support through our Reading Buddies, providing computers for our school families, and books for our students.

5 FEDERAL "A" RATING

Seven Oaks received an "A" rating of 92.5 points from the ESEA/Federal Accountability System to signify the excellence in our academic programs.

FOCUS ON ACADEMICS



SEVEN OAKS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MEDIA MAGNET HAS HAD AN INTENSE FOCUS ON STUDENT ACADEMICS AND ACHIEVEMENT THROUGH PROJECT BASED LEARNING, TECHNOLOGY, AND MASS COMMUNICATION EXPERIENCES. THE GOAL OF OUR PROGRAM AND ALL INSTRUCTION AT OUR SCHOOL IS TO MEET THE INDIVIDUAL NEEDS OF STUDENTS.

Seven Oaks Elementary School MEDIA Magnet is focused on academic achievement for all its students, and we set high expectations. This year, students have focused on critical thinking,

collaboration, communication, and creativity skills across the curriculum through the use of technology and media tools. Our third through fifth grade students have access to Chromebook computers and our first through second grade students were each assigned an iPad mini to use throughout the day to research, practice skills, and create content. This allowed students to focus on inquiry through Project Based Learning experiences.

Project Based Learning is a teaching method in which

students gain knowledge and skills by working for an extended period of time to investigate and respond to a complex question, problem, or challenge. "The core idea of project based learning is that real-world problems capture students' interest and provoke serious thinking as the students acquire and apply new knowledge in a problem-solving context." This year, every classroom participated in a Project Based Learning unit and students showcased the independent and collaborative research projects to their families, school, and community.



STUDENT ACTIVITIES: ENRICHING THE EXPERIENCE



Students at Seven Oaks Elementary School MEDIA Magnet have many opportunities to enrich their educational experience. Student Council and the Champions Program involved students in leadership programs that provided opportunities for community and school service. The Recycling Team supported our efforts to take care of our environment by collecting recyclables in our school. The Lego Team competed in a Regional competition, bringing home the Overcoming Obstacles Award. The Chess Club participated in the District Chess Tournament and a Seven Oaks student was the highest scorer in the competition. Students celebrated German language and culture through Oktoberfest activities such as yodeling, food, and dance. Many students participated in the Columbia Marathon's Student Division which taught students determination and hard work. Students will have more opportunities to engage in student activities in the 2014-2015 school year as we fully implement our MEDIA Magnet Program.



Dutch Fork Middle School educator Kristi Grooms received the Prestigious \$25,000 Milken Educator Award for teaching excellence in December 2013. She is just one of the educators in District Five middle schools preparing our students for their bright futures.

DISTRICT FIVE MIDDLE SCHOOLS

Providing top quality education for top quality students





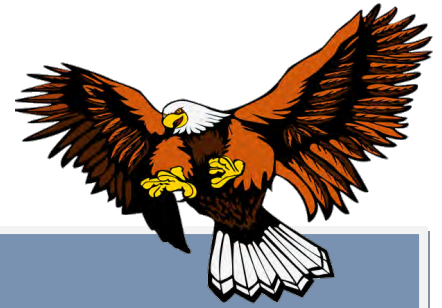
RYAN COLE
TEACHER OF THE YEAR

"I love having the opportunity to help kids grow in all aspects of their life."



LISA REGISTER
SUPPORT EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

"The thing I love most about my job is interacting with so many people."



CHAPIN Middle School



Anna Miller, Principal

Chapin Middle School continued the tradition of excellence in the 2013-2014 school year, and we are already looking forward to starting a new year. Our goal at CMS is to be the best—the best in academics, arts, athletics, and character development.

This school year was filled with honors and awards. In addition to our Excellent school report card ratings, we received numerous academic awards. As a result of our commitment to the pursuit of excellence, our school scored 100% on our Positive Behavior Interventions and Support (PBIS) evaluation, raised thousands of dollars for fundraisers and charities, won the FBI Safe Online Surfing National Contest, and our Student Council was awarded the Gold Honor Award.

The leadership and support of our faculty and staff help to ensure we are second to none, and we are incredibly fortunate to have involved parents and a strong community invested in our school, and we are grateful for our PTO, SIC, and Business Partners.

I am both proud and grateful to be a part of such an amazing school, and I thank you for your continued support of Chapin Middle School.



WE ARE CHAPIN... RESPECTFUL, RESPONSIBLE & RESOURCEFUL

THE MISSION OF CHAPIN MIDDLE SCHOOL, WHERE COMMUNITY AND SCHOOL UNITE FOR EXCELLENCE, IS TO ENSURE THAT EACH OF OUR STUDENTS IS PREPARED TO SUCCEED BY PROVIDING A CHALLENGING CURRICULUM THAT DEVELOPS INTELLECTUAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL GROWTH WITHIN A SAFE, SUPPORTIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT.

Our school commitment to excellence is evident in our achievements in academics, the arts, and athletics.

Our school and students were repeatedly recognized for academic excellence this year. We received an "A" rating on the ESEA waiver and the Gold Award in the Palmetto Gold and Silver Award Recognition Program. Our students consistently earn perfect scores on the End of Course Examinations, on the SCPASS test, and on the Explore test. Almost sixty eighth graders earned the distinction of South Carolina Junior Scholar, and almost twenty seventh graders were recognized as Duke University TIP Scholars.

Our fine arts students and teachers had a phenomenal year. Our band program once

again earned a prestigious Outstanding Performance Award. Our chorus and orchestra programs won the Grand Champion Award for Middle Schools at the Music USA Festival in Orlando, Florida, and our performing arts classes combined to honor our nation's soldiers during our second annual Veteran's Day Assembly. Our drama department created and produced two major productions: *In the Middle: A Brave New World* and a play featuring traditional and modern interpretations of Shakespeare's *The Taming of the Shrew* and *Romeo and Juliet*. The latter performance was in conjunction with our school's third annual Renaissance Fair, a multidisciplinary event bring-

ing together our school and community. Student art work was featured at Saluda Shoals Park, Crooked Creek Park, The State Fair, the District Office, and the CMS art show. Our students excelled individually in the arts by participating in Region Band, Region Orchestra, All-State Orchestra,

"Chapin Middle prides itself in developing students who are successful in all areas..."

tra, and the Tri-District Arts Consortium.

CMS students were also successful in athletic

ics. Our teams and clubs had winning seasons and successful competitions, and our students participated in a volleyball team for the first time. Our students also competed in a variety of athletic programs at the junior varsity and varsity levels. Assistant Principal of Instruction, Vann Holden said, "Chapin Middle prides itself in developing students who are successful in all areas of life."

FOCUS ON ACADEMICS



CHAPIN MIDDLE HAS EXCEPTIONAL CLUBS, CLASSES AND ACADEMICS. PICTURED: CMS HONORS DRAMA STUDENTS PERFORM THEIR PLAY, *IN THE MIDDLE: A BRAVE NEW WORLD*.

Students at Chapin Middle are provided the opportunity to participate in extra-curricular clubs and classes which are offered throughout the school year. Our clubs, classes, and academies are designed to build character, enhance physical activity, enrich the

academics, and engage the mind.

Several of our more than twenty club offerings have been recognized for their accomplishments both in our state and nation. The Mock Trial Team, Beta Club, Student Council, MathCounts Team, and Forensics Club received state honors while our Dance Team received national honors for the second consecutive year.

CMS academy classes allow students an opportunity to participate in enriching experiences most schools do not offer. Each nine weeks students register for a course led by a faculty or staff member or in some cases a member of the Chapin community. This year, we were honored to have one of our school

board members teach a dance class for us! The classes give the adults an opportunity to teach topics they personally enjoy while building relationships with students. We have had many successful and interesting activities since the program began two years ago. Examples of our academy classes include the following: language studies in Russian, Italian, and American Sign Language; technology offerings in web design and apps; crafts including crocheting and knitting; physical activities including yoga, Zumba, disc golf, and a variety of sports; and special interests such as photography, the history of Rock-n-Roll, weird science, and fantasy football.



STUDENT ACTIVITIES: ENRICHING THE EXPERIENCE



During the 2013-14 school year, Chapin Middle School introduced several initiatives to protect our students online. Students enrolled in computer classes completed the newly developed FBI SOS (Safe Online Surfing) program. This program was offered at CMS under the leadership of Ms. Bowman and Mrs. Isenhower. Students in grades six through eight completed grade level appropriate games and activities promoting online safety and cyber citizenship. Our students were recognized for having the highest average scores and participation in the nation for a school our size, and we were awarded two national awards: Stingray and Starfish. In addition to the FBI SOS initiative, CMS hosted Alan Wilson, Attorney General for South Carolina, and Marah Strickland, former Women's Basketball player at USC and current Internet Safety Education Coordinator, as they presented an Internet Safety Assembly for our students.

5 FACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW

CONTINUED EXCELLENCE

Chapin Middle earned four consecutive years of Excellent Report Card Ratings, an "A" rating on the State's Federal Accountability Ranking, and a Palmetto Gold Award for academic performance.

PROVEN SUCCESS

Chapin Middle recognized more than 100 students receiving statistically perfect scores on EOC (121), Explore (2), and SCPASS (23). We celebrated 59 Junior Scholars and 17 Duke TIP Scholars.

SUPERIOR RATINGS

Chapin Middle Fine Arts Programs received Superior Ratings and our Band Director, David Santiago was named Bandmaster of the Year.

ENRICHING OPPORTUNITIES

Chapin Middle has many programs for students including origami, photography, yoga, Zumba, sign language, fantasy football, IT-ology, and foreign languages.

STUDENT SUPPORT

Chapin Middle has scored 100% on the School Wide Evaluation Tool for PBIS for three consecutive years. Our motto is We aRe Chapin...Respectful, Responsible, and Resourceful.



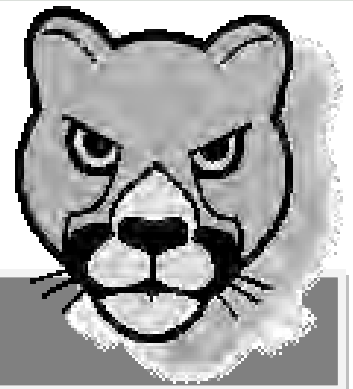
**SAMONJA HOLLAND
TEACHER OF THE YEAR**

At CrossRoads we ensure that our students are confident and knowledgeable, equipped with life skills that will prepare them to take on any academic challenge.



**KARY DUFAULT
SUPPORT EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR**

All support employees have an important role in the educational process of our students. We give our time, talents and resources to help students and families in any way we can.



CROSSROADS Middle School



Jess Hutchinson, Principal

There is truly no place like CrossRoads Middle, and 2013-2014 was a fabulous year in our school.

We are an all 6th grade middle school, specializing in the transition from elementary to the secondary learning environment. Our school is full of 11 and 12 - year old amazing young learners, and we are staffed by a fantastic group of forward-thinking, dynamic teachers and support staff. Through the use of data teaming, single and mixed gender classroom options, PBIS initiatives, innovative teaching strategies, and intense collaboration; we are able to provide a positive, rigorous and supportive educational experience that focuses on the 6th grade learner.

During the 2013-2014 school year, we had many students earn A/B Honor Roll and Principal's list honors, display exemplary behavior, treat one another with respect and courtesy, and give their personal best each and every day. There is no place like CrossRoads, and we look forward to high achievement in the current year. At CrossRoads, all children are cherished and challenged!



WHERE CHILDREN ARE CHERISHED AND CHALLENGED

CROSSROADS MIDDLE SCHOOL HAS A MISSION TO EDUCATE SIXTH GRADERS AT THE CROSSROADS OF CHILDHOOD AND ADOLESCENCE IN A NURTURING ENVIRONMENT CHARACTERIZED BY HIGH STANDARDS AND RIGOROUS CURRICULUM, WHILE PROVIDING THE NECESSARY TOOLS FOR LIFELONG LEARNING IN EVER-CHANGING AND DIVERSE SOCIETY.

CrossRoads' school year was marked by high academic achievement, staff recognitions and distinctions for our faculty and staff.

Academic excellence is the focus at CrossRoads Middle, a fact proven by the school's many awards, including the 2014 Palmetto Gold Award for academic performance and Palmetto Silver Award for Closing the Achievement Gap. Faculty and staff at the school also proved that having a great learning environment goes beyond the status quo. School officials garnered many accolades, from school board

recognitions to national awards.

CrossRoads Middle School's maintenance staff earned District Five's "Good School-Keeping" Award for the middle/high school level for the second year in row.

The recognition was created to honor schools that

excel in the maintenance, cleanliness and appearance of classrooms, school grounds and other facilities.

"CrossRoads' school year was marked by high academic achievement, staff recognitions and distinctions for our faculty and staff."

All members of the CrossRoads staff take great pride in providing a focused, clean, and supportive learning environment.

Two more teachers at the school were designated as National Board Certified, bringing the total

number of teachers at CRMS meeting this certification to 28. Our exceptionally well-qualified and

dedicated teachers worked to provide students with an academic toolbox that prepare them for the secondary experience.



5 FACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW

STATE RATING

CrossRoads Middle School teachers work extremely hard to ensure that teaching and learning remain the top priority. CRMS has earned an Excellent-Excellent rating 12 of the previous 14 years.

PALMETTO AWARD

CrossRoads Middle School has enjoyed a rich history of high academic performance by it's students. CRMS has earned Palmetto Gold Status 12 of the previous 13 years.

CERTIFIED TEACHERS

CrossRoads Middle School is staffed by a dynamic group of innovative and instructionally focused teachers. 28 CRMS teachers hold National Board Certification.

GOOD SCHOOL-KEEPING

CrossRoads Middle School received the D5 Good School-Keeping Award for the second year in a row. Our students enjoy learning in a clean and supportive environment.

FEDERAL RATING

CrossRoads Middle School earned an A rating under the Federal ESEA Waiver guidelines. This rating is based on PASS performance in ELA, Math, Science, and Social Studies.

FOCUS ON ACADEMICS



CROSSROADS MIDDLE FACULTY AND SUPPORT STAFF ARE FULLY DEDICATED TO ENSURING THAT ALL CROSSROADS STUDENTS RECOGNIZE TEACHING AND LEARNING AS OUR TOP PRIORITY. IT IS OUR VISION THAT ALL STUDENTS WILL BE CHERISHED AND CHALLENGED AS THEY ENJOY THE UNIQUE 6TH GRADE EXPERIENCE THAT IS CROSSROADS.

We are indeed proud of our accomplished students and staff members. In 2013-14, more than 400 students



were initiated into the National Junior Beta Club. Our students' excellent performance on the 2013 spring administration of PASS earned CRMS the Palmetto Gold Award for Academic Performance and Palmetto Silver for Closing the Achievement Gap.

CrossRoads Middle School also received a grade of 'A' on the Federal ESEA Waiver Rating system. Nearly 70% of CRMS teachers have earned advanced degrees and two more teachers were designated as National Board Certified, within the

last year, bringing the total number of teachers at CRMS meeting this certification to 28. Our exceptionally well-qualified and dedicated teachers worked to provide students with an academic toolbox to prepare them for the secondary experience. Our Teachers aligned instruction with state standards through curriculum mapping, participated in data teaming, planned lessons using the DesCartes Learning Continuum to address specific RIT-band skills, and expanded its use of formative assessment to make informed instructional decisions.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES: ENRICHING THE EXPERIENCE



CrossRoads takes pride in its enthusiastic commitment to make sixth grade unforgettable for all of our students. Opportunities abound as students experience the secondary learning environment for the first time. Students enjoy changing classes, using their lockers, and meeting new friends from the 10 elementary schools that come together to form our student body. This year nearly 700 students participated in performing arts programs at CRMS. Band, Orchestra, and Chorus each earned performance awards in Orlando and Carowinds. In addition, nearly 300 students participated in our visual art and STEM programs. Other exciting opportunities that students enjoy at CRMS include, Student Council, Beta Club, Math Olympiad, Intramural sports, 6th grade dances, archery club, dress for success days, PRIDE group, and our Recycling Club.



**MANDY GOLDSMITH
TEACHER OF THE YEAR**

I believe the rewards of teaching are endless. Seeing the look in a child's eyes when they finally understand a concept they thought was impossible, that keeps me smiling for weeks.



**RANDY LONG
SUPPORT EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR**

My greatest reward is always helping others, supporting the teaching and administrative staff, and ensuring that all school events and activities are successful.



DUTCH FORK Middle School



Dr. Gerald Gary, Principal

Dutch Fork Middle School students and staff continued their tradition of excellence during the 2013-2014 school year by earning an "A" rating under the federal accountability system and an Excellent rating on the state report card. Our PASS and EOC scores were above the state average, and the South Carolina Department of Education again awarded Dutch Fork Middle School a Palmetto Gold Award for student achievement.

Our students continued to earn exceptional honors and recognition for their achievements. This year, Dutch Fork Middle School had eight seventh grade students recognized as Duke TIP scholars and 95 eighth grade students recognized as Junior Scholars. Our Mock Trial Team finished fourth in the state and was invited to participate in the Battle of the Carolinas, where they competed against the top teams in North and South Carolina and finished sixth. In addition, they were invited by the South Carolina Bar Association to participate in a training video that would be used to help prepare other middle school mock trial teams in the state.

Dutch Fork Middle School's football team finished the season with an 8-0 record, capturing their second consecutive championship. Both the girls' and boys' basketball teams made it to the semifinals, and our track and wrestling teams enjoyed very successful seasons. Just as always, 2013-14 was another banner year in the Fox Den!



SHAPING THE FUTURE... MAKING CONNECTIONS

IN A SURPRISE ASSEMBLY ON DECEMBER 12, DUTCH FORK MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHER KRISTI GROOMS SAT QUIETLY AND ATTENTIVELY EXPECTING TO HEAR THE STATE EDUCATION SUPERINTENDENT TALK ON BULLYING. INSTEAD SHE RECEIVED A SURPRISE OF A LIFETIME: A \$25,000 MILKEN EDUCATOR AWARD FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE.

The tearful DFMS eighth grade English/language arts teacher and co-department chair accepted the award amid cheers and applause from more than 1,000 students, teachers, staff and dignitaries gathered in the school gymnasium for the surprise announcement. In a release by the Milken Family Foundation, the group noted Grooms' academic leadership, work with the school's sports activities and innovative lessons. Called the "Oscars of teaching," the unrestricted \$25,000 Milken Educator Award is given to a select group of about 40 educators across the country

District Five Dr. Stephen Hefner states that classroom excellence "doesn't happen by accident." "It happens because we have wonderful teachers and staff that are here to do their jobs," Hefner said. Conceived by Lowell Milken to attract, retain and motivate outstanding talent to the teaching profession; The Milken Educator Award is one of the nation's preeminent teacher recognition programs. Since 1987, the Milken Family Foundation has devoted more than \$136 million in funding to the Milken Educator Awards, plus professional development opportunities

and networking with education stakeholders.

Dr. Gary Stark, president and CEO of the National Institute for Excellence in

"I'm very proud to be teacher... I couldn't imagine doing anything else."

Teaching, helped make the announcement at Dutch Fork Middle. He said "teachers have the most important job in America." During a reception in her honor, Grooms said, "I'm very proud to be a teacher ... I couldn't imagine doing anything else," Grooms said when accepting the award.

FOCUS ON ACADEMICS

DUTCH FORK MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS AND STAFF CONTINUED THEIR TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE DURING THE 2013-2014 SCHOOL YEAR BY EARNING AN "A" RATING UNDER THE FEDERAL ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM AND AN EXCELLENT RATING ON THE STATE REPORT CARD.

Our instructional program is driven by the three R's: Rigor, Relevance and Relationships.

At Dutch Fork Middle we meet students at their current academic level and challenge them with rigorous coursework so they grow and reach the next level. DFMS teachers make the curriculum standards relevant to the lives of our adolescent students. This requires the infusion of technology and literacy across the curriculum. Finally, all interactions at DFMS are based on building positive relationships. This is paramount to developing our sense of school community which has been the formula for our success.

Our students continue to earn exceptional honors and recognition for their achievements. This year, Dutch Fork Middle School had eight seventh grade students recognized as Duke TIP scholars and 95 eighth grade students recognized as Junior Scholars.

With the continued support of our parents and community, we look forward to another great year in 2014-2015 and providing top quality education to our students.



5 FACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW

FEDERAL "A" RATING

Dutch Fork Middle School received an "A" on the Federal Accountability Report Card and an "Excellent Rating" on the SC School Report Card.

MOCK TRIAL WINS

After dominating the regionals, the Dutch Fork Middle Mock Trial Team placed third in the state competition where they won three most effective witness awards and one most effective attorney award.

MATH COMPETITIONS

Members of the Dutch Fork Middle Math Counts Team participated in the American Mathematics Competition 8th grade test in November with two Honor Roll students scoring in the top 5% and a First Place Winner.

AWARD-WINNING BAND

The Dutch Fork Middle School Band earned the Outstanding Performance Award, received a superior rating at Concert Festival and excellent ratings at Carowinds.

TOP RATED ORCHESTRAS

In 2013 both 7th and 8th grade Orchestras received superior ratings at completion. Dutch Fork Middle School had 14 students selected for the Midlands Region Orchestra.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES: ENRICHING THE EXPERIENCE



This year the Beta Club focused on practicing their motto - "Lead by serving others." The members of Beta Club along with Student Council sponsored a food drive in December, provided wrapping paper for the school's Angel Tree project, helped the DFHS Kit Den develop a classroom library, and provided needed supplies for the school Snack Pack program.



**APRIL GARRETT
TEACHER OF THE YEAR**

The most rewarding thing to me as a teacher is seeing all the hard work pay off; seeing students make progress with something they have struggled with. I love the fact that the staff at Irmo Middle enjoys seeing the progression of students just as much as I do.



**CHERYL COOLEY
SUPPORT EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR**

What I love most about my job is the variety of opportunities that I have on any given day to work with students and better their school experiences. The staff here all works together to make sure our students are learning and growing.



IRMO Middle School



Robert Jackson, Principal

This year was brimming with excitement and adventure, as we launched the International Academic Magnet (iAM) @ Irmo Middle, an Expeditionary Learning School. This school wide magnet exposed students to the critical concepts of globalization and cultural diversity while engaging students in global concepts and projects in all courses. Students had the opportunity to expose themselves to the intricacies of what it means to be a connected global citizen.

This was accomplished through a school wide curricular focus on six themes throughout the course of the year (Technology/Hyperconnectivity, Global Education, International Diversity, World Leadership, Global Economy, and Social Justice/Injustice). Through cross curricular connections, students learned to respect, value, and celebrate other cultures and became socially and environmentally responsible, by learning about their interdependence with other people and cultures; a concept that we believe is integral for students to become college and career ready.

Every member of our staff is committed to the personal and academic success of each student. When we all work together as a learning community and make decisions that are student centered, we can ensure that each child maximizes his/her full potential!



SHAPING THE FUTURE... MAKING CONNECTIONS

WITH EXPEDITIONARY LEARNING BECOMING OUR EXCLUSIVE PARTNER FOR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT, COUPLED WITH OUR CORE DISTRICT INITIATIVES, OUR TEACHERS WERE ABLE TO RECEIVE EXTENSIVE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, ACCESS TO RESOURCES, AND ATTEND NATIONAL CONFERENCES, SITE SEMINARS, AND INSTITUTES THAT ARE DESIGNED TO REFINE INSTRUCTIONAL PRACTICES SO THAT THEY ARE BETTER EQUIPPED TO PERSONALIZE LEARNING FOR ALL STUDENTS AND ENGAGE THEM IN MEANINGFUL AND RELEVANT WORK THAT WILL HELP THEM FUNCTION EFFECTIVELY IN AN EVERCHANGING, INTERCONNECTED WORLD.

Engaging students in meaningful and relevant learning where they are challenged to create innovative products through communications with field experts and students from all around the globe is quite a daunting task.

At the International Academic Magnet, this dream became a reality for our students. This year, as we explored the concept of globalization through six themes (Technology/Hyperconnectivity, Global Education, Cultural Diversity, World Leadership, Global Economy, and Social Injustice), some of the authentic experiences and created products by students are as follows:

√ Collaborated with representatives from the Columbia World Affairs Council,

√ Studied and researched the amazing accomplishments of Malala Yousafzai,

√ Worked with a local videographer in creating our magnet recruitment commercial and documentaries,

√ Skyped with students in Hong Kong,

√ Integrated technology applications into all classes,

√ Collaborated with students from the University of South Carolina's Thinking Abroad program,

√ Performed with world renown composers; Daniel Davis/Devon Gary,

√ Sponsored the first ever Pulsera Project and raised money for Nicaraguan youth,

√ Collaborated with the Confucius Institute on a documentary that spotlighted our Mandarin Chinese program, sponsored a Brazilian Jujitsu showcase,

√ Partnered with students from GlobeMed to improve health and communities around the world,

√ Completed the Liter of Light project to provide sustainable energy sources to

disaster stricken and impoverished countries,

√ Created a feature display for Global Education Day,

√ Explored the vast and rich diversity in New York City, and

√ Officially became District Five's first Expeditionary Learning school.

"...officially became District Five's first Expeditionary Learning school."



5 FACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW

STATE RATING

Irmo Middle School has again earned an Excellent Absolute and Improvement Rating on the 2013 School Report Card.

1

PALMETTO AWARD

Irmo Middle is a thirteen time recipient of the Palmetto Gold Award for exemplary performance and improvement.

2

EXPEDITIONARY LEARNING

Irmo Middle School recently was approved by the Expeditionary Learning organization, joining more than 150 U.S. schools to get the designation.

3

PBIS AWARD

Our strong school wide climate and classroom procedures helped us achieve Ribbon Status for our PBIS program from the SCDE.

4

FEDERAL RATING

In recognition of our excellence, we have again earned an "A" Rating on our Federal Report Card.

5



FOCUS ON ACADEMICS

AT IRMO MIDDLE SCHOOL, THE NECESSITY TO PREPARE STUDENTS FOR A FUTURE IN WHICH THEY MUST INTERACT AND PROBLEM SOLVE WITH COLLEAGUES FROM DIVERSE CULTURES AND BACKGROUNDS, DRIVES OUR MISSION AND PURPOSE IN DAILY CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION.

Through the integration of our international magnet theme, coupled with the adoption of Expeditionary Learning (EL) as our framework for curriculum, instruction, and leadership, we challenge our students every day using "I Can"

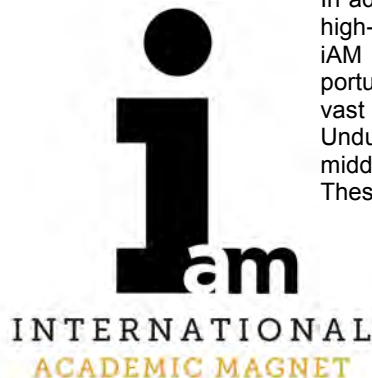
Statements and project/problem-based outcomes. These outcomes result in finished products that are goal oriented, measurable, reflective of high-quality student work, and connected to issues with local and global significance.

and Advanced Dance, Crew (an Expeditionary Learning course focused on habits of character and scholarship, required for all students), and PITSCO: Algebra Readiness and Introduction to STEM Systems.

In addition to the creation of high-quality student work, iAM students have the opportunity to participate in a vast range of courses – Unduplicated by any other middle school in the area.

In 2014-2015, our first year of full implementation with our magnet theme and Expeditionary Learning, teachers and students will be challenged more rigorously to connect state standards to "real world" problems and scenarios – providing all students with an opportunity to serve others in the community and around the globe.

These new courses, offered in conjunction with with Mandarin Chinese I, Introduction to Media Arts and Media Arts II, Intro. to Dance



STUDENT ACTIVITIES: ENRICHING THE EXPERIENCE



Each student comes to middle school with an array of different talents. Refining these talents and discovering new ones is the cornerstone of our magnet experience. Through a laser focus on global studies in all core and encore classes through unified school-wide instructional themes like Global Education and World Leadership, iAM students learn the value of competition and collaboration with peers throughout local and global communities. Our first year as an International Academic Magnet generated a plethora of opportunities for students to explore diversity, which will be vastly expanded in 2014-2015. Some of these experiences include: a school-wide celebration of Malala Yousafzai and her work for educational equity, "Lunch-and-Learn" workshops focused on African Dance and Japanese Aikido, mini-workshops hosted by students from Thinking Globally at the University of South Carolina, and a Skype session with American and Chinese university students in Hong Kong.



Spring Hill High School opened its doors to students in August 2013, becoming the fourth high school in Lexington-Richland School District Five. A national publication ranked District Five first in the state for preparing students for college.

DISTRICT FIVE HIGH SCHOOLS

Setting high expectations for learning and achievement





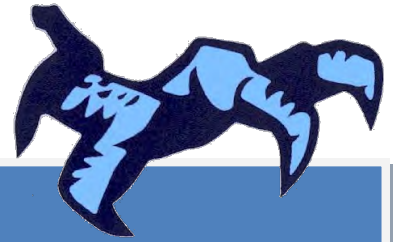
**RHEA FARIS
TEACHER OF THE YEAR**

"The staff here always pushing each other to greater heights. We all want to be the best teachers we can be to better benefit the students."



**ANN GALLMAN
SUPPORT EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR**

"I enjoy my job here at Chapin High School and I know that what I do matters to the students, the faculty, and the staff."



CHAPIN High School



Dr. Akil Ross, Principal

Chapin High School has maintained a proud tradition of excellence in academics, arts, athletics and service for 90 years. This tradition is attributed to an enduring partnership between faculty, parents, community members and students. It is this partnership that allows us to maximize the potential of each student we serve.

As a school, we believe our duty is to prepare all students for productive lives. To accomplish this goal, we work hard each day to ensure that our school climate, curriculum, activities, and relationships create meaningful experiences that help students to become college and career ready. As students meet the challenges of the 21st century, the preparation received at Chapin High school will allow them to overcome adversity, raise their expectations for their performance, and become problem solvers and critical thinkers. Being a part of Chapin High School, is like being a part of a family. We teach students to be ready to learn, respectful to others, and responsible to maximizing the potential of themselves.

Our rally cry, We are Chapin, is a reminder of the proud tradition of Chapin High School. This year, we added on to our rally cry. The statement "We are a thousand passions with one heart beat," is a signal to every Chapin High School student to maintain this tradition in school, in the community and in life.



WE ARE CHAPIN... READY, RESPONSIBLE & RESPECTFUL

THE MISSION OF CHAPIN HIGH SCHOOL IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE COMMUNITY, IS TO PROVIDE CHALLENGING CURRICULA WITH HIGH EXPECTATIONS FOR LEARNING THAT DEVELOP PRODUCTIVE CITIZENS WHO CAN SOLVE PROBLEMS AND CONTRIBUTE TO A GLOBAL SOCIETY.

Chapin High School is known for its long tradition of excellence. The students of Chapin excel in academic, arts, athletics and service. As a result of their hard work and commitment, Chapin High School has won region championships, competed for state titles, earned superior ratings in the performing arts, and outpaced state averages for SAT scores, scholarship earnings, and overall college acceptance rate.

They have also started service organizations, given and donated to charities and provided countless hours of assistance to the community.

Chapin High School principal Dr. Akil Ross said, "Students not only meet our expectations, they exceed them." For example, 98.8% of students passed the ELA/Reading section of the High School

Achievement Program (HSAP) and 96.3% passed the mathematics section on the first attempt.

These students have honored the tradition of Chapin High School. In addition, this senior class has demonstrated it is college and career ready.

The graduating class of 2014 consisted of 319 graduates and those graduates have earned over \$37.4 million in scholarships. CHS is also proud to receive an "A" on the federal report card, a Palmetto Gold for academics and an absolute rating of 4.6 which is

the highest rating for an open enrollment school in the state of South Carolina. As

Always, We are

Ready to learn, We are Respectful to others, We are Responsible to ourselves. We are a thousand passions with one heartbeat.

"...Chapin High students not only meet our expectations, they exceed them."

FOCUS ON ACADEMICS



COURSES OF STUDY ALLOW STUDENTS TO FOLLOW A PATH THAT SUITS THEM, WHILE KEEPING ALL OF THE BENEFITS THAT CHAPIN HIGH PROVIDES INCLUDING THE ABILITY TO *CHANGE* CONCENTRATION WITHOUT MISSING A BEAT.

5 FACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Chapin High School receive an “A” on the annual report card, a Palmetto Gold for Academic Achievement, and an absolute rating of 4.6 which is one of the highest rating in the state for open enrollment schools.

TOP SCORES

Over 85% of our seniors take the SAT and Chapin High yielded a composite score of 1550. In fact, the composite scores for the ACT and the SAT are above the district, state, and national averages.

EXTRACURRICULAR PROGRAMS

CHS offers an array of quality extra programs. In athletics we have won region championships and competed for state titles. The NJROTC received outstanding ratings, and our performing arts program has earned superior ratings in chorus, orchestra and band.

STUDENT SUCCESS

Continuous improvement is our goal. The Success Acquired in Learning (SAIL program) targets students in need of assistance and connects those students to enrichment services. The Academic Leadership Academy (ALA) challenges students to apply their learning to solve real world problems.

PURSUING PASSIONS

All students are encouraged to pursue their passions in a variety of courses of study. We have simply packaged courses and “meaningful experiences” in a way that gives students the depth that specialization provides.

Our Courses of Study allow students to easily follow a path that suits them, while keeping all of the benefits that Chapin High School provides, including the ability to change

concentrations without missing a beat.

Each Course of Study is filled with enriching experiences that enhance the area of concentration chosen by our students. These meaningful experiences, which we call CLAW Experiences, are intended to provide our students the platform for exploring their passions. For example, in Chapin High’s top Entrepreneurial Studies concentration, a Marketing Management student may create an advertising campaign for a local Chapin business, while a Business

student designs an app that serves as an interactive magazine for Chapin High. A Convergent Communications student may call play-by-play for the Homecoming football game, while a Sports Medicine student may serve as an athletic trainer for our football team. A Performing Arts student may sing at the National Cathedral while an Engineering student builds a working trebuchet as a partnered class with CATS. Collaboration, meaningful experiences, amazing portfolios and an intense learning environment are integrated into each Course of Study.



STUDENT ACTIVITIES: ENRICHING THE EXPERIENCE



As a part of our whole child approach to education, students have a wide variety of extracurricular activities available at their fingertips. From volleyball to Student Government, from jazz band to National Honor Society, students can participate in a wide variety of clubs and organizations. If there is not a club to which a student feels connected, he or she can start one. Many of our clubs began this way. The Fishing Club, Lumberjack Club, Computer Science Club and Love Green Club were all started from students who wanted to turn their passions into something tangible. Even our Rugby team started as a club, and now it has won a State Championship.



DAVID KENNEDY
TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Though there are a million things I love about Dutch Fork High, the thing I love best is that we are truly a family. If you're ever in need, the Dutch Fork family overwhelms you with support.



LAURIE SEEL
SUPPORT EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

Working with the visitors is a rewarding experience. I enjoy helping people and therefore feel that this is a good match for me.



DUCH FORK High School



Dr. Greg Owings, Principal

Dutch Fork High School (DFHS) had a great year in 2013-14. DFHS received an "Excellent" rating on the state school report card. Our SAT, ACT, and AP Scores were among the highest in South Carolina, and all were above the national average. The South Carolina Department of Education awarded two 2013-14 Palmetto Gold Awards to Dutch Fork High School. This award recognizes schools that reach high levels of absolute performance and/or high rates of growth and substantial progress in closing achievement gaps. While many schools achieved at least one award, DFHS is one of only 65 schools statewide that received Gold in both categories.

The Dutch Fork faculty, staff, and students are incredibly proud of what we have been able to accomplish and look forward to all of the advances sure to come in the new academic year. Indeed, it was a great year at Dutch Fork High School!



ENTER TO LEARN... GO FORTH TO SERVE

OUR STUDENTS CONTINUE TO EARN EXCEPTIONAL HONORS AND RECOGNITION FOR THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS. THE 2014 GRADUATING CLASS HAD SEVEN NATIONAL MERIT FINALISTS AND 37 PALMETTO FELLOWS. THE CLASS ALSO HAD 283 STUDENTS WITH GPAS OF 3.0 OR HIGHER WHICH QUALIFIED THEM FOR THE HOPE AND LIFE SCHOLARSHIPS. THIS SENIOR CLASS AMASSED OVER \$49 MILLION IN OFFERED SCHOLARSHIPS.

The Washington Post's "High School Challenge" and *The U.S. News and World Report* ranked DFHS as one of the most academically rigorous high schools in the nation for the ninth consecutive year. DFHS was ranked by *The Washington Post* as number 367 in the nation and the number one traditional high school in South Carolina. Our ranking is directly tied to results of our AP exam scores. This year, DFHS administered approximately 1472 exams to 738 students. We are proud of our AP Scholars and the overall passage rate of our students on AP exams.

In athletics, six teams won region championships, and our girls tennis team finished as State Runner Up. Our varsity football team won the State Championship, the first 4-A Champion in the Midlands since 1988. Our girls basketball team won the State Championship for the third year in a row, which ties the State Record.

The orchestra, band, and chorus received superior ratings at all of their competitions.

The DFHS ROTC Program was named a Top National Distinguished Unit, and our yearbook, literary magazine, and Silver Screen all won state journalism awards.

"...ranked as the number one traditional high school in South Carolina."

We have over 44 of our teachers that are National Board Certified. Our PTSO and SIC are very supportive and involved in the decision making process of our school. We are incredibly proud of our accomplishments and look forward to all the advances sure to come.



5 FACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW

1 NATIONAL RANKING

The U.S. News and World Report ranked DFHS as the number one traditional high school in South Carolina.

2 PALMETTO AWARD

The South Carolina Department of Education awarded two 2013-14 Palmetto Gold Awards to Dutch Fork High School.

3 CERTIFIED TEACHERS

Dutch Fork High School has over 44 teachers that are National Board Certified.

4 TOP RATED

Dutch Fork High School received an "A" rating under the federal accountability system and an "Excellent" rating on the state report card.

5 CHAMPIONSHIPS

Dutch Fork High girls basketball team won the 4A State Championship for the third year in a row. The football team won the Class 4A Division Championship.

FOCUS ON ACADEMICS



IN 2013-2014, THE STEM PROGRAM ACCEPTED ITS LARGEST GROUP OF QUALIFIED RISING NINTH GRADERS TO DATE. THE 34 STUDENTS IN THE STEM GRADUATING CLASS OF 2013 EARNED \$19,995,540 IN SCHOLARSHIPS AND WERE ACCEPTED INTO PRESTIGIOUS UNIVERSITIES ACROSS THE NATION.

The STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) program at Dutch Fork High School is an honors magnet program that accelerates and enriches learning experiences for students who are

academically gifted and have an interest in a STEM related major and career. In terms of giving students access to the most challenging and advanced coursework, inquiry based learning that provides them with real world experiences, and 21st century technology integration, STEM is the obvious choice.

a well-rounded high school experience, making them highly attractive to the most prestigious universities across the nation. STEM students participate in local and regional competitions and use state-of-the-art technology. In 2013-14, an eleventh grade STEM Honors Research student earned the 1st Place Grand Award at the University of South Carolina Region II Science and Engineering Fair Senior Division. The student went on to compete at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair, where he placed fourth.



STEM students work closely with their peers, dedicated teachers, mentors, and community leaders to learn about and prepare for today's global world. These students thrive in a culture of academic excellence and are guaranteed

STUDENT ACTIVITIES: ENRICHING THE EXPERIENCE



The Dutch Fork High School football team won the Class 4A Division 1 Championship game. It was the first football championship for Dutch Fork High School. The girls basketball team won the 4A State Championship for the third year in a row. The girls tennis team advanced to the Championship Match and finished as Lower State Champs. The Silver Spirit Marching Band experienced a very successful weekend at the Pride of Pendleton Marching Band Classic. They brought home in Class AAA – Highest Percussion, Highest Visual, Highest Music, and First Place. In the overall rankings they received Highest Percussion, Highest Overall Effect, Highest Music, and the Highest Score Overall reaping Grand Champions.



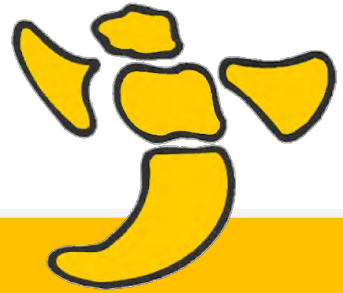
**BRENNAN DAVIS
TEACHER OF THE YEAR**

I believe my greatest accomplishment in education has been building meaningful relationships with my students and fostering learning.



**ALISON STOKES
SUPPORT EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR**

The most rewarding thing about my job is the students. It is all about the students at Irmo High School!



IRMO High School



David Riegel, Principal

It was an outstanding year at Irmo High School, a school with a proud past and a bright future.

We received a number of accolades and recognitions in addition to the excitement of our new theater and other construction projects taking shape around campus. Irmo High students continue to excel as the school was again named a Palmetto Gold award recipient. Also, our PSAT team won the district competition this year. Many Irmo High graduates received national recognition, and our graduating class included a National Merit Scholar, a USC Carolina Scholar, a National Statesman Award, Palmetto Fellows and four students receiving National Merit and Achievement recognition. Our 2014 graduating class received over \$33 million in scholarships.

We are proud of the accomplishments of our students and staff. With improvements to our facilities and continued focus on academics, we continue to boast a "Proud Past and Bright Future."



A PROUD PAST & A BRIGHT FUTURE

IRMO STUDENTS AND STAFF CONTINUED THE PURSUIT FOR EXCELLENCE IN ACADEMICS, ARTS AND ACTIVITIES. NATIONAL AND STATE RECOGNITIONS WERE THE PRODUCT OF THE HARD WORK OF STUDENTS AND STAFF. WHEN STUDENTS RETURN FOR THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR, THEY WILL BUILD ON THE STRONG LEGACY THAT WE HAVE FORGED AT IRMO HIGH SCHOOL.

Irmo High School experienced a number of successes and transitions in the 2013-14 school year. With ongoing construction, staff and students experienced the excitement of seeing new spaces open up such as the ROTC complex and other new classroom areas, significant renovations to the stadium entrance, and the occupancy of a new athletic complex complete with state-of-the-art weight and locker rooms. At the same time, students and staff watched eagerly as the new auditorium construction took place with an anticipated opening in the fall of 2014.

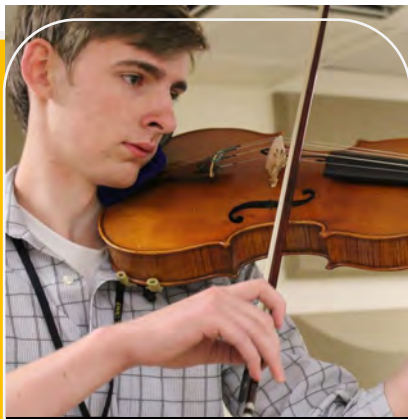
Irmo High School enjoyed the success of District Five's Magnet Schools Assistance Program grant award, as the school looked to create arts programs that would bring new students to our campus and infuse the arts into the curriculum. Excellence in fine and performing arts was demonstrated by a winner of the SC Duck Stamp Competition, three Scholastic Art and Writing Award winners, and a member of the National Honors Orchestra.

Science teacher Peter Lauzon was named the Samsung Solve for Tomorrow contest winner for South Carolina, and Tim Whipple was named South Carolina Basketball Coach of the

Year. Our AFJROTC unit earned the highest rating possible, "Exceeds Standards," in its inspection.

The Irmo High SIC was named to the SIC Honor Roll as one of the top Student Improvement Council's in the state of South Carolina.

"...the school looked to create arts programs that would bring new students to our campus."



5 FACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW

1 PALMETTO GOLD

Irmo High School was again named a "Palmetto Gold" award recipient for academic performance.

2 SCHOLARSHIP OFFERS

Irmo High School's Class of 2014 received over \$33 million in academic and athletic scholarships.

3 STATE TITLES

Irmo High School received state championships in girls' shot put, and girls' cross country team saw a 3rd place individual finish at the state meet.

4 NUTRITION STAFF

Irmo High School Student Nutrition staff was rated number one in District Five for excellence in food service.

5 ARTS MAGNET

Irmo High School was one of five schools in District Five to receiving a multimillion dollars grant to bolster magnet programs.

FOCUS ON ACADEMICS



THE MISSION OF IRMO HIGH SCHOOL IS TO DEVELOP AN EDUCATIONAL COMMUNITY OF LIFELONG LEARNERS WHO MEET THE GLOBAL DEMANDS OF THE 21ST CENTURY THROUGH A CHALLENGING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM WHICH EMBRACES DIVERSITY AND UNITIES AND PROVIDES OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEADERSHIP AND TEAMWORK.

Irmo International High School for the Arts will offer a rigorous, standards-based curriculum that challenges students intellectually and creatively through arts-infused learning

embedded in a global approach. Teachers will deliver much of the curriculum within their content areas, including concepts, issues and themes through the lens of global world-wide visual and performing arts. The aim of the program is to develop lifelong creators and patrons of the arts as well as productive and sensitive members of society.

In addition to the new arts magnet, Irmo High School looked to strengthen the International Baccalaureate program with increased recruitment of potential students.

The effort led to an anticipated 78 percent increase in the next IB cohort. The IB program at Irmo High School is an academically rigorous two-year program of study that includes 13 courses, an extended essay, and creativity, action and service requirements. All IB courses require significant writing skills that develop over the two-year period, in addition to reading and higher level thinking skills. Students write papers in all subjects, including math, science, English/Language arts courses and the arts.



STUDENT ACTIVITIES: ENRICHING THE EXPERIENCE



Irmo High School provides an array of top quality activities for our students. The IHS Band was awarded the Outstanding Performance Award. The Irmo Winter Guard earned 1st place and Percussion Ensemble 2nd at the Carolina Indoor Performance Championships. In athletics, region championships were earned in boys' and girls' basketball, boys' and girls' soccer, and boys' and girls' tennis. A state championship was crowned in girls' shot put and girls' cross country saw a 3rd place individual finish at the state meet.



**NORMA BROWN
TEACHER**

Our students at Spring Hill High School are bright and caring, and the staff is dedicated to these young scholars. It's an honor to work at a school like Spring Hill.



**CASSIDY MATTINGLY
STUDENT**

It's one thing to sit in a classroom and learn something but it's a lot different when you have to put what you learn into practice... That's what we do at Spring Hill. We put what we learn into practice every day.



SPRING HILL High School

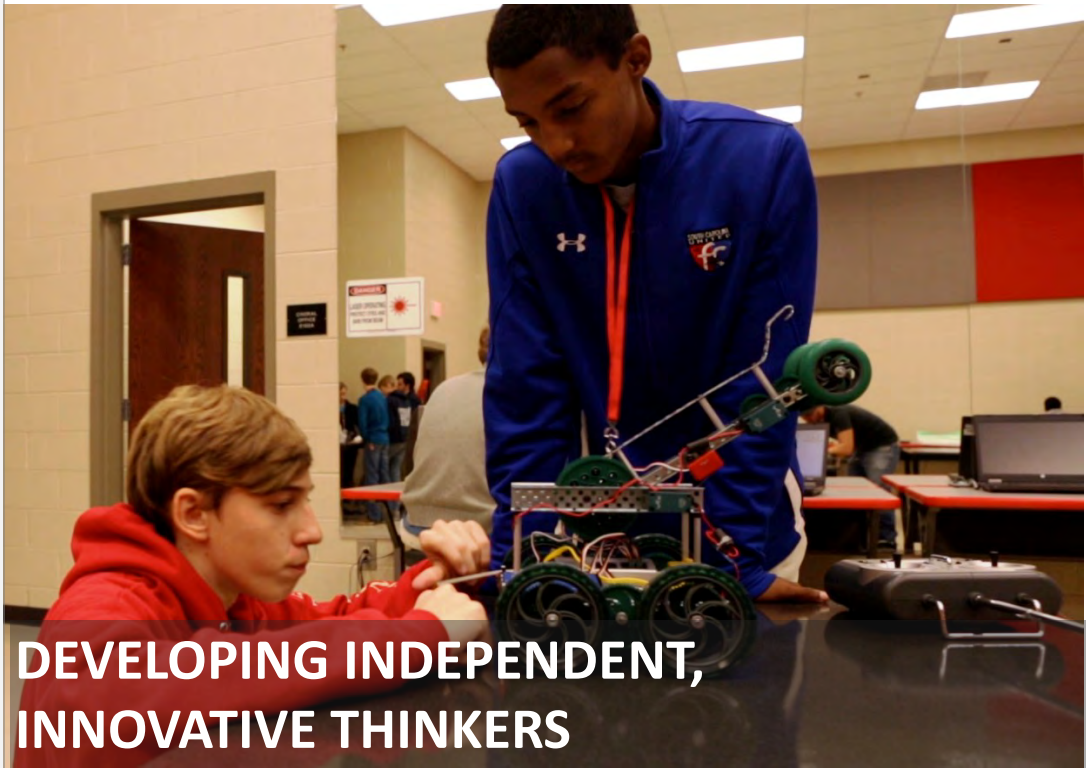


Dr. Michael Lofton, Principal

I am fortunate to have had the opportunity to open a high school that serves all of School District Five.

Our inaugural year opened with 560 9th and 10th graders who chose to come to SHHS. We kicked off the school year with a pep rally; featuring student-led activities, presentations on the school and a guitar performance by one of our students. Our students embraced the opportunity to build new traditions, set the school culture and make history. We had an amazing year of firsts. We had our first Semi-Formal school dances that were attended by over 250 impeccably dressed students. We have begun to establish our clubs, some of which are firsts for the District. Our Entrepreneurial students opened our school store, "Stallion Station" and our Hospitality students opened the coffee shop."

Our students, parents, community members and staff have embraced Spring Hill High School as their own. This investment by all stake holders will lead SHHS to accomplish great things. I look forward to the future and what it holds for our students.



DEVELOPING INDEPENDENT, INNOVATIVE THINKERS

FOURTY ONE PERCENT OF OUR STUDENT BODY TOOK AN AP EXAM. 89% OR OUR STUDENTS PASSED THE END OF COURSE ALGEBRA 1 EXAM. MORE THAN 89 PERCENT OF OUR STUDENTS PASSED THE END OF COURSE ENGLISH 1 EXAM. MORE THAN 92 PERCENT OF OUR STUDENTS PASSED THE END OF COURSE BIOLOGY EXAM.

The educational process for students today encompasses more than teachers and textbooks. At SHHS, we believe in forming meaningful relationships that lead to educational excellence. We have an explicit focus on preparing students for college and career paths.

Designed with the focus programs in mind, classrooms and common areas like the school's cafeteria and media center are arranged to allow students to collaborate and brainstorm. Students are housed in an Academy(ies). The goal is to deliver instruction through the lens of the Academy. Students

have an opportunity for a unique and comprehensive program designed to meet their interests. "We are providing a learning environment that is relevant to our students' career interests. It's truly unique and revolutionary,"

Spring Hill High School Principal Dr. Michael Lofton said.

SHHS' facility is 267,000 square feet featuring state of the art technology. The Lecture Hall will have

teleconferencing and distance learning capabilities. The Multi Purpose Room has a seating capacity of 605 with a stage and presentation capabilities. The cafeteria seats 667 and is designed with students in mind. It has individual, small group, large group and outdoor seating. All classrooms are equipped with furniture that allows for the teachers to change the layout based on the lesson or activity. The design and functionality of the building is a unique extension of the learning process.

"We are providing a learning environment that is relevant to our students' career interests."



FOCUS ON ACADEMICS

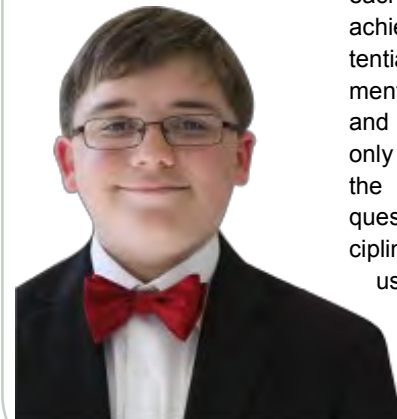


SPRING HILL HIGH SCHOOL'S FIVE FOCUS PROGRAMS INCLUDE: AN ENTREPRENEURIAL ACADEMY, AN ENGINEERING ACADEMY, AN ENTERTAINMENT ACADEMY, AN ENVIRONMENTAL ACADEMY AND AN EXERCISE ACADEMY.

Our students come together from all areas of Lexington and Richland School District Five and represent a heterogeneous mixture in terms of ethnicity, religion, and socioeconomic status,

while at the same time representing a similar population in terms of academic goals, mindset, and motivation. The enthusiasm at SHHS is contagious as faculty and students challenge and motivate each other to reach for and achieve at their highest potential. Our learning environment is designed to be open and accepting, and to not only allow students to answer the question, but also to question the answer. interdisciplinary approaches are used with technology to teach and encourage students to generate ideas, solve problems, and communicate so-

lutions. We are proud of our students' academic and personal achievements and their involvement in both the school and larger community. With the efforts of faculty, students, parents, staff, administration and community, Spring Hill High School offers our students the tools, instruction, and guidance necessary to increase their knowledge and skills to prepare them to be successful in their high school, college and future endeavors. Students at Spring Hill High will graduate with a diploma and certification or certifications in one or more of their areas of interest.



5 FACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW

1 ALL MAGNET HIGH SCHOOL

SHHS is an ALL Magnet High School offering five focus programs.

2 ENROLLMENT

Opened in August 2013 with 9th and 10th grade and a total enrollment of 560 students. For 2014-2015, SHHS will have 9th, 10th and 11th grade. Each year we will enroll 300 rising 9th graders.

3 CERTIFIED TEACHERS

For 2013-2014, SHHS had 47 certified staff members: 21% held bachelor's degrees, 66% held masters degrees, 13% held doctorate degrees and 32% were National Board Certified teachers.

4 ATHLETICS

Spring Hill students may participate in High School League sports at their zoned high school. Athletic eligibility is not affected by attending

5 TRANSPORTATION

Transportation is provided to SHHS using a shuttle system. Students may ride their neighborhood bus to their zoned high school. Get off that bus and get on a shuttle to The Center and SHHS.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES: ENRICHING THE EXPERIENCE



Spring Hill High School encourages students to discover their passions. This not only involves their passion for academics but also extra curricular activities. In our inaugural year, we have started the following clubs and activities with expectations to develop more in the coming years: Archery, Beta Club, DECA, Equestrian Club, FBLA, FCA, International Thespian Society, Junior Civitans, Key Club, Mock Trial, Music, Outdoor Club, Recycling, Sailing, Social Justice, Student Council, Spring Hill Dance Company, and Tennis. Our students participated in the D5 Dance Marathon, the Environmental Studies Academy held a fishing tournament, our Exercise Science Academy held a Blood Drive, our Entertainment Academy held a movie screening.



The Center for Advanced Technical Studies offered cooking classes and culinary services for the District Five community during the 2013-2014 school year and was featured on all major print and broadcast outlets in the Midlands. The school also offered summer camps, forums and tours. The Center's offerings is just one of the ways District Five is tailoring educational offerings to serve the community.

DISTRICT FIVE PROGRAMS & SERVICES

Tailoring education to fit the unique needs of our community





**JULIE KRUSEN
TEACHER OF THE YEAR**

"When the learning is personal, I see students are more dedicated and driven; that is why each day I design my instruction to reach the students."



**MICHELLE SIGH
SUPPORT EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR**

"I love that my job allows me to help students that are trying to progress in different technical studies, it excites me each day to come to work."



CENTER for Advanced Technical Studies



Dr. Bob Couch, Director

It was a great year at The Center. In 2013-14, we completed our second year, and this was a benchmark of our first graduating class. This class has set the bar very high for the next generation of graduates. There were major accomplishments by many of our students in all programs, and the number of students winning state level recognitions exceeded all of our expectations.

As we close out the 2013-14 school year, we salute the parents as you have entrusted your children into our care. We believe that when teachers and administrators can partner with parents that the greatest opportunity for maximum growth can occur with students.

At The Center, our students are able to pursue skills that they can take with them into future careers. We look forward to all that the 2014-2015 school year will bring.



CREATING THE FUTURE BY CHALLENGING THE IMPOSSIBLE

THE CENTER FOR ADVANCED TECHNICAL STUDIES HAS HOSTED A COMBINED TOTAL OF ALMOST 200 DISTRICT MEETINGS AND OUTSIDE GROUP EVENTS THIS SCHOOL YEAR WELCOMING APPROXIMATELY 4000 GUESTS.

There have been many events this year at the Center that have brought recognition to the programs and to our students. We planned and hosted the **Failure to Launch** conference that included 150 thought leaders from business, workforce and education to focus on the education and workforce gap at the state, national, and global levels. Mr. Bob Schwartz from Harvard University provided a review of his study titled, **Pathways to Prosperity**. Dr. Tom

Lauwers from BirdBrain Technologies described integrating STEM into core academic courses. The concept was developed out of his PhD research at Carnegie Mellon University.

Six students from Clean Energy, Biomedical Sciences and Law Enforcement formed a panel and addressed questions posed by Wanda Monthey from the College Board. In addition,

South Carolina Education Superintendent Dr. Mick Zais visited the Center in February 2014, meeting with district and school leaders to discuss successes and see first-hand approaches at The Center.

"We planned and hosted the Failure to Launch conference that included 150 thought leaders from business, workforce & education."

Dr. Zais stated that The Center was among the best facilities he's seen in the state.

"One of the things I've seen ...is that

you have inspirational leaders who have created a vision that motivates, not only the students, but educators as well."

FOCUS ON ACADEMICS



"THE CENTER IS ATTRACTING TOP STUDENTS, AND THERE ARE MANY OF OUR STUDENTS WHO COULD BE HIGHLIGHTED IN THIS PUBLICATION. WE ARE PROUD OF ALL OF THEM" -DR. BOB COUCH, DIRECTOR.

It is very difficult to single out individual students, but there are some who deserve an individual spotlight. Mr. Daniel Ott who is a Biomedical Sciences

completer was selected for a paid summer internship in 2013 at Harvard University. He was accepted at Harvard and received an approximate \$215,000 four-year scholarship, beginning in the fall of 2014 to study medicine. Mr. Sam Rennick, who is a Clean Energy completer, will enter Midlands Technical College in the fall of 2014 on a full scholarship and plans to study Nuclear Energy. Upon graduation he will work for V.C. Summer Nuclear Plant. Ms. Ashley Graham, who is a welding

completer, will enter Winthrop University in the fall 2014. Her welding art sculptures will be on permanent display at the Center in recognition of her work. Her career interests include under water welding and/or continue to produce welding art sculptures in the future. Ms. Kaleigh Rings, a Vet Science completer, will attend a university in Florida to study "big cats." Colton Hendrix won six awards in the University of South Carolina's Science Competition. We are proud of all of our students.



5 FACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW

NATIONAL RECOGNITION

District Five's Center for Advanced Technical Studies was recognized as a model school by Georgetown University.

1

CENTER GRADUATES

The first graduating class from The Center for 2013-14 included 220 completers.

2

CAPSTONE PROJECTS

The Center's Biomedical Science and Alternative Energy students published their first Capstone Research Journal of student research projects.

3

CENTER TOURS

The Center hosted 39 tour groups totaling 1705 people. Faculty and staff were able to showcase their state-of-the-art facility and share information about their programs.

4

CULINARY ARTS

The Center's Culinary Institute catered 45 events during the 2013-2014 school year, giving students real learning experiences.

5

STUDENT ACTIVITIES: ENRICHING THE EXPERIENCE

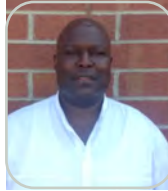


The Center Students have competed in a number of State and National Competitions. A few of them include the following: Skills USA State Championships: 17 Gold, 11 Silver & 3 Bronze advanced to National Championships in Kansas City, MO; HOSA Team Awards: 21 students placed in top 10 in their respective events. Advanced to National Competition in Orlando, Florida; VEX Robotics State Championships: 1st in Design Category advanced to World Championships in Anaheim, California; and FFA Chapter State Competitions: Nursery & Landscaping Team, 2nd place. The Floriculture Team, 3rd place.



Christin Bradshaw
TEACHER OF THE YEAR

"Strive to leave the world a little better than the way you found it" is my personal motto. Teaching should be fun and about more than what's in a book. Everyday I try to reach my students at a deeper level to encourage a learning attitude for their future.



Keith Major
SUPPORT EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

The most important part of my job is making sure the staff and children are able to function in a clean and healthy environment. This allows everyone to be more productive and safe.



ACADEMY For Success



Donald Hardie, Principal

My name is Don Hardie and I am the principal at the Academy For Success (AFS) and proud to be part of the wolf pack. We are currently located on the same campus as Spring Hill High School, in the wing that runs parallel to Broad River Road. This school year we will have one-to-one computing. Our middle school students will have Chrome books and our high school students will have access to mini-iPads. We are looking forward to allowing students greater access to technology and preparing them for the future ahead.

Our school takes great pride in doing whatever it takes to encourage and provide support for our students. Our staff is constantly re-evaluating our programs to get the full benefit for our students. We strongly believe that all students can and will succeed if given the proper support and academic assistance. Please feel free to contact us at 575-5300 if you have any questions or concerns. If you have recently been referred to the Academy For Success, please contact Mrs. McLeod at the same number to arrange an orientation and intake meeting.



ENCOURAGING STUDENTS TO BE LIFELONG LEARNERS

STUDENTS WERE SELECTED BY TEACHERS BASED ON PERSEVERANCE, ACCOUNTABILITY, COOPERATION, AND KINDNESS (PACK) EXHIBITED THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. AS PART OF THE REWARD THE STUDENTS WERE TREATED TO A FIELD TRIP WHERE THEY GOT A BEHIND THE SCENES TOUR OF WLTX STUDIO.

At the Academy For Success, it is not just about learning content but about building character as well. We focus on the school's motto of Perseverance, Accountability, Cooperation, and Kindness (PACK). Students earn rewards based on their ability to show characteristics of PACK.

One example of rewards is the color card system. Students are given the opportunity to earn points based on their classroom behavior (one point per class). If a student earns 80% of the points over a two week period, they will advance to the next color level. The point system is modified during the fourth nine weeks allowing students to advance faster due

to the shortened school year. Color levels are red, blue, grey, green and gold. Students get to wear regular clothes and have access to certain areas during lunch based on the color card that they have earned.

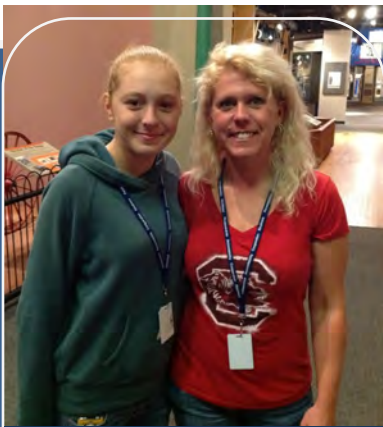
Another incentive that students can earn during the year is Den Dollars. Students can then use the den dollars to purchase a replacement color card, or the den dollars may be redeemed to purchase items from our DEN store.

The DEN store carries see-through

book bags, sweatshirts (school logo), clothing, food (approved list from district), school supplies and various other items donated from business partners. In addition, to these rewards the Academy elects a student of the month that

"We try to give everyone the opportunity to experience positive encouragement in their learning experience."

is entitled to a special shirt and their picture displayed at the front entrance. "Many of our students have not been noticed or received many rewards," stated Principal Don Hardie. "We try to give everyone the opportunity to experience positive encouragement in their learning experience."



5 FACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW

1 PBIS BANNER SCHOOL

The Academy For Success was recognized by the South Carolina Department of Education for our implementation of the PBIS (Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports) system.

2 ROTARY SCHOLARSHIPS

This year the Academy had two seniors win Rotary Scholarships from the Rotary Club of Chapin Sunrise. Brody Byers and Nicholas Phouthavong each won \$500 scholarships.

3 SCHOOL OF CHOICE

Many students choose to come to our school because we offer smaller classes and alternative solutions to assist students in their academic endeavors.

4 CERTIFIED TEACHERS

We have certified teachers in all of the core courses and several electives. Although we will offer classes through a virtual platform the focus is on getting students in a classroom with a certified teacher.

5 PACK

We focus on developing students academically and behaviorally. Students receive training on improving their behavior and making better choices on a regular basis.

FOCUS ON ACADEMICS

THE ACADEMY FOR SUCCESS BELIEVES THAT STUDENTS ARE SUCCESSFUL WHEN SUPPORT FROM HOME AND SCHOOL FOSTER A STRONG PARTNERSHIP. WE HELD A PARENTING CLASS AT GATEWAY BAPTIST. PARENTS AND FAMILY WERE PROVIDED WITH FREE FOOD, CHILD CARE, AND A GUEST SPEAKER.

This year, we held a parent night at Gateway Baptist Church. The Academy For Success provided a speaker on parenting tips, dinner, door prizes, and free child care. All parents that attended earned Gold cards for their

students. Over forty parents and students attended this meeting. This is almost five times the attendance rate of any other parent night previously held at the AFS. The success of this event has prompted the parents to request more future parent nights.

to focus more on their school work at home.

The Academy also provides anger management, social counseling, and mental health counseling.

Students and families often will request to return to the Academy if their students struggle or home life problems occur. The families cite that they know the Academy will take care of their student and provide a smaller learning environment with constant encouragement from the faculty and staff.

In addition to the parent night, the school has a social worker, mental health worker, guidance counselor and a psychologist. The Academy will often assist families in need and connect them with various groups in the community. By helping the families, the students are able



STUDENT ACTIVITIES: ENRICHING THE EXPERIENCE



At the Academy we know that many of our students learn best when they are doing hands-on activities. Teachers work hard to create lessons that infuse technology, team work, and hands-on learning. District Five knows that students must not only be prepared to face the challenges of today but also the challenges from tomorrow. The Academy works hard getting students to develop the skills necessary to be successful in the work place of tomorrow. Through the use of iPads, Chrome books, laptops, science labs, and various other equipment the staff focuses on developing the individual student in every classroom.



**LAURIE LINDLER
STUDENT**

"Being in Adult Ed has made me feel more confident in myself. When I became more confident I believed in myself and it made me more determined to work hard to get my GED."



**LASHONE CHAVIS
STUDENT**

"Adult Ed helped me to qualify for advancement in my workplace and increased my self-esteem. I actually enjoyed learning for the first time. I highly recommend it".



ADULT EDUCATION



Director Dr. Kathie Greer

There is no student population more diverse than that of adult education. Every age group beyond the age of 17, every community, and a wide range of ethnicities and cultures are represented.

This is both a strength and a challenge embraced by our highly skilled and caring staff. Achieving a high school credential, key skills, or certifications are not end points, but new beginnings or jumpstarts to a greater future. We seek to ignite or renew a hunger for that which not only nourishes the body, but the heart, mind, and soul. Our wish is for our students to demonstrate a mentality of purposeful pursuit of success and productivity, and not be content with mere survival.

They continue to evolve and adapt. Our transition services facilitate the development of soft skills needed for success in the 21st Century job market and larger society.



WE SPECIALIZE IN SECOND CHANCES

GRADUATION IS A TIME FOR STUDENTS TO CELEBRATE WITH FAMILY, FRIENDS, AND THOSE WITH WHICH THEY HAVE FORMED A LIFELONG CONNECTION BECAUSE THEY HAVE SHARED THIS TIME AND SPACE. "SUCCESS ACHIEVED DESPITE ADVERSITY IS SWEET."

Changes in job climate, the economy, and education policies in the past few years have encouraged more people to earn their GED or high school diploma. The Adult Education program provides an excellent alternative for non-traditional learners and students with complex life situations.

The program administration has worked to remove the primary barriers of potential students. Funds were secured through a new partnership to provide all

services in all locations free of charge, and free childcare for ESL students. Including in these services were workshops in resume writing and interviewing, program sponsored college tours, career days, and job fairs, and scholarships to cover GED testing fees.

Additionally, the program was certified as an official GED test center to enable

residents to test within their own community.

"Our adult education program provides a safety net and second chance for many people," said Michael Harris, District Five Chief of Student

Services).

"Adult Ed provides an advanced, open learning experience with friendly staff and more

recreational freedom," said Matthew Barnette, an Adult Education program student.

"..Achieving a high school credential, key skills, or certifications are not end points, but new beginnings or jumpstarts to a greater future."



5 FACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW

1 NUMBER ENROLLED

Program enrollment of community residents has increased by 76% in the past three years. This year the program served 440 students at five program sites.

2 PROGRAM OFFERINGS

ESOL, GED, WorkKeys Certification, state high school diploma, preparation for college, military, citizenship, and paraprofessional exams, family literacy, and computer literacy training.

3 2014 GRADUATES

96 students completed high school (51 diplomas, 45 GED). 89 national career readiness certificates were earned. 10 students were inducted into the National Adult Education Honor Society.

4 LITERACY

More than 100 families were served by the Adult Education family literacy initiative. The program co-chaired a statewide writing project.

5 COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

The AE program maintains numerous partnerships and was recognized by the Goodwill Corporation for its contributions to community education and employment.

FOCUS ON ACADEMICS

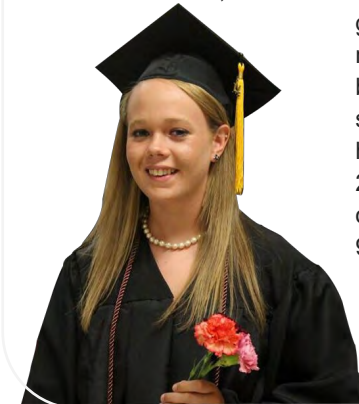


THE FAMILY LITERACY INITIATIVE INVOLVES THE THREE COMPONENTS OF EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR ADULTS, DEVELOPMENTAL AND EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES, AND INTERACTIVE PARENT AND CHILD LITERACY ACTIVITIES.

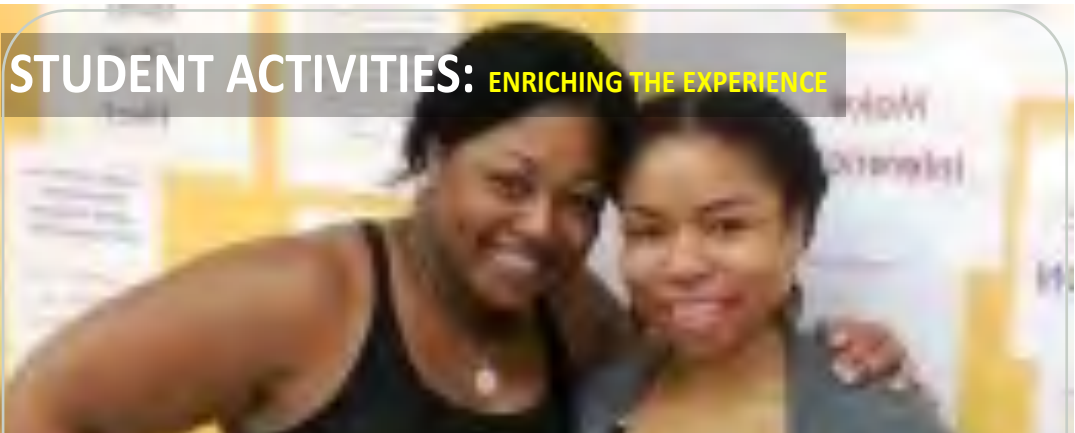
This year marked the release of the new graduate equivalency examination, aligned to the state adopted standards. In response to the changes in the examination, the

adult education program instructors participated in state, district, and program level training and collaboration to develop new instructional guides and adapt instructional strategies. New print and online materials were purchased to be used by students and staff. Daytime instructional hours were extended from 24 to 33 hours per week at our main site. An additional 9 hours per week was still available in the evenings.

No limitations were placed on the number of sessions students could attend. We were one of the first programs in the state to have a student pass the new exam. Last year, 37 of our 83 graduates added to the four-year graduation rate of the district's high schools. The program is on track to approximate that result for the 2013-14 school year with 96 graduates and 89 Workkeys certificates earned.



STUDENT ACTIVITIES: ENRICHING THE EXPERIENCE



It takes a courageous person to go back to school. I'm not sure about anyone else here, but for me I did not get here without adversities. It has been a long road for me and my journey is not over. I wanted better for myself and my family, but most of all I wanted my son to look down upon me and see I did not give up on life. On February 4, 2014 life as I knew it was over. My family and I went through the most traumatic thing I feel there is in life. I lost my four month old son. He fought a great fight. Looking at his face for the first time made me feel that I could do anything. The day he left destroyed my whole world. After weeks of segregating myself, I had to do something. I wanted to still live the life that was intended for him, and this was my first step. To my family, friends, Ms. Hugee, Ms. Murrell, and Ms. Brunson thank you for your strength and encouragement. Thank you for not letting me give up when I truly wanted to. I will no longer say that I think I can, but that I will. I will continue to fight this battle and continue my journey. My next step is to receive my certification in Medical Billing and Coding. As a graduate I am excited to let the next phase of my journey begin.

-COURTNEY LIPSCOMB, 2014 DISTRICT FIVE ADULT EDUCATION GRADUATE



District Five has over 100 mentors, providing important resources and services for students in need, from afternoon tutorials to summer internship opportunities.

DISTRICT FIVE PROGRAMS & SERVICES

Academics is the focus at Lexington-Richland School District Five, and it's the district's programs and services that help keep a laser focus on instruction and make District Five a leading educational system in the state and nation.

From social workers who work one-on-one with students in need to School Resource Officers who help keep schools secure, educators say they see the impact that strong programs and services have on District Five schools.

"Under the leadership of our school board, District five has very deliberately worked to bolster its programs and services as a part of creating



a quality education for its families," said District Five Superintendent Dr. Steven Hefner.

"This investment in our programs and services is what sets District Five apart. We

will continue to maximize our resources through collaborative partnerships with our community, our business and education partners."

One of the programs that has

received attention during the 2013-2014 school year was a food education initiative by the district's student nutrition office.

District Five was awarded a nearly \$100,000 Farm to School

grant by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to provide educational opportunities for students and teachers and implement more local foods into district cafeterias.

"...investment in our programs and services is what sets District Five apart."

YEAR IN REVIEW 2013 - 2014

School District Five of Lexington and Richland Counties seeks to empower all students to meet or exceed expectations for academic, social and emotional growth and success. We hope you have enjoyed this year's Year in Review publication, highlighting successes and information on our students, staff and community.

For copies of Lexington-Richland School District Five's Year In Review publication, contact the Office of Public Information at 476-8118. An electronic version is available at lexrich5.org



DISTRICT FIVE'S PROGRAMS AND SERVICES HELP ENRICH THE EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE. DURING THE 2013-2014 SCHOOL YEAR, DISTRICT FIVE'S SCHOOL BOARD APPROVED THE ADDITION OF SEVERAL SROS, ENSURING THE PROTECTION OF STUDENTS AND STAFF. THE DISTRICT RECOGNIZED SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS DURING ITS 2014 APPRECIATION PROGRAM IN MARCH.

*District Five added 14 new SROs to its security team this school year, after the district's board of trustees approved the addition of more officers during a June 2013 board meeting.

*District Five served more than 2,000 students with varying disabilities during the 2013-14 school year. Services for students age 3-21 are individualized and tailored.

*The district's Snack Pack Food Program provides weekend food supplies to disadvantaged students. Currently, over 600 students receive assistance from the program.

District Five's Ready By Five program offers home visits, community activities, screenings and resource networks to ensure that students birth to 5 are ready for kindergarten.

*Social workers in District Five provide vital services to students and families in need, including counseling, emergency food and housing and referrals.

*District Five has a highly trained student nutrition staff. District schools scored an average of 99.2 out of 100 on rating based on a district system and DHEC inspections.

D5 4K PROGRAMS

At District Five, we believe that quality early education is critical to preparing our students to be successful. Amid renewed focus nationwide on the value of 4K, the Lexington-Richland School District Five Board of Trustees approved a plan in the summer of 2013 to provide additional needs-based 4-year-old kindergarten programs to several schools in the district.

From tuition based 4K programs to programs for students in need, District Five is committed to the success of every student. Contact 803-476-8252 for more information.



FOR MORE INFORMATION ON OUR PROGRAMS, CONTACT THE DISTRICT OFFICE:

AT 803.476.8000 OR VISIT WWW.LEXRICH5.ORG

General Information

Elementary Schools

Ballentine Elementary (K-5).....	476-4500; FAX 476-4520
Robin Bright, Principal	rbright@lexrich5.org
1040 Bickley Road	Irmo, SC 29063
Chapin Elementary (PreK-5).....	575-5900; FAX 575-5920
Lauren Prochak, Principal	lprochak@lexrich5.org
940 Old Bush River Road	Chapin, SC 29036
Dutch Fork Elementary (PreK-5).....	476-3900; FAX 476-3920
Julius Scott, Principal	jscott@lexrich5.org
7900 Broad River Road	Irmo, SC 29063
Harbison West Elementary (PreK-5).....	476-3800; FAX 476-3820
Arthur Newton, Jr., Principal	arnewton@lexrich5.org
257 Crossbow Drive	Columbia, SC 29212
H. E. Corley Elementary (PreK-5).....	476-4001; FAX 476-4020
Dr. Judy Franchini, Principal	jfranchi@lexrich5.org
1500 Chadford Road	Irmo, SC 29063
Irmo Elementary (K-5).....	476-4200; FAX 476-4220
Tina McCaskill, Principal	tmccaski@lexrich5.org
7401 Gibbes Street	Irmo, SC 29063
Lake Murray Elementary (K-5).....	476-4600; FAX 476-4620
Claire Thompson, Principal	cthompso@lexrich5.org
1531 Three Dog Road	Chapin, SC 29036
Leaphart Elementary (PreK-5).....	476-4700; FAX 476-4720
Kelly Brown, Principal	kcbrown@lexrich5.org
120 Piney Grove Road	Columbia, SC 29210
Nursery Road Elementary (PreK-5).....	476-4300; FAX 476-4320
Love Ligons, Principal	lligons@lexrich5.org
6706 Nursery Road	Columbia, SC 29212
Oak Pointe Elementary (PreK-5).....	476-4100; FAX 476-4120
Cassandra Paschal, Principal	cpaschal@lexrich5.org
1 River Bottom Road	Irmo, SC 29063
River Springs Elementary (PreK-5).....	476-4400; FAX 476-4420
Melanie Cohen, Principal	mhcohen@lexrich5.org
115 Connie Wright Road	Irmo, SC 29063
Seven Oaks Elementary (PreK-5).....	476-8500; FAX 476-8520
Harriet Wilson, Principal	hwilson@lexrich5.org
2800 Ashland Road	Columbia, SC 29210

Middle Schools

Chapin Middle (6-8).....	575-5700; FAX 575-5721
Anna Miller, Principal	ammiller@lexrich5.org
1130 Old Lexington Highway	Chapin, SC 29036
**CrossRoads Middle (6).....	476-8300; FAX 476-8320
Jess Hutchinson, Principal	jhutchin@lexrich5.org
6949 St. Andrews Road	Columbia, SC 29212
Dutch Fork Middle (7-8).....	476-4800; FAX 476-4820
Dr. Gerald Gary, Principal	ggary@lexrich5.org
1528 Old Tamah Road	Irmo, SC 29063
Irmo Middle (7-8).....	476-3600; FAX 476-3620
Robert Jackson, Principal	rsjackso@lexrich5.org
6051 Wescott Road	Columbia, SC 29212

High Schools

Chapin High (9-12).....	575-5400; FAX 575-5420
Dr. Aki Ross, Principal	aross@lexrich5.org
300 Columbia Avenue	Chapin, SC 29036
Dutch Fork High (9-12).....	476-3300; FAX 476-3320
Dr. Greg Owings, Principal	gowings@lexrich5.org
1400 Old Tamah Road	Irmo, SC 29063
Irmo High (9-12).....	476-3000; FAX 476-3020
David Riegel, Principal	driegel@lexrich5.org
6671 St. Andrews Road	Columbia, SC 29212
Spring Hill High (9-12).....	476-8700; FAX 476-8720
Dr. Michael Lofton, Principal	melofton@lexrich5.org
11629 Broad River Road	Chapin, SC 29036

Other Schools

Academy for Success (6-12).....	575-5300; FAX 575-5320
Don Hardie, Principal	dhardie@lexrich5.org
11629 Broad River Road	Chapin, SC 29036
Center for Adv. Tech. Studies (9-12).....	476-8600; FAX: 476-8620
Dr. Bob Couch, Director	bcouch@lexrich5.org
916 Mt. Vernon Church Road	Chapin, SC 29036
District Administration, (803) 476-8000 or (803) 476-8012+ Ext.	
District Superintendent.....	Dr. Stephen Hefner, Ext. 8116
Chief Finance Officer.....	Len Richardson, Ext. 8132
Chief Human Resources Officer.....	Dr. Angela Bain, Ext. 8198
Chief Information Officer.....	Mark Bounds, Ext. 8118
Chief Instructional Officer.....	Dr. Christina Melton, Ext. 8169
Chief Student Services Officer.....	Michael Harris, Ext. 8121
Director of Design & Construction.....	Keith McAlister, Ext. 8182
Receptionist/Information.....	476-8000
Bus Transportation.....	476-4980
Chapin High Cluster.....	345-7133
Irmo High Cluster.....	732-8112
Dutch Fork High Cluster.....	476-4990
Special Needs.....	732-8134

Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees meets at 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Monday of each month in a school location. The meetings are open to the public.

Board members are Beth Watson, chairman; Robert Gantt, vice-chairman; Ellen Baumgardner, secretary; Jondy Loveless, Jim Turner and Ed White.

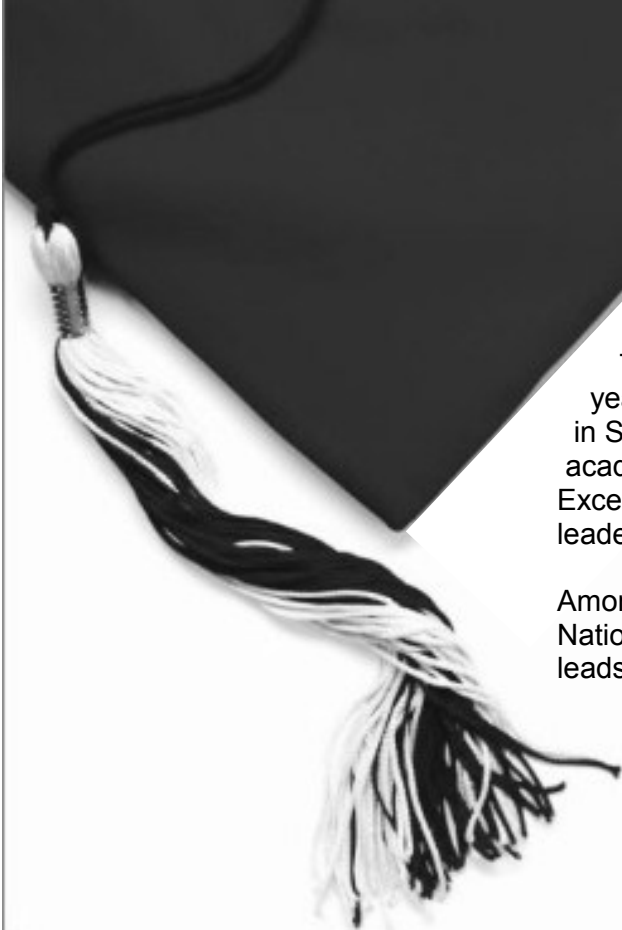
Web Site, www.lexrich5.org

You can reach the district's web site at www.lexrich5.org. All Lexington-Richland Five schools' web sites can be accessed via this address.

**All sixth graders in the Dutch Fork and Irmo attendance areas attend school at one sixth grade school—CrossRoads Middle School.

DID YOU KNOW?

DISTRICT FIVE 2014 GRADUATES EARN NEARLY \$120 MILLION IN SCHOLARSHIPS



Lexington-Richland School District Five's most recent graduates earned nearly \$120 million in college scholarships during the 2013-2014 school year. The awards for students from Chapin High, Dutch Fork High and Irmo High schools include both academic and athletic scholarships. More than 1000 District Five students graduated during ceremonies on June 5.

The scholarship amounts represent awards at four-year, two-year and technical colleges and universities in South Carolina and other states. Scholarships included academic scholarships such as the Legislative Incentive for Future Excellence (LIFE) Scholarship, athletic awards and scholarships for leadership and community service.

Among those graduates, District Five had eight students receive National Merit Scholarships. Lexington-Richland School District Five leads South Carolina in preparing its students for college and one of its schools is ranked among the top high schools in the state and nation, according to *U.S. News & World Report*.

PURSuing EXCELLENCE
for tomorrow's challenges



School District Five of Lexington and Richland Counties
1020 Dutch Fork Road
Irmo, South Carolina 29063