

Curriculum Cornerstones

- Pacing guides in all subject areas
- Common Assessments
- Balanced Literacy Model
- Math Instructional Model
- Waterford for 4K-First Grade
- ELA Intervention classes (K-5)
- Math Intervention classes (3rd -5th)
- Read 180 Program for 4th and 5th graders
- System 44 Program for 3rd graders
- Imagine Learning/Imagine Math/Reflect/Study Island
- Math and science manipulative kits
- Technology Devices (Pre-K - 5th grade)
- MLL Teachers (1 Full Time and 1 Part Time)
- Responsive Classrooms/Morning Meeting
- STEM Lab
- Growth Mindset Focus
- Career Focus— Speakers/Career Vehicle Day
- E-Learning School
- Literacy Coach
- Military Counselor
- Two Full Time School Counselors
- Full Time School Psychologist

Service Learning Opportunities

- Lost and Found
- Jump Rope for Heart
- Angel Tree
- United Way/ A Day of Caring
- Can Food Drive
- Boosterthon

School Improvement Council

Elected Members

Meredith Betzhold, Shawna Dover, Rachel Ashby, Courtney Wyant

Appointed Members

Dominique Lincoln, Joseph Williams

Ex-officio Members

Annette Pletcher, Katherine Henson, Vincent Joy, Susan Kephart

Opportunities for Families

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Meet the Teacher Night | Career Vehicle Day |
| Open House | Veterans Day Presentation |
| Spring Musical | Volunteer Opportunities |
| Virtual STEM Challenges | Booster-Thon Fun Run |
| Book Fairs | Grandparents Breakfast |
| Monthly Virtual Storytimes | Walk to School Days |
| MLL Family Information Night | Fine Arts Week |
| Choral Performances | Military Support |
| Parent Powerhours | STEAM Family Night |
| SIC/PTA Organizations | Raising Readers Parent Workshop |
| Trunk or Treat | Spring Fun Run |
| Read Across America | Monthly PTA General Meetings |
| Talent Show | MTSS Model |
| | Mystery Reader Mondays |

Opportunities for Students

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Musical | Rock Band Club |
| Terrific Kids | Boosterthon Fun Run |
| PTA Reflections | Field Trips |
| Chorus | Question of the Day |
| WGGN | N. Chas. Cultural Arts Fair |
| Extended Day | Fifth Grade Readers |
| Gifted Programs | Gardening Club |
| Robotics Team | New Gators on the Block |
| Great Gator of the Day | Talent Show |
| MAP Growth Celebrations | Morning Meetings |
| Quarterly/Yearly Awards | Responsive Classroom |
| Field Day | PBIS Quarterly Celebrations |
| Book Buddies | Art Club |
| Flag Attendants | Growth Mindset Activities |
| Special Olympics | Saturday Study Sessions |
| Patriot Partners | Capturing Kids Hearts |
| Spelling Bee | Girls on the Run |
| Guitar Club | |
| International Percussion Club | |

Points of Pride

- 2018-2019—Excellent Report Card Rating
- 2021-2022— Excellent Report Card Rating
- 2022-2023— Excellent Report Card Rating
- Palmetto's Finest School
- Red Carpet School
- Accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools
- PBIS Banner School (Positive Behavior Intervention System)
- Excellence in Communication PTA Award(2024)
- Health and Wellness Award

Fort Dorchester Elementary

Annual School Summary Report April 2024

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Summerville, SC 29485

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<https://www.ddtwo.org/FDES>



TAILS FROM THE LOWCOUNTRY
Teamwork Achievement Integrity Leadership Service

Mission Statement

Fort Dorchester Elementary School is committed to guiding and challenging each student to succeed in life.

Vision Statement

All students will be engaged in the learning process and challenged to meet their highest potential.

2023-2024 Strategic Plan Goals

Student Achievement

- Increase student achievement scores in core academic subjects on standardized achievement tests and narrow the achievement gap between all subgroups at FDES.
- Increase the percentage of students reading on grade level (K-5) by 2% each year. Grade Level proficiency will be defined as: On grade level for primary grades (K-1) is defined as performing at the designated DRA2+ levels that are determined by the district. Kindergarten-Independent Level 4, 1st-Independent Level 18. On grade level for elementary/secondary (2-5) is defined as Met or Exceeds on MAP.

Teacher Quality

- Increase the number of staff members who hold advanced degrees and endorsements.
- Continue to provide staff development for interpreting data and analyzing results to review progress to drive instruction.
- Provide staff development for SC Read to Succeed Initiative.

School Climate

- Improve school culture and climate by developing home/school relationships.
- Increase schools participation in strategically planned and developed partnerships in order to promote reading and writing
- Continue to improve school culture and climate among teachers, students and parents to promote collaborative relationships.

2024-2025 Strategic Plan Goals

Student Achievement

- Increase student achievement scores in core academic subjects on standardized achievement tests and narrow the achievement gap between all subgroups at FDES.
- Increase the percentage of students reading on grade level (K-5) by 2% each year. Grade Level proficiency will be defined as: On grade level for primary grades (K-1) is defined as performing at the designated DRA2+ levels that are determined by the district. Kindergarten-Independent Level 4, 1st-Independent Level 18. On grade level for elementary/secondary (2-5) is defined as Met or Exceeds on MAP.

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- Increase schools participation in strategically planned and developed partnerships in order to promote reading and writing
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Evidence

Student Achievement

- READ 180 (4th and 5th grade) and System 44 (3rd grade) students who read below grade level by two or more grades.
- Math Interventions for 2nd -5th grade students struggling in math.
- ELA Interventions for K-5th grade students struggling in reading.
- Exact Path/Edmentum
- A data wall was maintained to monitor student progress.
- ELA and Math Common Assessments are administered according to District schedule.
- Continued use of the MTSS process to assist and provide interventions for struggling students
- On-going staff development for SC College and Career Ready Standards
- Literacy Assessment Portfolios for all students K-3 reading below grade level.

Teacher Quality

- All teachers were highly qualified, in that they met or exceeded the SC State requirements.
- Data conferences were held at regular intervals to discuss areas of strengths and weaknesses.
- Weekly PLC team planning meetings were held to discuss student needs and plans for the week.
- Math and ELA debriefings are held to discuss and analyze formative assessment data.
- Staff developments were held to strengthen the use of data to guide instruction.

School Climate

- Business Partnerships
- PTA/SIC Programs
- Patriot Partners
- Virtual and In Person Family Nights
- School –Wide Service Projects
- Home/School communication
- School Wide Health Fair
- Growth Mindset Focus
- Mystery Reader Mondays



Dear FDES Parents,

This School Summary Report has been prepared for you by the Fort Dorchester Elementary School Improvement Council and our administrators. Once again, we took the 2023-2024 school year by the TAIL... “TAILS from the Lowcountry” to be exact. Our school motto encompasses everything to help make our students successful life-long learners - Teamwork, Achievement, Integrity, Leadership, and Service.

The students at FDES strive to build a community of learners through teamwork with peers, teachers, parents, and community members. Our diverse student backgrounds provide for unique opportunities for teamwork! Teachers strive to assist student academic success through well planned, explicit direct instruction. Teachers, administrators, and parents work together to create data-driven decisions to enhance student achievement. Our focus on Capturing Kids Hearts has set high expectations for all of our students, and our students respond with enthusiasm and integrity! Through a school-wide Capturing Kids Hearts initiative, we use Morning Meetings and Growth Mindset to build strong relationships! Common language and procedures assist in creating an environment of consistency throughout the school. One of our goals at FDES is to instill leadership qualities in all of our students. FDES continues to provide numerous opportunities for our students to take on leadership roles in our school, from Flag Attendants and Book Buddies to our WGN staff, who produce and star in our school’s morning news show. We’ve continued the practice of participating our school-wide project of Jump rope for Heart and Boosterthon.

Fort Dorchester Elementary School is not only a Palmetto’s Finest school, but also a “Cool School” who is taking each school year by the TAIL!! Teamwork... Achievement...Integrity...Leadership...Service!! What a COOL place to learn!

Thank you for taking time to study this report.

Rachel Ashby
SIC Chairperson

Annette Pletcher
Principal