

Family & Community

Involvement



Angel Tree – Families donate food for Thanksgiving and Christmas presents for students and families in need.

Bobcat Backpack Buddies – Program financially sponsored by two local churches to provide food to over 40 students weekly.

Boosterthon/Read-a-thon - Schoolwide fundraisers that focus on character development and reading yielded over \$54,000 this year.

Business Partners – Partners donate talent and provide financial support for the school's initiatives.

Career Fair – Annual event showcasing business and community members sharing their careers with the students.

Gardening Initiative – Schoolwide standards-based gardening initiative that focuses on delivering instruction and providing food to a local food bank.

Clemson Extension Partnership – Partnership focused on engaging science lessons (K-5) and the Junior Master Gardener Program for fourth grade students.

Early Act – Program focused on teaching leadership roles and conducting service-learning projects sponsored by Sea Island Rotary Club in partnership with BHS Interact Club, engaging students in grades 3-5.

LINKS – Annual program for military impacted students.

Military Family Liaison Consultant – A licensed mental health professional working with military students and families during the school day.

National Elementary Honor Society – Students in grades 3-5 that maintain an 85+ average or higher in all core subjects earn membership.

Interim Performance Goals – The percentage of students in grades K-2 at or above the 50th percentile measured by iReady will increase from a baseline of 60% to 80% in the area of math and from 62.7% to 80% in the area of ELA.

River of Words – A program with the National River of Words Initiative, which teaches students the value of protecting our environment by connecting nature and the arts. Student artwork is submitted for publication.

The percentage of students scoring met or exceeded on the SC READY ELA and Math assessments in grades 3-5 will increase to a minimum of 80%.

In Spring 2024 at least 80% of students will rate themselves as having a strong sense of Self-Efficacy.

STEM Certification will be achieved by the close of the 2023-24 school year and all grade levels will be implementing PLTW curriculum.

2023-2024 PARENT SURVEY SUMMARY	
A total of 285 surveys were received.	
My child feels successful at school.	
Academically	98.6%
Socially/Emotionally	97.5%
Our family feels welcome at Coosa.	
-Front office/reception	100%
-Administration	99.6%
-Classroom	100%
-School Events	99.6%
We are satisfied with learning in all content areas.	
-Reading/ELA	98.2%
-Math	98.9%
-Science	99.6%
-Social Studies	99.3%
-Related Arts	99.6%
Are you pleased with the extracurricular opportunities at Coosa?	
	96.6%
We are satisfied with the following special services, if applicable.	
-Counseling Services	97%
-Gifted and Talented	93%
-Speech	95.5%
-Special Education	86.7%
-Literacy Intervention	87.9%
-Math Intervention	91.3%
-Military Liaison	91.1%
-Multilingual Learner Program (MLP)	100%
I receive adequate communication from the school.	
-Administration	100%
-Classroom Teachers	99.3%
Do you feel Coosa's safety procedures are adequate?	
	99.6%
Do you feel your child is safe in the following areas:	
-Classroom	100%
-Playground	99.3%
-Hallways	100%
-Car Rider Area	100%
-Bus	94.4%
Technology is adequately integrated.	
Yes	97.8%
Technology is beneficial.	
Yes	87.2%
Unsure	11.4%
Thank you, parents, for your participation.	

Coosa Elementary School
45 Middle Road
Beaufort, SC 29907
(843) 322-6100

School Improvement Council Report to Parents

Coosa Elementary School

2023-2024



Home of the Bobcats



The
LeaderinMe™

great happens here

An Update on the
Progress of Our
School Renewal Plan

Melissa Pender, Principal

Renee Roberts, Assistant Principal

www.ces.beaufortschools.net

<https://www.facebook.com/coosaelementary>



What is the

School Improvement Council?

Mandated by law, the School Improvement Council (SIC) serves as an advisory group to the CES principal and faculty. The SIC plays a crucial role in school improvement by bringing together parents, educators, and community stakeholders who work collectively to establish, monitor, and evaluate specific long-range goals (School Renewal Plan) for student achievement. Other duties include producing the annual report to parents which outlines the progress of that plan and advising on the use of school incentive awards.

Ex-Officio

Melissa Pender, Principal
Renee Roberts, Assistant Principal

Community Members

Robert Sabota
John Simonis

Parent Members

Genie Brainerd, SIC Chair
Michelle Comunale, Vice-Chair
Elna Guida, Secretary

Teacher Members

Ashley Kabel
Elizabeth Simonis

Our School's Achievements

- 2023 National Blue Ribbon School
- Ranked in the top 5% of elementary schools in South Carolina 2022, 2023
- 2023 BCSD Teacher of the Year
- 2023 BCSD Assistant Principal of the Year
- Competitive Robotics Team placed in the Top 3 in Storm the Citadel Competition
- Excellent Rating on S.C. School Report Card 2019, 2022, 2023
- Achieved Lighthouse Academic Distinction 2019 - 2023
- Recognized as a Leader In Me Lighthouse School
- Established a National Elementary Honor Society Chapter 2020
- Leader in Me Symposium-Showcase School 2020



About Our School

Coosa is honored to be the flagship Leader in Me School in Beaufort County, the 12th elementary school in South Carolina, and one of the Leader In Me Schools internationally to have been honored with Lighthouse status based on Dr. Stephen R. Covey's books, *The Leader in Me* and *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People*. CES offers Project-based Learning schoolwide and Purposeful Play-based Learning for PreK-24 Kindergarten.

SIC Goals for 2023-24
Goal 1: Respect and value diversity through cultural celebrations and recognitions throughout the year.
Goal 2: Create authentic ways to collaborate with schools in our cluster.

SC READY

The table below shows the percentage of Coosa students who Met or Exceeded expectations for the 2022-2023 school year. Students in grades 3-5 are assessed in ELA and Math. Students in grade 4 are assessed in Science.

SCReady	2018	2019	2021	2022	2023
ELA	64.1	60.0	72.5	79.2	76.1
Math	72.5	72.3	69.5	76.0	75.6
Science	79.8	67.6	67.8	76.9	79.6



Academic
Achievement

Excellent



Preparing For
Success

Excellent



Student Progress

Good



Innovative Learning & Resources

Brain Boosters - A 1st and 2nd grade curriculum resource that encourages critical thinking and problem solving.

Extracurricular Opportunities – Chorus, Drumline, Robotics Team, Honor Choir, 23 Various Clubs, National Elementary Honor Society, and Early Act Club

Gifted and Talented Education (GT) - Classes designed to challenge qualifying 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students.

Instructional Coach - Our instructional coach focuses on teacher professional development and teaching "best practices."

Literacy Intervention Teachers - Two certified teachers provide intensive small-group and individual reading instruction for students needing support. We also have three additional interventionists that provide intervention weekly.

Math Interventionist - A certified teacher provides small group and individual math instruction to students in need of support.

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) Focus - We are focused on integrating hands-on activities and learning experiences in the classroom across all content areas, to include several MakerSpaces and a STEM Lab.

Technology

Interactive Boards in all classrooms
PreK-1 students have iPads
2-5 students have HP laptops
STEM Lab
Competitive Robotics Team
Various applications on all devices

School Choice Options

Leader in Me
Project-based Learning

The Leader in Me and schoolwide Positive Based Intervention System (PBIS) — Coosa promotes building a force of future leaders who possess the core values of respect, responsibility, and integrity.