

## FAMILY & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

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

**Bobcat Backpack Buddies** – Providing food to over 40 families in need. Sponsored by local churches.

**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** – Service-Learning Program sponsored by Sea Island Rotary Club in partnership with BHS Interact Club engaging students in grades 3-5.

**L.I.N.K.S.** – A workshop for military children (ages 5-12) to help them adjust to military life. Led by Marine Corps Family Team Building staff and mentors, offering a fun, supportive environment to learn about military culture and gain life tips. The program fosters friendship and a sense of belonging among military families.

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

**National Elementary Honor Society** – Complete several service-learning projects to support the community.

**River of Words** – Affiliation 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.

## INTERIM PERFORMANCE GOALS

The percentage of students scoring at or above the 50th percentile on iReady math will increase from 59.5% to 62.5%. In reading, the percentage will increase from 54% to 55.6%

The percentage of students scoring met or exceeds on the SC Ready assessment in grades 3-5 will increase from 74.3% in math to 78.1%. In reading, the percentage will increase from 82.1% meets and exceeds to 83% meets and exceeds.

By 2026, the Chronic Absenteeism Rate (CAR) will be reduced from 14.2 to 12.5% or less.

By 2026, classroom teachers in grades PK – 5 will earn a minimum of 3 recertification hours focused on STEM Integration strategies within core subjects.

## 2024-2025 PARENT SURVEY SUMMARY

A total of 304 surveys were received.

|                                                                                                  |                    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| My child feels successful at school.                                                             |                    |
| • Academically                                                                                   | 95.3%              |
| • Socially/Emotionally                                                                           | 96.3%              |
| Our family feels welcome at Coosa.                                                               |                    |
| • Front Office/Reception Area                                                                    | 99.3%              |
| • Administration                                                                                 | 99.3%              |
| • Classroom                                                                                      | 97.9%              |
| • School Events                                                                                  | 99.7%              |
| We are satisfied with learning in all content areas.                                             |                    |
| • Reading/Language Arts                                                                          | 95.3%              |
| • Math                                                                                           | 97.3%              |
| • Science                                                                                        | 99.7%              |
| • Social Studies                                                                                 | 99.0%              |
| • Related Arts                                                                                   | 99.7%              |
| Do you feel your child is safe at school in the following areas:                                 |                    |
| • Classroom                                                                                      | 99%                |
| • Playground                                                                                     | 98.7%              |
| • Hallways                                                                                       | 99.3%              |
| • Car Rider Area                                                                                 | 98.9%              |
| • Bus                                                                                            | 95.3%              |
| Technology is adequately integrated.                                                             | 97.2%              |
| Technology is beneficial.                                                                        | 83% yes 12% unsure |
| Are you pleased with in-school, before, and after school extracurricular opportunities at Coosa? |                    |
| • Before/After School                                                                            | 98%                |
| • In School                                                                                      | 100%               |
| Do you feel Coosa's safety procedures are adequate?                                              | 100%               |
| I received adequate communication from the following:                                            |                    |
| • Administration                                                                                 | 98.6%              |
| • Classroom Teachers                                                                             | 96.6%              |
| We are satisfied with the following special services, if applicable:                             |                    |
| • Counseling Services                                                                            | 97.6%              |
| • Gifted and Talented                                                                            | 100%               |
| • Speech                                                                                         | 98.3%              |
| • Special Education                                                                              | 97.3%              |
| • Literacy Intervention                                                                          | 99.2%              |
| • Math Intervention                                                                              | 96.2%              |
| • Military Liaison                                                                               | 96.4%              |
| • Multilingual Learner Program                                                                   | 100%               |

Thank you, parents, for your participation.

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## SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

# REPORT TO PARENTS

COOSA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

2024-2025

*Home of the Lowcountry Leaders*



An update on the progress of our School Renewal Plan

Melissa Pender, Principal  
Renee Roberts, Assistant Principal



## 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 critical role in the school improvement by bringing together parents, educators, and community stakeholders who work collaboratively to establish, monitor, and evaluate specific long-range goals (School Renewal Plan) for student achievement. Other duties include producing the report card to parents which outlines the process of that plan and advising on the use of school initiative awards.

### Ex-Officio

Melissa Pender, Principal  
Renee Roberts, Assistant Principal

### Community Members

Dr. Verna Holmes  
Pat Rowell

### Parent Members

Genie Brainerd, SIC Chair  
Erica Sanchez, Vice-Chair  
Secretary, Vacant

### Teacher Members

Ashley Kabel  
Elizabeth Simonis

## OUR SCHOOL'S ACHIEVEMENTS

- 2024 Leader in Me Legacy Award
- 2023 National Blue Ribbon School
- Ranked in the top 5% of elementary schools in South Carolina 2022, 2023
- 2024 BCSD Principal of the Year
- 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, 2024
- Achieved Lighthouse Academic Distinction 2019 - 2024
- 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 based on Stephen R. Covey's books, *The Leader in Me* and *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People*. CES offers Purposeful Play-based Prekindergarten and Kindergarten, and Project Based Learning schoolwide.



## SIC GOALS FOR 2024-2025

- 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 2023-2024 school year. Students in grades 3-5 are assessed in ELA and Math. Students in grade 4 are assessed in Science.

| SC Ready | 2018 | 2019 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
|----------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| ELA      | 64.1 | 60.0 | 72.5 | 79.2 | 76.1 | 82.1 |
| Math     | 72.5 | 72.3 | 69.5 | 76.0 | 75.6 | 74.3 |
| Science  | 79.8 | 67.6 | 67.8 | 76.9 | 79.6 | N/A  |



## INNOVATIVE OPPORTUNITIES & RESOURCES

**Extracurricular Opportunities** — Chorus, Drumline, Robotics Team, Honor Choir, National Elementary Honor Society, and EarlyAct Club

**Gifted and Talented Education** — 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.

**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.

**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.

### Technology

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

### School Choice Options

Leader in Me  
Project Based Learning  
Project Lead the Way (PLTW)

**Clubs** — All students engage in monthly clubs during the school day.

**Cultural Passport Days** — Schoolwide activities that actively involve students in exploring the traditions and cultures of countries across the globe.

