

SC Department of Education Releases 2025 Report Cards for schools: Hampton County School District Update

Varnville, SC – November 3, 2025- The South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) and the South Carolina Education Oversight Committee (EOC) released the 2025 SC Report Card for schools. The SC Report Cards, available at www.screportcards.com, reflect data elements and student performance information from the 2024-2025 school year. These state-issued report cards are required by federal education law, Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

All South Carolina public schools receive overall report card ratings based on a 100-point scale. Schools also receive ratings on various indicators such as academic achievement, student progress, college and career readiness, and graduation rate. The ratings are Excellent, Good, Average, Below Average, and Unsatisfactory, which are based on the data. The Spring 2025 accountability measures are different than the 2024 report card, one specifically is the area of student progress (student growth). The criteria for measurement of student progress are more strenuous now. It is based on benchmarks for meeting the state’s 2030 goal of 75% of all students at or above grade level.

A Good rating is defined as school performance that exceeds the criteria to ensure all students meet the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate. District schools that met this criterion are Brunson Elementary School and Fennell Elementary School.

An Average rating is defined as school performance that meets the criteria to ensure all students meet the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate. District schools that met this criterion are Estill Elementary School, Hampton Intermediate School, North District Middle School, and Hampton County High School.

A Below Average rating is defined as a school performance that is in jeopardy of not meeting the criteria to ensure all students meet the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate. District schools that met this criterion is Estill Middle School.

Ben Hazel Elementary School and Varnville Elementary School did not receive a rating for the 2024-2025 school year but will for the 2025-2026 school year since they now meet the criteria of having two tested grade levels.

Brunson Elementary School	Good
Estill Elementary School	Average
Fennell Elementary School	Good
Hampton Intermediate School	Average
Estill Middle School	Below Average
North District Middle School	Average
Hampton County High School	Average

Highlights: Report Card Shifts

- Brunson Elementary School overall rating increased from 57 to 59 points from 2024-2025. This overall rating of 59 is a mere two points shy of an Excellent rating.
- Brunson Elementary School saw increases in academic achievement, student progress, and climate ratings on their school report card.
- Estill Elementary School saw an increase in their school climate rating.
- Fennell Elementary School went from an Average (49) to Good (57) overall rating.
- Fennell Elementary School saw increases in academic achievement and student progress.
- Hampton County High School saw an increase in their overall rating from 43 (Below Average) to 51 (Average).
- Hampton County High School saw increases in academic achievement, on time graduation rate (78.5% to 83.6%), college and career readiness, student success, and school climate ratings.

Opportunities for Growth and Next Steps

Under the leadership of Dr. Glenda Sheffield, Hampton County School District is placing a strong focus on three gears to success: culture, systems, and instruction. These foundational pillars are driving HCSD to be more intentional in fostering growth across all dimensions of the district.

HCSD is prioritizing high-quality, research-based instructional materials that are carefully vetted to elevate core classroom instruction. This emphasis ensures that every student benefits from rigorous and engaging learning experiences aligned with best practices.

To support all learners, the district has implemented a robust Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS), providing data-driven, targeted interventions and enrichment opportunities tailored to individual student needs.

Personalized learning is further enhanced through platforms such as i-Ready and Edmentum Exact Path, which offer adaptive learning pathways and supplemental instructional support. These tools empower students to progress at their own pace while receiving the guidance they need to succeed.

In grades K–5, HCSD has introduced district-wide screeners to inform small group instruction, allowing teachers to deliver more specialized and responsive teaching. Additionally, a six-week i-Ready Phonics Bootcamp is being launched to strengthen foundational literacy skills among early learners.

The district is also expanding opportunities for college and career readiness. Every 8th-grade student will now participate in the PSAT, providing early exposure to college entrance assessments. To further support high school students, HCSD is offering an SAT Saturday Bootcamp, equipping them with the strategies and confidence needed to excel.

These initiatives reflect HCSD's unwavering dedication to fostering a culture of growth, equity, and excellence for all students.