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PRESS RELEASE

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York One Celebrates Progress, Strengthens Commitment to Every Student

YORK, S.C. — York School District One’s 2026 South Carolina School Report Card results highlight student progress, substantial gains in teachers’ reported working conditions, and a shared commitment to continuous improvement at every school. These results help guide our next steps as we work together to strengthen learning for every student in every school.

York One’s report card results offer reasons to celebrate, with one school earning an Excellent rating, three earning Good ratings, and four earning Average ratings. All schools met or exceeded the performance criteria designed to ensure all students meet the [Profile of the South Carolina Graduate](#).

“We have much to celebrate in York One,” said Superintendent Dr. Heath Branham. “I am proud of our students and the people who pour into them every day. These results reflect students embracing challenges, teachers responding to learning needs, staff removing barriers, and families supporting the work. It takes WE to make that happen.”

Several schools improved their overall report card scores. York Middle School increased by seven points; York Comprehensive High School by four points; York Intermediate School by three points; and Harold C. Johnson Elementary by one point.

Additional highlights include mathematics improvement at Cotton Belt Elementary, gains in mathematics and student progress at York Intermediate and York Middle School, and increases in Algebra I achievement, graduation rate, and college and career readiness at York Comprehensive High School.

Career and technical education, supported by Floyd D. Johnson Technology Center, continues to connect learning with students’ futures. The high school report card identifies 257 CTE completers and 592 students

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earning state or national credentials. Career readiness increased by 8.1 percentage points from 2025, reinforcing the importance of meaningful pathways to employment, further education, and military service.

School climate trends also show progress. Overall district climate improved from 2025 to 2026, and both teachers and students reported stronger perceptions of safety. Teachers' reported working conditions increased from 64.8 percent to 77 percent, an improvement of 12.2 percentage points. "Our teachers and staff deserve to be seen, be heard, and belong, too," Branham said. "Their voices matter, and this improvement is something to celebrate. We must keep listening, responding, and supporting the people who serve our students every day. Strong working conditions help our educators do their best work."

The report cards also identify opportunities for further growth. Each school will build on its strengths and address areas where students need stronger support, instruction, or challenge. Teacher collaboration is central to that effort. Through professional learning communities, educators will continue to examine student learning, share effective practices, and determine their next steps together. The focus is on clear learning expectations, timely support when students struggle, and meaningful enrichment when students are ready to go further.

"Our students belong to all of us," Branham said. "When a student struggles, we work together to find a way forward. When an approach works, we share it. When the results tell us something needs to change, we act. Collaboration must lead to stronger learning, and stronger learning must lead to better results."

District and school leaders will use the findings to sharpen improvement plans, strengthen literacy and mathematics instruction, and respond to individual student needs. Listening to students, supporting staff, and partnering with families will continue to guide that work. "Behind every number is a student with a name, a story, and a future," Branham said. "We want every student to be seen, be heard, and belong. We want every student to experience meaningful learning and leave us prepared for the opportunities ahead. That promise guides our work in every classroom and every school."

York One thanks its teachers, staff, school leaders, families, Board of Trustees, and community partners for their shared investment in student success. "We will celebrate our progress, be honest about where we need to grow, and keep moving forward together," Branham said. "Our focus continues to be collaboration, high levels of learning, and accelerated results for every single student!"

School and district report cards are available at www.screportcards.com.

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