



April 15, 2022

Dear Duncan Families,

I hope this letter finds you doing well and that Spring Break was enjoyed by all! Our teachers and students have been hard at work making the very most of our time together.

Recently, our annual Title I Survey was distributed via a link and emailed to all parents. Your input is greatly appreciated! This survey is used to provide feedback on the current school year, and it helps us plan our Title I project for the coming year. Our desire is for continuous improvement to better meet the needs of our students and families. Thank you for your patience with the technical difficulties.

Over the past two years, we have faced many challenges. I am very excited that we are able to return to our face to face events with close monitoring of COVID numbers and CDC/DHEC guidance. Our students did an outstanding job with our Spring Showcase. Our students loved attending the morning performance and the evening public performance was so well attended.

Below you will find a snapshot of some important dates/events to add to your calendar:

- Monday, April 18th 5:30-7:30 p.m.- PTO Skate Night at Roebuck Skate Center
- Wednesday, May 11th-SC Ready Testing for 3rd and 4th grade students (ELA-Day 1)
- Thursday, May 12th-SC Ready Testing for 3rd and 4th grade students (ELA-Day 2)
- Friday, May 13th-TDA Field Test for 4th grade students
- Monday, May 16th-Byrnes Grad Walk at Elementary Schools
- Tuesday, May 17th-SC Ready Math Test for 3rd and 4th grade students
- Wednesday, May 18th-SC PASS Science Test for 4th grade students & TDA Field Test for 3rd grade students
- Thursday, May 19th-Field Day for K4, K5 and 1st grade students--More information to come.
- Friday, May 20th-Field Day for 2nd, 3rd, and 4th grade students--More information to come.
- Monday, May 23rd-Awards Day: 8:30 K4; 10:00 K5; 12:30 1st grade--More information to come.
- Tuesday, May 24th-Awards DAY: 8:30 2nd; 10:00 3rd; 12:30 4th grade--More information to come.
- Wednesday, May 25th-End of the Year SPARK Celebration
- Thursday, May 26th-Student Half-Day Dismissal at 11:25
- Friday, May 27th-Last Day of School for Students; Student Half-Day Dismissal at 11:25

We are beginning to plan for next school year and while we do not take specific requests for teachers, **parents are strongly encouraged to write a letter describing your child's learning needs academically, socially, and emotionally and send it to me.** We will use this information, in addition to many other important pieces of information, to make the very best placement "fit" for your child. Your child's best interest is our top priority.

Please like us on Facebook—Duncan Elementary School Wildcats and follow us on Instagram—Duncan Elementary School—look for our pawprint!



Duncan Elementary  
School of the Arts  
@DuncanElementaryWildcats

**Our Annual Report to the Community for the 2020-2021 School Year is enclosed. Thank you for taking time to read this update about our school.**

Warm Regards-- Dr. Susan B. Hill, Principal

# Duncan Elementary School - a Title I Schoolwide Project

## Annual Report to the Community for the 2020-2021 School Year

*The mission of Duncan Elementary School is to provide every student with quality educational experiences in a safe, nurturing, and engaging environment, enabling each individual to succeed in life and function as a productive citizen.*

### “Wildcat Wows”

- Katherine Montoya was selected as Terrific Kid of the Year.
- Dayanna Perez-Ugarte was selected as recipient of the Superintendent’s Citizenship Award.
- Duncan Elementary School provided the following special area programs: Physical Education, Dance, General Music and Art (K4 & K5), Choral & Music Instrumental (1st-4th), Visual & Digital Art (1st-4th), and German. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, Focus Groups and School-wide Productions were canceled.
- Ashley Martin, 1st grade Teacher, was named Duncan Elementary School Teacher of the Year.
- Ann Canty, Day Porter/Custodian, was named Duncan Elementary School Support Employee of the Year.

### Student Achievement Update

#### **iReady Assessment-Reading and Math**

iReady is an engaging online assessment and instruction program for students in K-4<sup>th</sup> grades. iReady’s adaptive test identifies students’ strengths and weaknesses in reading and math. Once students finish the Diagnostic, the results are used to provide customized and differentiated instruction. Typically, our students are assessed through iReady three times a year.

It is important to acknowledge the impact of Covid-19 on student academic achievement. Our staff is using students’ individual iReady data to identify learning gaps that may have occurred due to the March 2020 school closure/transition to emergency Distance Learning and to plan instruction specific to students’ needs. Due to the lingering impact of COVID-19, our goal is to accelerate student learning and increase the percentage of students meeting their stretch growth goal. iReady will support your child whether he is above grade level, on level, or below grade level (i-Readycentral.com).

*Typical Growth marks the median annual iReady Diagnostic Scale Score growth for each grade and placement.*

*Stretch Growth is the academic year growth the student should target to put them on a path toward attaining or maintaining grade level proficiency.*

	READING		MATH	
	Fall 2020- Spring 2021*		Fall 2020-Spring 2021*	
Grade	Met Typical Growth	Met Stretch Growth	Met Typical Growth	Met Stretch Growth
<b>K</b>	50%	25%	59%	43%
<b>1</b>	43%	22%	63%	38%
<b>2</b>	61%	30%	48%	18%
<b>3</b>	63%	38%	53%	20%
<b>4</b>	46%	21%	34%	7%

*\*Note-2020-2021-Data includes all DESA students-F2F and D5 VA. 8/20-8 class in D5 VA; 1/21-3 classes in D5 VA.*

#### **SC Ready-ELA (Reading and Writing) and Math**

The SC READY testing program was first administered in spring of 2016. The SC READY assessments are aligned to the new South Carolina College and Career Ready curriculum standards and assess student achievement in English Language Arts (Writing and ELA) and mathematics. Test items range from multiple-choice questions to extended response items as well as a Text-Dependent Analysis response.

Four performance levels were established to reflect the knowledge and skills exhibited by students on SC READY:

- Exceeds: The student exceeds the minimum grade level standard.
- Meets: The student met the grade level standard.
- Approaches: The student’s performance is close to the grade level standard.
- Not Met: The student did not meet the grade level standard.

As SC READY was developed to measure the SC College and Career Ready Standards, no national comparisons are available.

### Spring 2021 -SC Ready English Language Arts (ELA)-includes Reading and Writing

	Grade	#Tested	Exceeds	Meets	Exceeds & Meets	Approaches	Not Met
DESA	3	118	17.80%	23.70%	41.50%	23.70%	34.70%
D5	3	663	20.20%	25.20%	45.40%	26.40%	28.20%
State	3	52,313	19.3%	23.9%	43.3%	24.9%	31.8%
DESA	4	114	10.50%	21.90%	32.50%	30.70%	36.80%
D5	4	662	27.60%	24.30%	52%	24.20%	23.90%
State	4	51,060	25.7%	20.3%	46.1%	21.4%	32.5%

### Spring 2021 -Mathematics

	Grade	#Tested	Exceeds	Meets	Exceeds & Meets	Approaches	Not Met
DESA	3	118	13.60%	26.30%	39.80%	30.50%	29.70%
D5	3	662	23%	32%	55%	22.80%	22.20%
State	3	51,268	20.3%	26.5%	46.9%	22.1%	31.0%
DESA	4	113	6.20%	13.30%	19.50%	33.60%	46.90%
D5	4	663	20.80%	23.80%	44.60%	28.50%	26.80%
State	4	51,119	20.1%	21.8%	42.0%	25.6%	32.5%

\*Note-2020-2021-Data includes all DESA students-F2F and D5 VA.

8/20-3 classes of 3rd & 4th grade students in D5 VA; 1/21-2 classes in D5 VA.

The passage of Read to Succeed legislation in South Carolina has resulted in more of an emphasis on reading instruction over the past few years. There is a protected instructional time (90 minutes daily) for reading. In many instances, our students are performing better in ELA than math, and there is a need to plan accordingly.

### School Climate (Spring 2021 State Report Card Surveys)

Due to the number of requests for DESA students to attend the D5 Virtual Academy in August 2020, eight of our teachers taught virtually. In January 2021, five teachers returned to face to face instruction due to student requests to return to face to face instruction. Three teachers finished the school year in the D5 Virtual Academy.

	4 <sup>th</sup> grade Students	**4 <sup>th</sup> grade Students Title I Survey	Teachers	**Teachers Title I Survey	4 <sup>th</sup> grade Parents	**Parents Title I Survey
Percent satisfied with learning environment	92.1%	--	87.5%	--	NA	--
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	89.8%	--	91.7%	--	NA	--
Percent satisfied with school-home relationships	80.8%	94%	83.4%	90%	NA	96.8%

Thank you for the opportunity to work with your children.  
Our goal is continuous improvement, and we look for opportunities to grow and improve.