



Innovative Practices and Programs

- AdvancED STEM Accreditation since 2016
- Thriving twelve-year partnership with Michelin North America
- Title I School with focus on literacy, math, and family engagement
- Outdoor Classroom Funded through Lowe's Toolbox Grant
- Farm-to-School Initiative
- WIN (What I Need) Schedule for every grade level
- Monthly professional development for faculty and staff on literacy and STEAM integration with our Reading Coach and STEAM Coordinator
- Character Education Program
- OLWEUS Anti-Bullying Program
- Innovative technology integration into the classrooms with 1:1 Google Chromebooks for all students
- School-Wide STEAM and literacy-centered activities and events (Hour of Code, D.E.A.R. Day, Farmer's Day, 2020 Election Day Unit, A Very Merry STEAM Grinchmas, Career Day)
- Clubs and Enrichment Opportunities for Students: (Yearbook Club, Gifted Music and Visual Arts Programs, Honors Chorus)
- Family Engagement Activities and Events (FES Virtual Family Field Trip, Hour of Code Family Challenge, Families That READ Together SUCCEED Together, FES Science Fair Virtual Family Fun Night, FES International Night, D.E.A.R. Day, Virtual Veterans Day Celebration)
- Supportive School Improvement Council and PTO

School History

Fairforest Elementary School is a public elementary school, which has been fully accredited by the Southeastern Association of Colleges and Schools since 1963. Prior to 1950, all grades in Fairforest School were located in buildings on the site of the R.D. Anderson's Master Skills Center. In 1950, a school was built on North Blackstock Road. This building is currently Spartanburg School District Six's Child Development Center. In 2008 – 2009, a new Fairforest Elementary School facility opened its doors at 1005 Mt. Zion Road as a new, state of the art facility.

Fairforest is proud to serve a culturally diverse student body of approximately 725 students in grades K-5. The diversity of our school shapes the instructional practices within its walls. Many teachers utilize an integrated approach where science and social studies is as important as reading and math. This method of teaching allows students to see the relationships between subjects allowing them to understand complex concepts at deeper levels.

At Fairforest, we realize that reading is the key skill on which all others are developed. We believe in using a combination approach to reading instruction. It is based on the foundation of a strong phonics program, which is supplemented with a whole language instructional approach.

Student Achievement

| Percentage of Students Scoring "Approached, Meets, and Exceeds" on the SC Ready Assessment | | | | |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Grade | ELA | | Math | |
| Level | 2018 | 2019 | 2018 | 2019 |
| 3 rd | 76.9% | 70.0% | 73.5% | 72.9% |
| 4 th | 77.2% | 77.9% | 74.3% | 81.1% |
| 5 th | 79.3% | 77.8% | 74.4% | 77.8% |

| Percentage of Students Scoring "Approaches, Meets, and Exceeds" on the SC PASS Assessment | | |
|---|-------|-------|
| Science | | |
| Grade Level | 2018 | 2019 |
| 4 th | 76.5% | 74.6% |
| Social Studies | | |
| Grade Level | 2018 | 2019 |
| 5 th | 76.9% | 72.9% |

For more information, you may view our School Report Card at www.ed.sc.gov.

Fairforest Elementary School

2020-2021

Report to the Community



1005 Mt. Zion Rd
Spartanburg, SC 29303
Phone: 864-439-5000
Fax: 864-661-1746

Principal: Kerrie Kish
Assistant Principal April Hollis
Assistant Principal: Walker Wyatt
Behavioral & Academic Specialist: Sarah Kate Higgins

School Website:
www.fes.spart6.org
Facebook:
www.facebook.com/Fairforest-Elementary-School-635146279849120/
Instagram:
www.instagram.com/fesstemtosteam

Fairforest Elementary School's Mission Statement

The mission of Fairforest Elementary School, where children are always first, is to provide a challenging, vibrant, authentic STEAM curriculum to produce college and career ready citizens and lifelong learners in and through the arts in a safe, respectful environment.

At Fairforest Elementary School, We Believe

- an atmosphere of mutual trust, safety, respect and warmth, where children come first is essential for learning.
- education is a life-long process that is the shared responsibility of parents, teachers, students, and the community accomplished through open communication.
- clear goals and high expectations for students and staff guide curriculum development and lesson planning.
- students learn best when they are actively engaged in the learning process.
- assessment of student achievement is accomplished by providing a variety of opportunities for success.
- continuous improvement is necessary in order for our school to meet future challenges.
- knowledge of cultural and ethnic diversity enhances positive relationships at school and at home.
- encouraging the development of character traits builds our school family.

Purpose of this Report:

This report is issued by the FES School Improvement Council in accordance with South Carolina law to share information on the school's progress in meeting various goals and objectives, the work of the SIC, and other accomplishments during the school year.



School Improvement Council Annual Goals

Goal 1: Increase Communication between Parents and the School

FES already had several forms of communication in place for parents. Our teachers create a webpage to display information and news. In addition, we have our school webpage, Facebook page, and Instagram page that contains relevant facts and information. Mrs. Kish sends out a bi-weekly Fairforest Focus Family Newsletter to families with upcoming events, activities, and news taking place at school. The school also sends home monthly Home & School Connect Newsletters that foster home and school partnership and strengthen family life.

Goal 2: Collaborative Planning between Technology Integration Specialist, Literacy Coach, Classroom Teachers, and Parents

Through Title 1 funding, we have a Technology Integration Specialist and a Literacy Coach that meet with teachers to create plans that help prepare our students to become college- and career-ready.

Listed are some of the culminating activities that involved our students, parents, and staff.

K5: Weekly STEAM lab classes with content-related activities or Makerspace centers, Balloons Over Broadway Parade Unit, introduction of Design Process with animal habitats and community design, Ozobot coding exploration, Spartanburg Science Center virtual visit

Annual Goals Continued

1st: Squanto's Fishing Net Design, shadow puppet theatre, digital book publishing, recording and producing school news program, school-wide Scientific Method experiment, Space Inquiry and Design Unit, Human Society virtual field trip and PBL Unit, Michelin virtual field trip (natural resources and chemical reactions)

2nd: Green screen video projects, animation with Chatterpix app, D.E.A.R. Day digital book shop, digital book publishing, recording and producing school news program, school-wide Scientific Method experiment, Michelin virtual field trip (friction exploration)

3rd: Creating advertisements for South Carolina regions/landforms, digital comic book publishing, recording and producing school news program, school-wide Scientific Method experiment

4th: FES Farmers' Market Project, Hour of Code, collaboration with 2nd grade on D.E.A.R. Day digital book shop, digital book publishing, recording and producing school news program, school-wide Scientific Method experiment

5th: Force and Motion Carnival Celebration, SC Stock Market Game, yearbook staff, digital book publishing, recording and producing school news program, digital book publishing, recording and producing school news programschool-wide Scientific Method experiment

Goal 3: Maintain a Healthy and Safe School

The community at large believes that providing a safe school and teaching students about healthy lifestyle helps children learn. We encourage our students to make healthy life choices through programs within our school such as, our healthy meal program, physical education classes, Farm-to-School initiative, and social and emotional learning program.

School Improvement Council Members:

Carmen Leavitt, DeeDee Sledge, Angela Omer, Lacey Barone, Crissy Harris, Tabitha Durham, Traci Bearden, Kevin Tuten, Kerrie Kish, April Hollis