

High Hills Elementary School is a Title I school providing students in grades four and five a great place to learn. The School Improvement Council has made a commitment to provide support for the school's mission and performance goals, as well as for the involvement of the community. We have a highly transient population; however, our school and district personnel, parents, community members and students work together effectively to create a positive and inviting learning environment. High Hills is "A School That Works."

Our teachers continue to use unit plans, which address state standards and provide students with critical thinking skills and problem solving activities. This year, our teachers have attended a school wide workshop bases on RTI strategies for in class use. Greta Hutcheson, curriculum coordinator, led a professional development, "Making Connections Across The Curriculum". The ELA teachers are also in a literacy class together, which offers various approaches in teaching various reading strategies to students. We utilize educational research and test data to focus on programs that will help to increase student achievement. We have benchmarks tests and MAP testing that allows the teachers to reinforce weak areas. We have a child study team, computer lab, accelerated reader, parent volunteers, parenting workshops and other programs in place to meet the needs of the students at High Hills. We continue to use the school wide homework policy for our students, which, clearly delineates the responsibilities for parents, students and teachers.

We are very proud to have made Adequate Yearly Progress as specified by the U.S. Dept. of Education for 06-07, 07-08, and 08-09. We missed in 09-10 and 10-11 by 1 subgroup out of 21. Our school goal of every child scoring met on the PASS has not yet been attained, but our students have made progress in all subject areas. We will continue to utilize research, involve our parents and community members, and focus on appropriate academic planning and instruction to improve the achievement of each child attending High Hills Elementary School.

Brenda Witherspoon, School Improvement Council

Elizabeth C. Compton, Principal



Performance Goals

As part of our ongoing process of improvement, our school renewal committee developed three performance goals to guide future growth. Goal one establishes that the average score for students will increase by 5 percentage points on the PASS each year. Goal two states that the number of discipline referrals will decrease by 5% by 2012. The third goal addresses teacher quality and affirms that 100% of the teachers, administrators, and paraprofessionals will be highly qualified by 2012.

The third goal of teacher quality has been met by High Hills Elementary, all teachers, administrators, and paraprofessionals are highly qualified.

High Hills Elementary School

- Principal.....Elizabeth C. Compton
- Assistant Principal..... Robert Thompson
- Guidance Counselor.....Golden Talps
- Curriculum Coordinator.....Greta Hutcheson
- Math Coach.....Patricia Christmas
- Parent Facilitator.....Pamela Kendrick
- Media Specialist.....Karen Bennett-Waterfield
- PTA President.....Karen Bennett-Waterfield

2002-2003 Sumter School District II Lieutenant Governor's Award For Excellence in Composition

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2005-2006 Achievement Award for Closing South Carolina's Gap Through exemplary PACT performance

2006-2007 Achievement Award for Closing South Carolina's Gap through exemplary PACT performance

2006-2007, 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 Met Adequate Year Progress

2007-2008 SC Young Writers Award Winner

2007-2008 Sumter School District II Lieutenant Governor's Award For Excellence in Composition

2008 Governor's Citizenship Award

2009-2010 Recipient of the Palmetto Silver Award

2010-2011 Recipient of the Palmetto Silver and Gold Awards

2011-2012

HIGH HILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Annual Report to Parents

Mission Statement

The mission of High Hills Elementary School is to provide each student with a quality education by developing academic and social skills in a safe environment.

Vision Statement

The vision of High Hills Elementary School is to create a community to academic excellence.

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4971 Frierson Road
Shaw AFB, S.C. 29152

Elizabeth C. Compton.....Principal
Bertha King.....Speech Therapist
Laura Odom.....Parent
Sara Barnes.....Teacher
Kara Halle.....Parent
Brenda Witherspoon.....Staff
Patricia Christmas.....Math Coach
Robert Thompson.....Assistant Principal
Karen Bennett-Waterfield.....Media Specialist



▶ **Student Achievement:**

The emphasis at this level is the implementation of strategies that address academic expectations, assessment procedures, and literacy skills.

▶ **School Climate:**

Review of perception data, discipline and attendance records indicates a need for connecting with students and the community. Again, professional development is shown to be a major need along with the establishment of more communication routes to the home.

▶ **Teacher Quality:**

In order to ensure that teachers are highly qualified, ongoing professional development is provided. Therefore, a major area of focus for the Teacher Quality Performance is the emphasis on training and retention.

NEEDS ASSESSMENT

The culmination of data for High Hills Elementary School is obtained while the learner is engaged in active class experiences and test experiences. This allows for self-evaluation, peer evaluation, teacher and administrative evaluations, and is ongoing and continuous. This information is used as a basis for decisions regarding future learning and to focus on the accomplishments of students. The information from the Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (PASS), district benchmark test, and parent, teacher, and student surveys allows us to assess our instructional program and make programmatic changes as needed.

Our students are unique and come from very diverse backgrounds; therefore, our staff continuously strives to meet the needs of all students. High Hills made AYP for 2006-2007, 2007-2008, and 2008-2009. We missed in 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 by 1 subgroup out of 21. Because of our student success we will continue implementation of RIT groups and Response to Intervention (RTI). RIT groups are based on MAP testing scores and have three sessions. Session one utilizes two Math Workbooks, "Math Essentials and Workout Mathematics".

Session two is Language Arts and the teachers are going to work on editing and revision. The RTI session uses "SRA Corrective Reading." R.T.I. targets students who have been referred to special education. It is a step before recommendation for a student to go through child study but has not been placed in the special education program. The classroom teacher works with five students during computer lab time. These students are performing below grade level. TAG classes are now conducted during RIT time. This ensures that no students are missing valuable classroom time. In addition to these programs, we are continuing other successful programs already in place.

SCHOOL BELIEFS

- Each student is a valued individual.
- We believe all children can learn.
- Students learn in different ways.
- Students learn best when they are actively engaged in the learning process.
- Each student has unique physical, social, emotional and intellectual needs.
- Teachers, parents, students and community are responsible for the support of the school's mission.
- Challenging expectations increase student performances.
- Student self-esteem is enhanced by mutual respect among and between staff and students.
- A safe and inviting environment promotes student learning.
- A curriculum that includes cultural diversity education increases a student's understanding and respect of different people.

Sumter School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs or activities. For inquires regarding the policy, contact, Sumter School District, 1345 Wilson Hall Road, Sumter, SC 29150 or call 803-469-6900.