

# SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

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## MISSION STATEMENT

With the cooperation of parents and the community, the mission of Lemira Elementary School is to develop the whole child as a productive, competent, college-bound member of society through challenging learning opportunities.



Visit us online at:

<http://lme.sumterschools.net>

Lemira is fully accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

Sumter School District



## LEMIRA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Annual Report 2012-2013

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The School Improvement Council at Lemira Elementary School has prepared this Annual Report for you and the community. The report includes some activities and accomplishments implemented during the 2012-2013 school year.

Lemira Elementary School had two objectives for 2012-2013. Major objectives and evidence of progress in meeting them are presented below:

**Objective 1: Students will increase their Math problem-solving skills.**

**Evidence:** Professional Development focused on strategies to improve problem-solving skills, including revisiting past math-focused book studies. Students in all grade-levels utilized technology such as ThinkCentral, iPods, netbooks, etc. in order to apply higher-order thinking skills in Mathematics. Students on all grade-levels explained their mathematical thinking through the use of class discussions and Math Journals. Students participated in real-world activities that required them to apply their problem-solving skills. Teachers provided various authentic problem-solving opportunities, and students had access to the materials (such as manipulatives) necessary to solve them.

**Objective 2: Students will learn and demonstrate leadership skills through the college-bound initiative in order to improve the school climate and increase academic achievement.**

**Evidence:** All stakeholders promoted an atmosphere of leadership and high expectations for life-long learners. The faculty participated in a book study of Stephen R. Covey's The Leader in Me, and Professional Development focused on Covey's The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People. Leadership skills were integrated into the curriculum and were correlated with Best Practices. Selected teachers were given the chance to visit other schools that have embraced and successfully implemented a student leadership focus. Students took a leadership role in school-wide activities such as the Good Morning Lemira Show and extracurricular activities. A student in each classroom served as Classroom Ambassador.

## GOALS AND STRATEGIES FOR IMPROVEMENT IN 2013-2014

**Goal #1:** Through everyday real-life applications and connections, students will utilize measurement tools to gather data, create graphs, and interpret data.

**Strategies:** Students in all grade-levels will explain their mathematical thinking through journals and class discussions. Students will gather measurement data (using both nonstandard and standard units) and make connections while organizing and manipulating data. Students will interpret tables, charts, and graphs in all subject areas. Teachers will continue to apply strategies learned in prior book studies.

**Goal #2:** Students will increase vocabulary and analyze/interpret informational texts through the integration of ELA standards in cross-curricular areas.

**Strategies:** Teachers will continue to implement strategies from our What Really Matters in Vocabulary and Nonfiction Craft Lessons book studies. Informational texts will be integrated across the curriculum and students will use a variety of nonfiction materials (newspapers, websites, etc.) in all subject areas. Opportunities will be provided for students to participate in novel and genre studies. Various activities (word walls, word webs, word ladders, etc.) will be used to increase students' exposure to the three tiers of vocabulary.

**Goal #3:** Students will increase the command of Standard English language usage/mechanisms (in writing and speaking) through the use of informational texts across the curriculum and in writing in a variety of forms.

**Strategies:** Teachers will increase oral language and exposure to Standard English through daily read alouds. Students will be given the opportunity to participate in Writer's Workshop, oral presentations, and Author's Teas. Teachers and students will conference about both reading and writing. Students in all grade-levels will use Writing Journals. Each class will publish a *Student treasures* book. Teachers will model the use of Standard English and help students make the connection between oral language and written language.

## CELEBRATING SUCCESSES

- Lemira Elementary School earned an A rating with a score of 98.1 (out of a possible 100) on the ESEA Federal Accountability System

- Lemira was designated as a Title I Reward School for Performance, a designation given to the highest performing Title I schools in a given year

- Michelle Hanenkrath was the Lemira Elementary School 2012-2013 Teacher of the Year
- Two of our 5<sup>th</sup> Grade classes ranked in the Top 10 in the state during Part I of the University of South Carolina's annual "Read with the Gamecocks" reading program (Ms. Duncan's class took 2<sup>nd</sup> place while Ms. Har's class was 6<sup>th</sup>)

- The Lemira Percussion Ensemble performed at the Spoleto Festival and the LEAF Festival, among others

- Lemira's Golden Steppers sponsored the First Annual Step Off competition, won several trophies at various state competitions, and were the guest performers at the Morris College Step Show

- Students received fresh fruits and vegetables as a snack several times a week through the Fresh Fruit and Vegetables Grant

