



ROSEWOOD ELEMENTARY INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

H. Matt Hiers, Chairman
Christopher Harkey, Vice-Chairman

Rosewood Parents,

Greetings on behalf of the Rosewood Elementary International School Improvement Council. The 2013-2014 school year has been an exciting one at Rosewood in that we began the year with lofty aspirations we are starting to see come to fruition. This Annual Report is designed to inform parents of the projects taken on by your School Improvement Council as well as some of the future goals that we will continue to strive towards. We would like to share these with you to gain your support and to make you aware of the undertakings at your child's school.

SIDEWALKS

As the school year began, one of the major goals that the administration of Rosewood asked of the School Improvement Council was to obtain safe sidewalks for our students. The School Improvement council began to contact the SCDOT and York County Council to check the availability of funds for the project. These discussions soon stalemated as most of the County funds for improvements had already been distributed. Luckily, Nicole Brown of "Safe Routes to School South Carolina" joined us for Rosewood's Annual Walk to School Day in October 2013. She suggested that she along with several members of the community conduct a Safe Routes Traffic Audit of Rosewood in November. Over 40 members of law enforcement, city and county government, and concerned parents participated in the study.

Due to Ms. Brown's report on the findings at Rosewood she was pleased to announce that our school is eligible to apply for a \$400,000 grant from the SCDOT. Rosewood's administration and the School Improvement Council have begun the process of the application for this grant. The grant may be used to install crosswalks, new signage, improve lighting, educate student about safety, create sidewalks, as well as many more improvements to ensure our student's safety.

COMMON CORE STANDARDS

The Rosewood School Improvement Council has kept it's finger on the pulse of this issue by both monitoring the legislation debated in the State House in Columbia as well as attended educational workshops on the impact that it may have on our students. Common Core is a national set of standards that are intended to get all American K-12 students to meet the same standards across the country. Students will then be assessed by a uniformed standardized test to mark their progress in their respective grade.

South Carolina has not yet adopted an assessment aligned to Common Core Standards to be used by the South Carolina Department of Education, which will determine how our children are tested next school year.

INTERSCHOOLASTIC ATHLETICS

The Rosewood School Improvement Council has formed an exploratory committee to gauge the feasibility of restoring our football and cheerleading squads that have been discontinued. The Rock Hill Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Department has been contacted to see how we can form teams for this upcoming school year. We will need to found a 501c3 organization (a booster club) to raise funds. We are also polling parents to see if there would be an interest and if we can get the participation numbers to justify pushing forward with this.

We believe that by reinstating these teams would increase parent involvement, boost morale, and promote physical activity in our students.

SIC ELECTION REFORM

The election process for the Officers of the Rosewood SIC (School Improvement Council) is being examined by the School Improvement Council and school administration to see if it can be altered to facilitate more parent participation. We have discussed if the time of the year that the elections take place would have any impact on the amount of parents, especially parents of our younger grades, would be more prone to volunteer. We have decided that election for the School Improvement Council will be held in the fall of each school year for that purpose. Elections for the Rosewood PTP (Parent Teacher Partnership) will continue to be held in May to ensure that back to school activities are adequately planned during the summer months.

In closing we would like to thank the Rosewood PTP, Mrs. DiStasio, and Mr. Ward for the tremendous amount of help and support they gave this year to the Rosewood School Improvement Council. They were always there with a helping hand to help us navigate our way through the school year. Without their help we would not have been able to make headway on a majority of these projects. We look forward to continuing to serve the Rosewood community this upcoming school year and encourage more parents to get involved to help make Rosewood Elementary International School the most extraordinary school in South Carolina.