



Buist Academy for Advanced Studies SIC Annual Report to Parents and Community 2023-24

April 2024

WHAT IS THE SIC?

In South Carolina, a School Improvement Council is an advisory council to the principal and school on issues related to school improvement. By law, every K-12 public school in South Carolina must have an SIC that is made up of parent, teacher, student (grades 9-12), and community member representatives.



Buist Academy for Advanced Studies



103 Calhoun Street
Charleston, SC 29401
843-724-7750

<https://www.ccsdschools.com/buist>

BUIST ACADEMY ADMINISTRATION

Principal: Shawntay White



Assistant Principal: Karrie Looney



PURPOSE OF THE SIC ANNUAL REPORT

This Report is issued by the Buist Academy for Advanced Studies 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.

MISSION OF BUIST ACADEMY

Buist Academy for Advanced Studies aims to challenge students in a rigorous environment that emphasizes achievement, encourages academic excellence, and promotes respect for individual differences. Together with Charleston County School District, the International Baccalaureate Organization, and community partners, Buist Academy equips students with the knowledge, skills, and attributes necessary to take action in their local and global community.

BUIST FOUNDATION

We continue to enjoy strong parental involvement evidenced by our Parent Foundation. Our Foundation represents a wide range of parent, business and community partners who support the schools quest for academic excellence and international-mindedness.

www.buistacademyfoundation.org

BUIST ACADEMY SCHOOL REPORT CARD

Buist Academy's South Carolina school report card can be viewed at [School Report Card Elementary 2022-23](#) and [Buist Academy Middle School SC State Report Card 22-23](#).

VISION

Buist Academy seeks to become a center of innovative teaching practices and learning for the purpose of producing accomplished scholars, life-long learners, and internationally minded citizens of the world.



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We strive to develop students who will build a better world through intercultural understanding and respect, alongside a healthy appetite for learning and excellence.



Evaluation- A Cycle of Continuous Improvement

Buist hosted a joint-IB Evaluation program visit for both the Primary and Middle Years program. Evidence was gathered to formulate a report organized by the IB Standards and Practices and their subcategories : Purpose, Environment, Culture, Learning.

Purpose

Conversations with all members of the learning community revealed that the identity of Buist Academy is clearly shaped by the IB.

Students understand the importance of developing the IB Learner Profile traits and international-mindedness.

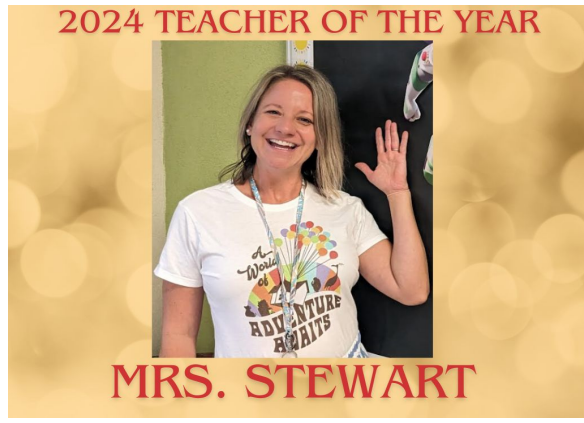
Environment

Buist Academy received helpful feedback in the areas of Leadership, Teacher Support, and Student Support.

The team noted leadership's steadfast commitment to program development with thoughtful funding, resource allocations, and professional development.

Learning

Classroom visits, as well as conversations with students and teachers showed that Buist Academy facilitates teaching and learning that are rigorous and inquiry based. In addition, the team found evidence that teaching and learning promotes student agency and healthy relationships.



We Are Buist Academy!





SIC ANNUAL GOALS

Buist Academy will maintain academic excellence by focusing on the growth and development of the whole-child through the SC Ready Standards, social-emotional education, and the International Baccalaureate framework. The curriculum will have an emphasis on inquiry-based learning and academically accelerating students to meet their full potential. Our faculty and staff will participate in a variety of professional development opportunities to encourage the growth of a diverse learning community. Buist will continue to work with parents, guardians, and community partners to meet the needs of our school community.

2023-2024 SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL MEMBERS

Ex-Officio Members

Shawntay White - Principal
Karrie Looney - Assistant Principal
Sara Lyle - IB Coordinator
Janet Preston-Mack-Reading Coach/Secretary

Elected/Appointed Members

Jill Chandler-Staff/Chairman
Joseph Bennett-Parent
Robert Podolsky-Parent
Wendie Kilgore-Teacher
Caleb Bradish-Community Member

2022-2023 Overall Report Card Rating Excellent

School Performance substantially exceeds the criteria to ensure all students meet the Profile of the SC Graduate

BUIST ACADEMY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Special Highlights for 2023-2024

- Foreign Language Program for Students in 3rd-8th grades
- Differentiation of Instruction Through Digital Resources and Personalized Learning
- Annual High School Information Presentation-Virtual Fair and School Visits
- Middle Years Programme Community Projects
- Primary Years Programme Exhibitions
- Mock Trial Team Middle School Participants
- District Spelling Bee Participants and Finalists
- Social-Emotional Learning Through Second Step Curriculum
- Terrific Kids and Knights of the Month Recognition
- Musical Performance (Aladdin, Jr.)
- Kids Heart Challenge
- Club Days
- Monthly Diversity and Inclusion Focus to include Hispanic Heritage Month, Veteran’s Day, Black History Month, Autism Awareness, and Women’s History Month
- Kindness Week
- Book Battle Team
- MYP Quiz Bowl Team
- Robotics and Lego Team
- Annual Royal Fun Run
- Multiple Sports Teams including volleyball, basketball, tennis, soccer, and golf
- Lowcountry Food Bank food drive
- Book Drive for Charleston Police Department
- District Math Tournament
- Jostens National Yearbook Program of Excellence-Gold (2nd year awarded)
- Chess Club
- Grades 5-8 Team Building Intramural Sports
- 3rd Place Winner SCEA Read with Me Contest plus 7 other recognitions
- Excellent Rating on State Report Card for elementary and middle schools.

For more information you may view Buist Academy’s South Carolina school report card at www.ed.sc.gov