

## Mission

The mission of Abner Creek Academy is to provide every student quality educational experiences in a safe, nurturing, and engaging environment.

## Beliefs

- Children are our most valuable resource.
- Public education is essential for our society.
- Integrity is the basis of good character.
- Excellence is achievable.
- Mutual respect is an expectation.
- Knowledge empowers.
- Diversity strengthens.
- Family is the foundation of society.
- Children need supportive role models.
- Attitude makes a difference.
- Learning is a lifelong process.
- Personal responsibility serves the common good.
- Perseverance, work ethic, and interpersonal skills pave pathways to success.
- Creativity and innovation are valued.
- Stewardship of resources maintains trust.

2021 Teacher of the Year: Amy Blackwell

2021 Support Employee of the Year:  
Amy Bowman



## ACA Awards and Recognition

Kaydee Culbertson: Won District Five's  
Induction Teacher of the Year

Corrie Kennette: Semi-finalist for the Jessie  
Williams "Leading the Way" Mentorship  
Award

Kristy Garrett: Winner of a 2022 Dr. Elizabeth  
Gressette Professional Development  
Scholarship

Emily Dean: Recognized by the Spartanburg  
Academic Movement for her work as our  
Continuous Improvement Facilitator

Elizabeth Koon: Nominated for the Carolina  
Panthers/FSI Top 10 Teacher of the Week

Elizabeth Koon and Heather Elliott: Received  
the Junior League Grant for a new  
Communication Studio

ACA won the Continuous Improvement  
Impact in an Organization Award



## Abner Creek Academy

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[www.spart5.net/aca](http://www.spart5.net/aca)

## Report to the Parents

Principal  
Shayne Daugherty  
Assistant Principal  
Melissa Fowler  
Assistant Principal  
Kaci Cotter  
SIC Chair  
Kristen Randall

### Motto:

*Learning with Love and Laughter*

### Magnet Focus:

Communication and Leadership

### 2021-2022 Theme:

#BetterTogether

## School Improvement Council 2021-2022

### Elected Members:

Brie Gajda, Parent  
Mamye Gardner, Teacher  
Jenny Morrissey, Teacher  
Leslie Ofori, Parent  
Kristen Randall, Parent (Chair)  
Kellie Rice, Parent

### Appointed Members:

Carey Ballew, Community Member  
Carolyn Hamby, Community Member  
Dawn Mitchell, Community Member

### Ex-officio Members:

Kaci Cotter, Assistant Principal  
Shayne Daugherty, Principal  
Melissa Fowler, Assistant Principal  
Racheal Tueber, PTO President

Abner Creek Academy (ACA) opened its doors in 2008 and presently serves 701 students in Pre-kindergarten through Fourth Grade. New construction, which adds 10 new classrooms to our school allows us to be open to limited school choice again.

The School Improvement Council was involved in promoting improvements at ACA this year. Goals included the following:

\*To offer feedback and support for the procedures that affect school security.

\*To actively support new teachers and teacher retention efforts.

\*To continue to support our school's recycling efforts, specifically by sponsoring a recycling club for students, called the Green Gators, and to promote student advocacy for recycling efforts.

\*To actively communicate to the community.

With the continued support of parents, community members, and our business partners, we will continue to strive for excellence as we serve the children of Abner Creek Academy.

### Progress and Highlights

- For the second year in a row, Abner Creek was able to offer free tutoring to our students before and after school. At this time, over 50 students participate in our tutoring program.
- ACA offers Multi-media classes, which run on a flexible schedule and allow students to learn how to effectively communicate in a variety of ways. Many different types of technology are used to enhance the learning of state standards while creating for authentic purposes and audiences.
- Student artwork was displayed at Chapman Cultural Center and also in the art show at the D5 Fine Arts Center
- Each homeroom partnered with a high school student involved in Leadership Byrnes to share ideas about leadership. This year the partnership focused on teamwork, positivity, and including others.
- Third-grade students created an in-person Wax Museum composed of monologues of historical figures.
- All grade levels participated in field trips including trips to the Greenville Zoo, Strawberry Hill USA, the Spartanburg Humane Society, and Paradise Lanes. A pumpkin patch was also set up for kindergarten and first grade students at ACA.
- Kindergarten classes teamed up with Clemson Extension to host, incubate, and observe baby chicks hatch.
- ACA held two in-person book fairs.
- Students had publishing parties and coffee house celebrations to share their writings.

- Our Honor Choir music program shared their talents through a Veterans Day Program and Christmas singalong.
- Students participated in weekly Olweus meetings to communicate an anti-bullying message.
- 3rd and 4th grade teachers participated in AVID training. We are excited to support this district initiative and implement AVID at ACA.
- PTO supported our faculty and staff by holding two family movie nights, our annual Gator Fling, Penguin Patch for students, Donuts for Dads, Muffins for Moms, having the cheer cart monthly, and sponsoring Teacher Appreciation week.
- Students set individual i-Ready goals and were able to shop the i-Ready store for rewards and prizes.
- Abner Creek went LIVE with the ability to livestream performances from Literary Arts.
- Students produced weekly news shows.
- We had a weekly Down by the Creek podcast for students and the community to enjoy.
- A sixty member drama cast performed What a Knight! at the District Five Fine Arts Center.