

Mission

The mission of Abner Creek Academy is to provide every student quality educational experiences in a safe, nurturing, and engaging environment, enabling each individual to succeed in life and function as a productive citizen.

Beliefs

- Children are our most valuable resource.
- Public education is a pillar of our society.
- Integrity is taught by example.
- Excellence is achievable.
- Mutual respect is beneficial.
- Knowledge empowers.
- Diversity strengthens.
- Family is the foundation of society.
- Children need supportive adult role models.
- Attitude makes a difference.
- Learning is a lifelong process.
- Personal responsibility serves the common good.
- Stewardship of resources maintains trust.



State Awards for Academic Performance

ACA received the Gold Award for General Performance for 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012, and 2011 standardized test scores and the Gold Award for Closing the Achievement Gap for 2012 student achievement.



MAP Data

2016 MAP data is now available on our electronic version of the Report to the Parents along with other data included in our Strategic Plan and School Report Card on our website.



Abner Creek Academy

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Report to the Parents

Principal
Karen McMakin
Assistant Principal
Chad Dowden
SIC Chair
Dawn Mitchell

Motto: *Learning with Love and Laughter*

Magnet Focus: Communication and Leadership

2016-2017 Theme:

Learning is the adventure of a lifetime!

School Improvement Council 2016-2017



Elected Members:

Mamye Gardner, Teacher
Sandra Hawkins, Teacher
Dawn Mitchell, Parent (Chair)
Laurent Smith, Parent
Jill Walker, Parent
Shannon Woodroof, Teacher

Appointed Members:

Carey Ballew, Community Member
Carolyn Hamby, Community Member
F.E. Hendrix, Community Member

Ex-officio Members:

Chad Dowden, Assistant Principal
Karen McMakin, Principal
Tammy Rybak, PTO Representative

Abner Creek Academy (ACA) opened its doors in 2008 and presently serves 597 students in Pre-kindergarten through Fourth Grade.

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

- Supporting our magnet program,
- Supporting the district and state reading initiatives,
- Expanding recycling efforts at ACA to educate students on the impact of recycling on the environment
- Supporting efforts to increase the number of mentors working with students at ACA

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

- 3rd- and 4th- grade students are now one-to-one with our instructional technology with each child having a laptop to use. Every classroom teacher and related arts teachers also now have Promethean boards.
- Students enjoyed guest performances by the Greenville Little Theatre, Ballet of Spartanburg, Charles Pettee, and the Columbia Marionette Theatre.
- Literacy components were added to family events in September and February, with our first Literacy Night being held in May.
- All students in K5 and First Grade participated in holiday performances for parents and peers.
- A 65-member cast of students from Grades 3 and 4 performed in an original production at the Fine Arts Center in March.
- All students in K5 – Grade 4 participated in the ACA Science Fair. Teachers provided a challenging experience with scaffolded support as students in Grades 1 – 4 presented their results to peers and/or parents at Family Night.
- Second-grade students led the Veteran’s Day program for the students and community in November.
- Students participated in service learning projects that supported the Spartanburg Humane Society, the American Cancer Society, March of Dimes, the American Heart Association, the Middle Tyger Community Center, and local veterans and soldiers.
- Our traveling Honors Chorus performed at a Wofford basketball game, a Swamp Rabbits’ hockey game, at Westgate Mall in partnership with the Salvation Army, and at the Carowinds Festival of Music. Three of our fourth-grade students were selected to participate in the SC Honor Choir in Columbia.
- PTO expanded their communication to include electronic newsletters to members.
- Students with special needs enjoyed a weekly class provided by COLORS, an art program sponsored by the Chapman Cultural Center.
- The addition of a technology coach provided expanded professional development and support for teachers.
- Training in reading strategies was provided to adult volunteers by our reading coach.
- One of our 3rd-grade classes was named National Champion for the Fall Dreambox Challenge.
- Four guests spoke to students this year on leadership – Patrick Flanigan, Leon Wiles, Steve Brockman, and Malachi Rogers- as part of our magnet focus on leadership.
- All classroom sound systems were updated with microphones for use by students and teachers.
- The School Improvement Council applied for and received a grant that was used to provide the recycling bins and pick-up service for one year.

FALL TO SPRING AVERAGE GROWTH

NWEA MAP TESTING

Fall '15 Math Spring '16 Math Fall '15 Reading Spring '16 Reading

250
200
150
100
50
0

