

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.

2020 Teacher of the Year: Elizabeth Koon

2020 Support Employee of the Year:
Claire Winslow



Awards for Academic Performance

Gold Award for General Performance on State Testing

Gold Award for Closing the Achievement Gap on State Testing

DreamBox National Champs

Spartanburg County Distinguished Teacher of Reading 2020

Jen Linkous



2019 data is included on our school website in our Updated School Renewal Plan and School Report Card.



Abner Creek Academy

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Report to the Parents

Principal
Karen McMakin
Assistant Principal
Shayne Daugherty
SIC Chair
Kristen Randall

Motto: *Learning with Love and Laughter*

Magnet Focus: Communication and Leadership

2019-2020 Theme:

Happy Campers!

School Improvement Council 2019-2020

Elected Members:

Mamye Gardner, Teacher
Marie Scott, Teacher
Monica Booth, Parent
Dawn Mitchell, Parent
Kristen Randall, Parent (Chair)
LaVerne Rodgers, Parent

Appointed Members:

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

Ex-officio Members:

Shanai Peery, PTO President
Shayne Daugherty, Assistant Principal
Karen McMakin, Principal

Abner Creek Academy (ACA) opened its doors in 2008 and presently serves 603 students in Pre-kindergarten through Fourth Grade. New construction, which adds 10 new classrooms to our school will allow us to be open to limited school choice again this fall.

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

- ACA held its third Grandparents' Showcase, which allowed students to learn about hobbies and special skills.
- Co-taught Literary Arts classes provide opportunities for our students to develop effective communication skills. This year, the class was extended to first-grade students.
- ACA offers Multimedia classes, which run on a flexible schedule and allow students in Grades Two through Four 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.
- Students enjoyed Great Gator Assemblies throughout the year and a special performance by the Greenville Little Theater.
- 25% of the faculty participated in formal Compassionate Schools/Resilient Schools training, and all teachers were involved in professional development that focused on enhancing strategies to teach vocabulary in the classroom.
- All students in K5 and First Grade participated in holiday performances for parents and peers.
- A 65-member cast of students from Grades 2 - 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 and presented their results to peers and parents at Family Night in a variety of ways, which included multi-media presentations.
- Second-grade students and the Honor Choir led the Veteran's Day program for the students and community in November, which included an inspiring speech by Officer Chris Forrester.
- Students participated in service learning projects that supported the Children's Cancer Partners of the Carolinas, the American Heart Association, the Middle Tyger Community Center, and Greer Community Ministries.
- Our traveling Honor Chorus performed at a Wofford basketball game, a Swamp Rabbits' hockey game, at Westgate Mall in partnership with the Salvation Army, and at an evening performance for families. One of our fourth-grade students was also selected to participate in the SC Honor Choir in Columbia.
- Student artwork was displayed at the Fine Arts Center and at the Chapman Cultural Center in Spartanburg.
- Training in reading strategies was provided to adult volunteers by our reading coach as we promoted our mentoring program. We also continued a partnership with Mentor Upstate.
- Each homeroom partnered with a high school student involved in Leadership Byrnes to share ideas about leadership. This year the partnership involved working together on projects. One example involved the high school students helping to create an anti-bullying story line for a first-grade class to illustrate and publish as an e-book.
- Third-grade students invited parents to their Wax Museum, which focused on historical figures.
- Our Relay for Life team sponsored Breakfast with Santa.
- Students participated in weekly Olweus meetings and a school-wide parade to communicate an anti-bullying message.
- Grade-level parent breakfasts were hosted by our administrators to share information about our magnet program.
- Our superintendent, Dr. Randall Gary, spoke to our student council and their parents on leadership
- Our first robotics team members, the ACA Dragons, competed this year in local and regional competitions.
- Other speakers, such as State Representative Rita Allison and representatives from the Byrnes High Ladies Basketball team, also spoke to our students about what it means to be student leaders.