

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.

2022 Teacher of the Year: Laurel Maseha

2022 Support Employee of the Year:
Christian Ruiz-Aguayo



ACA Awards and Recognition

Kaydee Culbertson: Won the 1st annual South Carolina Induction Teacher of the Year

Sydra Hade: Named Top 5 Finalist for District Five's Induction Teacher of the Year

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

Elizabeth Koon and Meredith Jung: Received the Lego Grant for STEM education



Abner Creek Academy

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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
through the Arts

2022-2023 Theme:

Life is sweet!

School Improvement Council 2022-2023

Elected Members:

Brie Gajda, Parent
Sarah Assey, Teacher
Amy Blackwell, Teacher
Lesley Ofori, Parent
Kristen Randall, Parent (Chair)
Kelli Rice, Parent

Appointed Members:

Carey Ballew, Community Member
Gryff Carosiello, Community Member
Dawn Mitchell, Community Member

Ex-officio Members:

Kaci Cotter, Assistant Principal
Shayne Daugherty, Principal
Melissa Fowler, Assistant Principal
Rachel Teuber, PTO President

Abner Creek Academy (ACA) opened its doors in 2008 and presently serves 754 students in Pre-kindergarten through Fourth Grade. New construction completed in 2019, 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 third 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.
- Third-grade students created an in-person Wax Museum composed of monologues of historical figures.
- This year we were able to reboot our Mentor Program. Prior to Covid, we had 40+ mentors meeting with students each week. We are striving to exceed that number in the future. We currently have 22 mentors and reading buddies meeting with students.
- All grade levels participated in field trips including trips to Riverbanks Zoo, Strawberry Hill USA, the Spartanburg Humane Society, and the Greenville Children's Museum.
- 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, performing at a Swamp Rabbits Hockey Game, the Carowinds Music Festival and the SC Elementary Honors Choir.

- 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, hosting Gator Fling 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 The Gollywhopper Games at the District Five Fine Arts Center.
- Student Council held a monthly service learning project, collected pet supplies for the Spartanburg Humane Society, supplies for the Middle Tyger Community Center and put together positive testing treats for state testing days.
- 62% of students met their Typical Growth (1 year of growth) in reading. 35% of students met their Stretch Growth (1.5 years of growth) in reading. 61% of students met their Typical Growth in math. 32% of students met their stretch growth in math.
- ACA raised over \$30,000 with our Boosterthon this fall!
- We have rebooted our Magnet program and hosted events such as Fancy Day, a 1st Grade Zoo project, Gator Patrol, Monologue Night and we have begun reincorporating arts integration into our classrooms.