

## 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.



## Ratings

### ESEA/Federal Accountability 2014 Rating

**Overall Weighted Points: 99.8**  
**Overall Grade Conversion: A**

The performance substantially exceeds the state's expectations.

### State Awards for PASS Performance

ACA received the Gold Award for General Performance for 2014, 2013, 2012, and 2011 PASS scores and the Gold Award for Closing the Achievement Gap for 2012 PASS scores.

### MAP Data

2014 MAP data is now available on our electronic version of the Report to the Parents along with PASS data, which is included on our School Report Card and in our Strategic Plan on the website.



## Abner Creek Academy

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Duncan, SC 29334  
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### Report to the Parents

Principal  
Karen McMakin  
Assistant Principal  
Chad Dowden  
SIC Chair  
Heather Smith

**Motto: *Learning with Love and  
Laughter***

**Magnet Focus: Communication and  
Leadership**

**2014-2015 Theme:**

***ACA - Where Friendships Bloom!***

## School Improvement Council 2014-2015

### **Elected Members:**

Mamye Gardner - Teacher  
Ron Clark - Parent  
Elizabeth Grube - Teacher  
Heather Smith - Parent and Chairperson  
Candy Brewington – Parent  
Anna Poole - Teacher

### **Appointed Members:**

Carolyn Hamby- Community Member  
F.E. Hendricks- Community Member  
Scott Ogle - Community Member

### **Ex-officio Members:**

Dawn Mitchell – Previous SIC Chairperson  
Chad Dowden - Assistant Principal  
Machelle Harvley - PTO  
Representative  
Karen McMakin - Principal

Abner Creek Academy (ACA) opened its doors in 2008 and presently serves 547 students in Pre-kindergarten through Fourth Grade.

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

- Continuing our magnet program,
- Expanding the use of instructional technology,
- Expanding communication between school and parents/caregivers, and
- Promoting a better understanding and use of assessments to promote visible learning.

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**

- Dana Boyd, one of our K5 teachers, was named the Distinguished Teacher of Reading for District Five.
- Twelve teachers received technology grants this year and added Promethean boards to their classrooms along with additional devices for students. This is Year Two of a five year plan to have one device for each student.
- Students enjoyed guest performances by the Greenville Little Theatre, The Muse Machine, Ballet of Spartanburg, and the Columbia Marionette Theatre.
- Fourth-grade students participated in a new Google Computer Science First Club this year. This club promotes a love and understanding of computer science and strives to reach out to students from all backgrounds.
- Teachers were able to plan collaboratively during common planning for the first time this year.
- A second 4K class was added this year, which allowed 20 additional students to be served.
- All students in K5 and First Grade participated in holiday performances for parents and peers.
- A 110-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 Science Fair, and students in Grades 1 – 4 presented their results to peers and/or parents.
- Our second Cultural Fair was held with all second-grade students presenting to parents and guests.
- Rosetta Stone software was purchased for use by our English Language Learners and additional training was provided to teachers to raise the level of awareness of the needs of our ELL's.
- Physical fitness was promoted with the addition of the First Tee program. This program teaches golf skills while promoting good character and fitness.
- Students participated in service learning projects that supported the Spartanburg Humane Society, the Cancer Society, March of Dimes, the American Heart Association and local veterans and soldiers.
- Our traveling Honors Chorus performed at a Wofford basketball game, a Road Warriors hockey game, Barnes and Noble, and at Carowinds. Three Honors Chorus members were selected to participate in the SC Honor Choir in Charleston in February.

