

Rocky Creek Elementary School
Annual School Improvement Council Report to Parents
April 30, 2024

Vision

Rocky Creek Rangers are self directed learners, caring citizens, and positive world-changers.

Mission

In collaboration with our families and community, Rocky Creek Elementary provides an exceptional educational experience for all.

Motto

Rangers are
Ready to learn;
Celebrate each other!
Exemplify kindness, and
Stay safe.

Purpose of the Report

This Report is issued by the Rocky Creek Elementary School Improvement Council in accordance with South Carolina law to share information on the school's progress in meeting various goals and objectives, the work of the SIC, and other accomplishments during the school year.

SC Annual Report Card Rating

Under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), State Education Agencies are required to prepare and disseminate an annual state report and Local Education Agency (LEA) report card that meet the minimum requirements described in federal law.

Year	Overall Rating	Academic	Preparing for Success	Student Progress
2022-2023	Good	Excellent	Average	Average
2021-2022	Excellent	Good	Average	Good
2020-2021	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2019-2020	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2018-2019	Good	Excellent	Good	Average
2017-2018	Excellent	Excellent	Good	Good

2019–2020, 2020-2021 data was not reported due to COVID-19

Next Steps Guided Reading Assessment

End of the Year 2022 Compared to End of the Year 2023

Next Steps is administered to grades kindergarten through fifth two to four times a year and used to measure academic growth in reading.

Grade Level	% of students meeting or exceeding grade level expectations	
	2022	2023
5k	76%	72.4%
1st Grade	74.6%	78.5%
2nd Grade	85.8%	74.6%
3rd Grade	84.4%	85.4%
4th Grade	84%	84.6%
5th Grade	74.5%	79.2%

Palmetto State Assessments of Standards

The SC Ready assessment is given every spring to students in grades 3 through 5 to assess in the area of ELA and math. Below is a summary of students meeting or exceeding state standards in the areas of ELA and math.

Subject	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
ELA	67.5%	69.5%	63%
Math	75.6%	77.6%	66%

School Accomplishments

- Brittany Talwin, 1st grade teacher, was selected as RCES Teacher of the Year and was named as a finalist for Lexington County School District One Teacher of the Year.
- Michelle Anderson, Media Assistant, was selected as the RCES Support Staff member of the Year.
- RCES has focused on increasing math achievement this year.
- RCES teaches Lexington District Power Skills through morning meetings. Students who exhibit the Power Skill of the Month are recognized.

- RCES students are celebrated by “ringing the bell” when a goal is achieved. Anyone who hears the bell will stop and celebrate the student’s success.
- RCES students are celebrated and recognized with a “Clap Around” ceremony each quarter for classroom effort.
- RCES has been recognized as a Unified Champion School. We participate in the Special Olympics and have a Unified Buddy Program. This program is composed of 4th and 5th grade students who build peer relationships and compete in athletic events with our Special Olympians.
- RCES celebrated our Special Olympians with a “send-off” parade joined by their Unified Buddies.
- Our “Legacy Walk” is held each year inviting all former RCES Rangers who are graduating from high school to a special event honoring their achievement.
- RCES has a full-time School Resource Officer to help keep staff and students safe.
- Each semester 75-100 of students participate in Run Hard.
- RCES helped Relay for Life, Harvest Hope Food Bank, Harvest Hope Snack Packs, and Jump Rope for Heart.
- RCES partnered with the University of South Carolina to host student interns and with Lexington High School to host Teacher Cadets.
- We have built a partnership with Lexington High School athletes to read to our students and greet them as they enter the school.
- EAGLES students coordinate our recycling program.
- 4th and 5th grade students serve as Ready Rangers. Ready Rangers greet students, run the school store, open car doors, and put up the flags.
- Veterans are invited to our annual Veterans Day Assembly so our students can show them their appreciation.
- Lexington County School District One recognized five of our 4th and 5th graders for having a perfect scale score on SC Ready.
- In partnership with Publix, our math coach hosted a school-wide math night to provide students with real world experience using math while grocery shopping.
- RCES was recognized for having the highest dollar increase of staff giving to Lexington One’s Educational Assistance Program (LEAP).

RCES School Improvement Impact Goals

- Assist in the planning of school-wide improvement
- Continue improvement in communication between SIC and RCE families
- Continue efforts to recruit community business partners and new SIC Members

If you are interested in becoming a member of the RCE School Improvement Council, please contact Michelle Smith for details at mlsmith@lexington1.net

Projects Supported by PTO

- Sponsored Ranger Run, Field Day, Grade 5 Recognition Ceremony, fundraising efforts, Staff Appreciation events, Back to School Supply packets, Ranger Station, Duty Free Lunch.
- Provided a variety of school-wide events for RCE families: Trunk-or-Treat, Breakfast with Santa, BINGO Night, Talent Show, and Pastries with People We Love.
- Provided classrooms with tissues, hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes.

Administration	SIC Members	PTO Board
Michelle Smith, Principal	Brittney Aspey, Chair	Amy Heydt, President
Jessica Robbins, AP	Kelsey Hoon, Parent	Miki Keisler V. President
Kristen Smalley, AP	Katherine Merrell, Teacher	Chrissy Hook, Secretary
	Andrea Nazarenko, Parent	Susie Hughes, Treasurer
	Danielle Carlo Ruiz, Parent	
	Brittany Talwin, Teacher	
	Jeff Sarokas, Community	

The School Improvement Council at Rocky Creek Elementary School expresses heartfelt appreciation to the educators, support staff, families, Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO), and dedicated volunteers for their commitment to nurturing and supporting the growth and development of our students. Your tireless efforts and unwavering dedication do not go unnoticed and are deeply valued. Thank you for all that you do to make a positive impact on the lives of our students.