



# Eclipsing All Others



A. J. Whittenberg kicked-off 2017-18 with a once-in-a-lifetime celebration. AJW was certified as an official NASA viewing site for the total solar eclipse in August 2017. More than 1,200 students, families, staff and guests marked this amazing event at AJW with a variety of engineering-focused activities. Thanks to our partners at Hubbell Lighting for helping to sponsor our celebration and EclipseFest activities.



## 2017-2018 SIC Members

- Pam Adams, Chair
- Kenya Ford, Member
- Jason Monroe, Member
- Suzanne Masterson, Member
- Bo McDonald, Community Member
- Dr. Susan Stevens, Principal
- Angie Wills, PTA President
- Marleen Hygema, Administrative Assistant
- Dr. Kristin Schulze, Instructional Coach
- Deb Blume, School Counselor
- Lynn Mann, Program Director

## School Profile

School Enrollment: 550  
Administrators: 3

Grades: K4 - 5  
Teachers: 39

Mission: We, at AJW, create a culture of respect and highest achievement, uniquely aligned with engineering principles, that best prepares a diverse group of learners to succeed in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

Vision: Essential 18  
Rock the Top  
Power Through Partnerships  
We Own Wow!

## A Pioneer for the Upstate

Engineering focused, problem-based curriculum

88,232 square foot, three story facility

Building designed to facilitate learning and the engineering curriculum

Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) for Schools Silver certification

Downtown Greenville location adjacent to the Swamp Rabbit Trail and Reedy River

Co-located with the Salvation Army's Ray & Joan Kroc Corps Community Center (shared facility space)

Student-designed playgrounds

Junior FLL Lego Robotics

FIRST Lego League (FLL) Lego Robotics

Goldie Blox Club

Challenge Program for Gifted and Talented students

Award-winning Innovate! program

Green Roof

Solar Panels

STEAM Labs

6 different types of Robotics curriculum

3D Printers

CATCH Program

School Garden

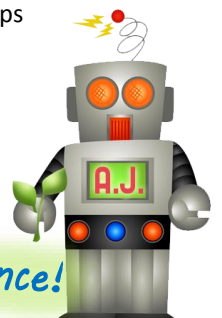
AJ Night at Flour Field

Walk to Run Program

Leveled Bookroom

Robust after school programs

STEAM-focused Summer Camps



*Engineers Make A World of Difference!*



## Awards & Recognitions

- 2017-18 Dick & Tunkey Riley What Works SC Award of Excellence Finalist for AJW Innovate! program
- 2017 Joel Poinsett Award – Best Overall Entry for Greenville Christmas Parade
- FLL Lego Robotics Champion’s Award at Sterling Storm for Agents of Fury
- NASA Certified Viewing Site for Total Solar Eclipse
- FLL Lego Robotics State Championship participant (5th year straight) for Agents of Fury
- Mars Map recipient from Buzz Aldrin Space Institute (only elementary school)

## Rock the Top

We take hands on, authentic learning to a whole new level. Our students get to participate in field trips that were specially designed for our school, curriculum, and state standards. Each grade level does at least one “big” field trip along with a multitude of other educational experiences throughout the year.

- K5 – Riverbanks Zoo, Columbia, SC
- 1<sup>st</sup> – Botanical Gardens, Clemson, SC
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Barrier Island ECO-Tour, Barrier Island, SC
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – Historic Charleston, SC
- 4<sup>th</sup> – Space Camp, Huntsville, AL
- 5<sup>th</sup> – Naval Flight Academy, Pensacola, FL

## WE OWN WOW

A.J. Whittenberg Elementary School of Engineering believes in a student-centered approach to learning that addresses the whole child and works with parents and the community to fully develop the academic, social and problem-solving skills of each child. AJW students are equipped with all of the skills necessary to meet the demands of the 21st Century workplace and not only succeed, but lead the way!

AJW was the first elementary school in South Carolina to offer an engineering-focused curriculum for all students. Beginning in pre-kindergarten, students learn the Engineering Process and apply this to a problem-based curriculum. The school leverages the many engineering-focused companies in the Upstate to bring real-world engineers into the classrooms on a regular basis. These business partnerships offer a wealth of benefits to AJW students including expert instruction, field trips, mentoring, career path development and other opportunities. Special programs such as Lego Robotics, Engineering “eWeeks”, Goldie Blox and STEAM-focused festivals enrich learning for students of all ages.



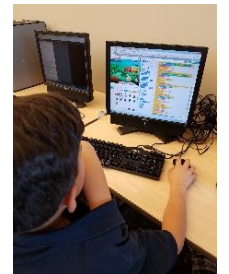
## Power through Partnerships

A major portion of AJW’s success is due to robust partnerships with many community organizations and major engineering-focused corporations. Since the school’s inception, AJW students have benefited from real-world engineering instruction from Fluor, GE, Hubbell Lighting, Michelin, and others. Today, those partnerships continue to grow and expand including, the Greenville Drive, iImagine Upstate, Jacobs Engineering, O’Neal Engineering, Renewal Water Resources (ReWa) and its DIG Greenville project, St. Peter’s Episcopal Church, First Baptist Simpsonville, Project Host, YouthBASE and many others. We offer a special thanks to those who choose to give anonymously to our many programs.



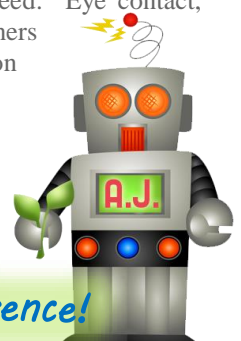
## New Technology

In addition to 1:1 computing, AJW students have exposure to a variety of technology tools to reinforce math, engineering, coding, and other STEAM concepts. You can find our students using technology such as 3D printers and 3D pens, many different types of codable robots, and programmable circuit boards (Raspberry Pi, Arduino and MakeyMakey). The tools are integrated into all subject areas so that students have wide exposure and are comfortable with a range of technology tools and systems. This technology helps to engage students in all subjects, including ELA, public speaking and team work.



## Essential 18

Team work and social skills are major components of the AJW approach to learning. From day one, students are taught the school rules called the Essential 18, which are the character development and soft skills that students will need to succeed. Eye contact, public speaking, good manners and effective communication skills are incorporated into the Essential 18.



*Engineers Make A World of Difference!*