

School Achievements

- 2014 State absolute ranking of “Excellent” and growth rating of “Excellent”
- 2014-15 Palmetto Silver Award for achievement
- Sandi Carson (SC Art Teacher of the Year)
- Deb Blume (Guidance, AJW Teacher of the Year)
- CircuitScribe experience highlighted at iMagine Upstate Festival in downtown Greenville
- Expanded Innovate program to reach 6th-9th grade “alumni”
- AJW Mentoring program for at- risk students
- First school with float in Christmas Parade
- Certified by Live Well Greenville as a Healthy Living School
- 2016 Safe Kids School
- Lego Robotics Team won slot to compete in SC State Championship 3 years in a row
- Only public elementary school in state with a school-wide engineering curriculum
- Engineer Partner Program with local organizations to bring engineering to life
- One-for-one technology beginning in 2nd grade
- Partnership with Kroc Center (tennis, swimming, soccer, and golf programs)
- Five National Board Certified teachers and highly qualified staff

Business and Community Partners

Fluor * GE Energy * Hubbell Lighting * Michelin
* Greenville Drive * Lockheed Martin * 3M *
Jacobs Engineering * CU-ICAR * O’Neal, Inc.
* ASME – American Society of Mechanical Engineers
* SWE – Society of Women Engineers * Kroc Center *
City of Greenville * Kiwanis Club * NAI Earle Furman
* St. Peter’s Episcopal Church * Brookwood Church *
Bon Secours St. Francis * LiveWell Greenville *
Breathe Better * Junior Achievement * Earth Fare
* Simpsonville First Baptist Church

What is a School Improvement Council?

The School Improvement Council (SIC) serves as an advisory committee to the school's principal and faculty. SIC plays a key role in the education of our state's children, bringing together parents, educators, and community stakeholders to work collectively to improve student achievement.

SIC MEMBERS

Melissa V. Lowe, Chairman
Jason Peterson, Co-Chairman
Amanda Le Blanc, Secretary
Nicky Jackson, PTA President
Dr. Megan D. Mitchell-Hoefer, Principal
Lynn Mann, Program Director
Joseph Stowe, Administrative Assistant
Hamilton Parks, Instructional Coach
Gwen Buto, Teacher Representative
Deb Blume, Staff Representative
Alfred Johnson, Community
Regina Bryson, Parent
Pamela Adams, Parent
John Wills, Parent
Kenya Ford, Parent

Purpose of the Report

*“This report is issued by the
A.J. Whittenberg Elementary School of Engineering
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.”*

A.J. Whittenberg Elementary School of Engineering

SIC Report to the Community/Parents 2015-2016



**Melissa V. Lowe– SIC Chairman
Jason Peterson - SIC Co-Chairman
Dr. Megan D. Mitchell-Hoefer - Principal**

A.J. Whittenberg Elementary
School of Engineering
420 Westfield Street
Greenville 29601
(864) 452-0500
Fax: (864) 452-0515



What are our goals?

- Inviting professional speakers to educate and enlighten parents regarding Internet safety
- Improvement of car line morning drop-off policies and teaming up with Safe Kids
- Implementing the Uniform Donation Program
- Expanding Mentoring Program

How are we achieving our goals?

Goals are reviewed monthly by the SIC, School Leadership Team, and the Faculty to assess progress toward achieving the established goals and determining continuing strategies needed for successful attainment.



A Pioneer for the Upstate

- 88,232 square foot, three-story facility opened in 2010
- Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver certification
- Downtown Greenville location adjacent to the Swamp Rabbit Trail and Reedy River
- Neighbor to the Salvation Army Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center (shared facility space)
- Wi-Fi throughout the school
- Green Roof
- Solar Panels
- Student-designed playgrounds
- Students create Lego robots, design, and develop products using computers
- Designed to facilitate collaborative learning and the engineering curriculum
- 2 STEM Labs visible from both the interior and exterior of the building due to glass walls
- Robotics curriculum starting at 1st grade
- Most technically advanced elementary school in Greenville County
- Lego Education Story Starter, Simple Machines, NXT and EV3 for classroom and afterschool use
- Electronic Keyboard Lab for music & math
- CATCH healthy living program (healthy menus, active lifestyle programs, health education partnerships)
- Organic vegetable garden
- Active PTA and volunteer involvement
- Breathe Better Air Program
- Challenge program for Gifted and Talented students
- Extended Day Afterschool and Enrichment
- Parenting Workshops
- Awards Program each quarter
- Junior FLL Lego Robotics (1st-3rd grades)
- FLL Lego Robotics Teams (4-5th grades)
- Walk to Run Program
- Urban Naturalists Program
- Green Teams (2nd – 5th grades)

INNOVATIVE LEARNING

A World in Motion

- AJ the Robot
- Book Float Parade
- Leveled Bookroom and Classroom Library
- Math Manipulatives
- Heart Rate Monitors
- Summer Enrichment Program
- AJ Responsible Readers
- Student Designed, Community Built Playgrounds
- Junior FIRST Lego League Teams (1st-3rd Grades)
- FLL Competitive Lego League Team (4th Grade)
- Piano Keyboarding Lab
- Terrific Kids Program with Kiwanis
- Engineering Broadway Program (1st Grade)
- AJ Day at Flour Field
- Engineering Process – Problem-based curriculum

Healthy Food Choices

Living Healthy

- Healthy Breakfast and Lunch Menus
- CATCH – Coordinated Approach to Child Health
- Walk to Run and Hiking Programs
- Healthy Birthday Club
- 2nd and 3rd Grade Tennis Programs (Kroc Center)
- 2nd and 3rd Grade Soccer (Kroc Center)
- 3rd Grade Swimming Program (Kroc Center)
- 4th Grade Dance Program (Kroc Center)
- 5th Grade Golf Program (Kroc Center)
- Organic Community Garden
- Recycled Greenhouse
- Live Well Greenville certified Healthy Living School
- Family Fitness Night
- Family Fitness Fridays (summer)