

ABOUT OUR SCHOOL

Philip Simmons Elementary offers a PreK-4 STEAM curriculum that focuses on providing students with a transdisciplinary curriculum in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics. At the end of 4th grade, we expect all of our students to be able to demonstrate competency with World Class Knowledge, World Class Skills, and Life and Career Characteristics as outlined in the [Profile of a SC Graduate](#). Our Academic Arts classes include Discovery Lab, Media, Music, Physical Education, and Visual Arts.

2023 PSE TEACHER OF THE YEAR
Mrs. Jessica Moss



Mrs. Moss

Mrs. Moss teaches visual art at PSE, where she has been a part of the team for the last five years. Along with teaching classes, she has led school mural projects and worked to assist teachers in integrating art into their STEAM instruction. A graduate of Columbia College, she has been teaching art in Berkeley County for 12 years.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

Angela Hobbs, Chairperson
Lindsay Van Pelt, Secretary
Mallory Russell, Parent
Julia Hart, Parent
Jerald Borden, Community
Cynthia Zimmerman, Teacher
Michael Huff, Principal
David Kelly, Assistant Principal



PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

This Report is issued by the Philip Simmons 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.

PHILIP SIMMONS ELEMENTARY

2022-2023

School Improvement Council Report
to Parents and Community



OUR MISSION STATEMENT

We facilitate and support student-driven learning experiences by unleashing the power and potential of education.

MICHAEL HUFF, PRINCIPAL
DAVID KELLY, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

2095 Seven Sticks Drive
Wando, SC 29492
(P) 843-471-2580
(F) 843-471-2566

<http://bcstdschools.net/pse>

STUDENT ACHEIVEMENT

Teachers administer assessments throughout the year to gain a better understanding of the learning needs of our students.

These assessments include:

- Authentic Assessments
- CogAT/IA
- Performance Task Assessments
- Common Unit Assessments
- Kindergarten Readiness Assessment
- iReady Reading and Math Diagnostics
- iReady Reading and Math Growth Monitoring
- Dibels Progress Monitoring
- PALS
- SC Ready

PSE students have continually outperformed both the State and District in the areas of Reading, Writing, Math, and Science on all State-wide Assessments. This is achieved by providing targeted instruction based on individual student needs.



BUILDING COMMUNITY

PSE strives to cultivate community awareness, appreciation of culture and diversity, and a better understanding of how we fit into the global community. We do this through daily student morning meetings, digital storytelling and community events.

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

Annual Book Fair
Arts Extravaganza
Career Day
Character Education
Field Day
Gatekeepers (Before/After School Care)
Gifted and Talented
Girls on the Run
Grade Level Music Performances
Grandparent's Tea
Iron Horse Choir
Literacy Night
Math Night
Maker Space
Multi Tiered Systems and Supports
PTA
Read Across America Week
Red Ribbon Week
Restorative Practices
Robotics
School Spirit Nights
School Spirit Weeks
STEAM Color Run
Talent Show
Veterans Day Program

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Stakeholders of Philip Simmons Elementary are invested in the education of all students. Parents and community members volunteer for reading buddies, career exploration, mentoring, PTA, character education, and School Improvement Council.

TECHNOLOGY

All students are issued Chromebooks to support learning at school and at home. We use the Common Sense Media curriculum to ensure safe and meaningful use of technology. The availability of technology for every student allows teachers to accept student work and provide feedback in real time. Students are able to make their learning public in an effort to make the community and world a better place.

The use of Robotics allows students to experience more hands-on and engaging lessons. Our Innovative Learning Coordinator visits monthly to train and work with teachers on the development and implementation of technology integrated lessons and robotics that focus on creation over consumption. Our goal is for teachers and students to be proficient in the effective integration of technology to support student success. Students at PSE have authentic, meaningful learning experiences that help prepare them for the 21st century.

STEAM

Our students participate in one STEAM Unit each semester. Each unit focuses on a relevant, real-world problem. Our teachers create and facilitate transdisciplinary lessons through the use of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics. Throughout each unit, our students make their learning public and inform others of how we can solve problems to #makeitbetter.

In addition to the STEAM Units, our teachers implement STEAM Instructional Approaches daily.

These approaches include:

- problem based & inquiry rich
- authentic assessments
- collaboration with peers & experts
- student choice
- utilizing the engineering & design processes discipline, arts, and technology integration



ABC PROJECT
Arts in Basic
Curriculum