

School Achievements

- ◆ Palmetto Silver Award Winner
- ◆ 2016-17 National Beta School of Recognition
- ◆ Green Steps Certified School
- ◆ Green School Challenge Award Winner
- ◆ Recognized as Elementary School of the Year by the National Energy Education Department (Washington, D.C.) for our recycling efforts



Special Events

- ◆ Open House/Grade Level Orientations
- ◆ STEM Showcase
- ◆ Arts & Culture Showcase
- ◆ Literacy Night
- ◆ Numeracy Night
- ◆ Red Ribbon Week
- ◆ College and Career Fair
- ◆ American Education Week
- ◆ Bullying Prevention Week
- ◆ Read Across America Week
- ◆ Earth Day Celebration
- ◆ Random Acts of Kindness Week
- ◆ Bring Your Parent to PE Day
- ◆ Father/Daughter Dance
- ◆ Mother Son Dance
- ◆ STEM Saturday
- ◆ Sheldon Township Forum/Community Fun Day

SIC School Renewal Plan Annual Goals for 2018-2019

- ◆ **Increase Student Achievement**
 - ◇ Integrate STEM activities across the curriculum as we work towards STEM Accreditation.
 - ◇ Use formative and summative assessments to monitor and guide instruction.
 - ◇ Targeted intervention strategies
- ◆ **Enhance Teacher Quality**
 - ◇ Hire and maintain highly qualified teachers.
 - ◇ Weekly school-based professional development.
- ◆ **Improve School Climate/Environment**
 - ◇ Actively engage parents, community and stakeholders in the school.
 - ◇ Communicate through school website, School Messenger (voice and emails), and Social Media (Facebook)
 - ◇ Celebrations of Achievement

SIC Members

Chairperson: Brenda Ladson-Powell, Parent
Vice Chairperson: Kelly Turner, Teacher
Secretary: Catia Gilbert, Parent
Assistant Secretary: India Singleton, Parent

Parents: Katrina Cook and Shanika Milledge
Teachers: Ashiki Lewis and April Smalls

Community Members: Carl Alston, Lenora Henry,
and Geraldine Dawson

Ex-Officio Members

Principal: Anita Lynn Singleton
Assistant Principals: Mildred Glover
Carlene Zierfuss

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http://wbe.beaufort.k12.sc.us/pages/Whale_Branch_Elementary

School Improvement Council

“Annual Report to Parents” 2017 - 2018



Whale Branch Elementary School
James J. Davis Early Learning Center





Our Mission

The Whale Branch Elementary School/James J. Davis Early Learning Center mission is to provide a superior educational experience in an arts infused environment which promotes a belief that all students are capable of learning and becoming successful, personally and academically.

School Profile

Whale Branch Elementary School is located in rural Seabrook, SC, near the Whale Branch River. In addition to the main campus, Whale Branch Elementary School is also composed of an early childhood center (James J. Davis Early Learning Center), located on Keans Neck Road in Dale, SC. Our Pre-K and K classes are housed there along with Early Head Start and Head Start classes.

We serve a population of approximately 516 students, of which 78% are African Americans, 11% are Caucasian, 7% are Hispanic/Latino, and 4% are two or more other ethnic groups.

The community plays an active and vital role in the educational program at Whale Branch Elementary School. Through collaboration with the Sheldon Township and Head Start, a shared vision for learning and accountability for results has been established.

“This report is issued by the Whale Branch 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.”



Student Achievement

Each year, the school sets goals and strategies that will improve the educational program. Performance on MAP (Measures of Academic Progress), SC Ready, and PASS are priorities. The data from these assessments and other assessments are used to inform the instruction given to students.

A concentrated focus on providing intensive interventions for students in subgroups such as our struggling readers, special education students, English as a Second Language students, and gifted and talented students has been a priority. More training in small group instruction, the use of reading assessment tools, including running records, implementing Balanced Literacy with fidelity, and using our technology resources, especially the one-to-one devices to engage students will aid in closing the achievement gap.

For more information on our school’s performance, you may view Whale Branch Elementary School’s Report Card for the previous year online at www.ed.sc.gov.



School Programs

- ◆ Kid’s Club
- ◆ Celebrations of Achievement
- ◆ Jr. Beta Club
- ◆ Green Team Recycling Team
- ◆ Creative Dance Team
- ◆ Girls Circle
- ◆ Garden Club
- ◆ Low Country Food Bank (Backpack Buddies)
- ◆ STEAM Afterschool Program
- ◆ Afterschool Honors Choir
- ◆ Good News Club
- ◆ Strengthening Families Program
- ◆ YMCA Afterschool Program
- ◆ Project PUSH Tutoring Program

