

# Family & Community Involvement

**All Pro Dad's Breakfast**—Each month dads and kids participate in building character, closeness, and involvement of fathers in their children's lives. Moms are welcome too!

**Angel Tree** - Families donate food for Thanksgiving and Christmas presents for needy students and families.

**Box Tops for Education**—Collected monthly to purchase items for the school.

**Business Partners** – Donate for the school's leadership initiative. Career Fair—Annual event directed by our Guidance Counselor bringing in 35-40 business and community members to share their careers with the students.

**Family Events**—Harvest Hoedown, Parent Information Nights, Family Movie Night, Chick Fil-A Family Nights, Book Fair Family Nights, Thanksgiving Luncheon., Field Day, Family Picnic.

**Festival of Trees**— Students decorate Christmas trees benefiting Friends of Caroline Hospice.

**HELP of Beaufort** – Canned/Non-Perishable Food Drive by students during November and December.

**Jump Rope for Heart**—Students raise money and awareness for the American Heart Association. U.S. Marines volunteer to work with students during Jump Rope event.

**LINKS**—Annual program for military impacted students.

**Military Family Liaison Consultant** – A licensed mental health professional working with military students and families.

**PTO** – Parents who support the school through volunteer opportunities and fundraisers, and assist with school events and family-oriented activities that enhance learning.

**Relay for Life** – Students and staff raise money for the American Cancer Society.

**River of Words** – Affiliation with the national River of Words initiative, which teaches students the value of protecting our environment connecting nature and the arts.

**"Rotary Readers"** - Assist students who need additional reading support.

**Services Learning Projects from each grade level that benefit the community.**

**Tail-Wagging Tutors** - An incentive program that builds confidence of reluctant readers by reading to a trained dog.

**United Way** – Annual participation in the fundraising campaign.

## About Our School

Coosa Elementary School was built in 1998 and was named after the Coosa Indians who once populated this area. Approximately 40% of our students have a parent who serves in the military. We are the 12th school in SC and one of nearly 1, 600 schools internationally implementing "The Leader in Me" leadership initiative, based on Covey's "The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People."

## What Are Our Current School Renewal Plan Goals?

(Goals are periodically reviewed by the SIC and Coosa faculty and staff to assess progress.)

Maintain and communicate a purpose and direction for continuous improvement with high expectations for learning and shared values and beliefs about teaching and learning.

Provide resources and services that support the purpose and direction to ensure success for all students.

Use a curriculum, instructional design and assessment practices that guide and ensure teacher effectiveness and student learning across all grades and courses.

Implement a comprehensive assessment system that generates a range of data about student learning and system effectiveness and uses the results to guide continuous improvement.

Operate under governance and leadership that promote and support student performance and system effectiveness.

2013-2014 PARENT SURVEY SUMMARY	
<i>Thank you, parents for your participation. 171 Surveys were received.</i>	
Child feels successful at school	97.3%
Family feels welcomed at Coosa:	92.9%
Satisfied with learning in all content areas	98.3%
Technology is adequately integrated.	96.0%
My child feels safe in areas around the school.	98.1%
Safety procedures are adequate.	97.5%
My child demonstrates leadership skills.	82.8%
I receive adequate communication from the school. (Administration, teachers, support and office staff)	90.2%
I am satisfied with special services my child receives (if applicable.)	83.2%
<b>Overall Satisfaction at Coosa</b>	<b>92.9%</b>

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# School Improvement Council Report to Parents Coosa Elementary School 2013-2014



**Home of the Bobcats**

The  
**Leader in Me™**

great happens here

**An Update on the  
Progress of Our  
School Renewal Plan**

Carmen Dillard, Principal  
Lynn Patterson, Assistant Principal

# The Mission of Coosa Elementary School

*Growing great leaders who dream more, learn more, achieve more, and become more...*

## What is the School Improvement Council?

Mandated by law, the School Improvement Council (SIC) serves as an advisory group to the CES principal and faculty. The SIC plays a crucial role in school improvement by bringing together parents, educators, and community stakeholders who work collectively to establish, monitor and evaluate specific long-range goals (School Renewal Plan) for student achievement. Other duties include producing the annual report to parents which outlines the progress of that plan, and advising on the use of school incentive awards.

### Ex-Officio

Carmen Dillard, *Principal*  
Lynn Patterson, *Asst. Principal*  
Tammi Ivey, *PTO President*  
Melissa Pender, *Teacher of the Year*

### Parent Members

Audra Powell, *SIC Chair*  
Julie Patterson, *SIC Sec.*

### Community Members

Kim Fickes  
Auman Kates  
Reverend Sam Spain

### Teacher Members

Jim Olsen, *SIC Vice Chair*  
Donna Sams

## Our School's Achievements

- State Dept. of Education Palmetto Gold Award 2010, 2011
- State Dept. of Education Palmetto Silver Award 2010, 2011
- Met Annual Yearly Progress Status (No Child Left Behind) for the 101h consecutive year
- 8 of our teachers are Nationally Board Certified
- 12 of our teachers are Gifted Endorsed Teachers
- Awarded a 3 year Department of Defense grant (DoDEA) to offer Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) programs to students and STEM training for teachers.
- 2013 – Coosa renovated and rededicated the Memorial Reflection Garden with generous support from parents, businesses, and the community.
- 2012-2013 and 2011-2012 – Coosa received an “A” rating by the S.C. Department of Education.
- 2011 Coosa recognized as a USDA Healthier US School (Bronze Award recipient).

## Measure of Academic Progress (MAP)

MAP Testing is used to show a student's academic progress in school. These assessments include Reading and Math. The table below shows the percentage of Coosa students at or above grade level from Fall 2012 and Fall 2013. Highlighted sections indicate same group (cohort) progression from Fall 2012 to Fall 2013.

	Math		Reading	
	Fall 2012	Fall 2013	Fall 2012	Fall 2013
Kindergarten	84.3%	74.7%	83.3%	87.8%
1st Grade	76.8%	86.6%	83.9%	76.9%
2nd Grade	84.5%	70.9%	72.2%	60.5%
3rd Grade	65.0%	86.7%	61.7%	79.8%
4th Grade	81.4%	69.4%	82.3%	68.5%

## Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (PASS) 2013

Aligned to the state academic standards, these assessments include Writing, English/Language Arts (reading and research), math, science, and social studies. The table below shows the percentage of Coosa students who scored “Met” or “Exemplary” for the 2012-2013 school year. Only 3rd and 4th grade students are tested.

	Writing	ELA	Math	Science	Social Studies
3rd Grade	83.1%	86.1%	73.4%	52.5%	84.6%
4th Grade	91.1%	83.0%	89.0%	75.0%	82.0%

## Innovative Learning & Resources

**Artsonia** – Coosa student artwork is displayed online in a Student Art Gallery at artsonia.com. Fall 2011 and Fall 2012 - Coosa Art Teacher Donna Sams received Artsonia's Annual Leadership Award, an honor extended to only 10 teachers from each state. In 2011, Coosa's online art gallery was ranked 9<sup>th</sup> in the state. In 2012, Coosa was ranked 6<sup>th</sup> in the state.

**Before-School Early Drop-Off program (6:30 - 7:30 am)** is available for a nominal fee and includes developmental activities such as chess, checkers, puzzles, LEGOS, and other cooperative games.

**Brain Boosters** – A 2<sup>nd</sup> grade curriculum resource that encourages critical thinking and problem solving.

**Department of Defense Grant (2011-2014)** – a targeted 3-year initiative that focuses on advancing student achievement in literacy and math by providing:

- STEM (Science/Technology/ Engineering/Math) infused with literacy and leadership
- Experiential learning using technology to create models and representations (LEGOS, robotics, and animation) of mathematical ideas

**Early morning (Sunrise) Programs, such as:**

- Compass Learning and Waterford Learning for students scoring in the lower quartile on MAP
- PE Warm/Up Movement

**Gifted and Talented Education (GATE)** - Classes designed to challenge qualifying 3rd and 4th grade students.

**Instructional Coaches**—Reading and math coaches focus on teacher professional development and teaching “best practices”.

**Literacy Intervention Teachers and Math Tutors**—Certified teachers provide intensive small group and individual reading or math instruction for struggling students.

**Major focus on technology:**

- Interactive White Boards in all classrooms.
- At least 3-4 student laptops in each classroom.
- Mobile Laptop Cart for class check-out.
- Odyssey/ Compass Learning.
- Two computer labs.
- Teacher i-Pad training this year for 1-1 student use for grades 3-5 (2014-2015 school year.)
- Reflex Math – An online math program for grades 2-4 that promotes math fluency.

**The Leader in Me and school-wide Positive Based Intervention System (PBIS)** - Coosa promotes building a force of future leaders who possess the core values of respect, responsibility, and integrity.

**Waterford Early Learning**—An interactive computer software for PreK—2 students.