

# 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.**

**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 30% of our students have a parent who serves in the military. We are the 12th school in SC and one of nearly 1,950 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.

2015-2016 PARENT SURVEY SUMMARY	
<i>Thank you, parents for your participation. 252 Surveys were received.</i>	
Child feels successful at school	96.3%
Family feels welcomed at Coosa:	92.1%
Satisfied with learning in all content areas	98.1%
Technology is adequately integrated.	93.0%
My child feels safe in areas around the school.	98.3%
Safety procedures are adequate.	92.5%
My child demonstrates leadership skills.	87.5%
I receive adequate communication from the school. (Administration, teachers, support and office staff)	93.2%
I am satisfied with special services my child receives (if applicable.)	86.2%
<b>Overall Satisfaction at Coosa</b>	<b>93.0%</b>

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# School Improvement Council Report to Parents Coosa Elementary School 2015-2016



**Home of the Bobcats**

The Leader in Me™

great happens here

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

Charles DeForge, 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

Charles DelForge, *Principal*  
Lynn Patterson, *Asst. Principal*  
Natalie Hunt, *PTO President*  
Nancy Norris, *Teacher of the Year*

### Community Members

Bessie Clarke  
Cindy Newman

### Teacher Members

Dana Alderman, *SIC Vice Chair*  
Jim Olsen

### Parent Members

Audra Powell, *SIC Chair*  
Adrienne Jones, *SIC Sec.*

## Our School's Achievements

- State Dept. of Ed. Palmetto Gold Award 2010, 2011, 2015
- State Dept. of Ed. Palmetto Silver Award 2010, 2011
- Met Annual Yearly Progress Status (No Child Left Behind) for the 12th 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.
- 2014-2015 – 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 based on the 2014-2015 Fall and Spring MAP results.

	Reading		Math	
	Fall 2014	Spring 2015	Fall 2014	Spring 2015
Kindergarten	77.0 %	87.3 %	63.5 %	90.1 %
1st Grade	87.6 %	89.9 %	83.1 %	91.0 %
2nd Grade	49.2 %	70.7 %	61.7 %	84.5 %
3rd Grade	67.1 %	77.8 %	74.0 %	83.3 %
4th Grade	86.6 %	91.9 %	76.8 %	84.9 %
5th Grade	68.1 %	76.5 %	78.3 %	87.0 %

## SC Assessment of State Standards (ACT Aspire and PASS) 2015

The table below shows the percentage of Coosa students who scored “Met” or “Exemplary” for the 2014-2015 school year. Only 3rd-5th grade students are tested. English and Reading ACT Aspire percentages are combined for a total ELA percentage.

	ACT Writing	ACT ELA	ACT Math	PASS Science	PASS Social Studies
3rd Grade	9.4 %	52.8 %	62.5 %	N/A	N/A
4th Grade	30.1 %	61.05 %	64.0 %	82.9 %	96.1
5th Grade	11.9 %	60.8 %	71.8 %	72.1 %	65.6 %

## 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.

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

**Department of Defense Grant (2011-2015)** – a targeted 3-year initiative that focuses on advancing student achievement in literacy and math by providing: (reapplying for an additional 5 years)

- 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

**Gifted and Talented Education (GATE)** - Classes designed to challenge qualifying 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students.

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

**Literacy Intervention Teachers** —Three certified teachers provide intensive small group and individual reading instruction for struggling students.

**Major focus on technology:**

- Interactive White Boards in all classrooms.
- K-5 all students have iPads
- Odyssey/ Compass Learning.
- Two computer labs.
- 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 Pre-K through second grade students.