

# 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.

**ASPCA/Beaufort Animal Shelter/Lowcountry Humane Society** – students collect donations to help animals.

**Business Partners** – Donate funds for the school's leadership initiative.

**Coosa Closet**— Provides uniforms for students in emergency situations.

**Family Events**—Spaghetti dinner, Parent Information Nights, Family Movie Night, Chick Fil-A Family Nights, Book Fair Family Nights, Parent Book Study, 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.

**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.

**Rerun Shoe Program** – Families donated refurbishable shoes to be recycled and given to the needy in other countries.

**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.

**Ronald McDonald House**– Pop-tops collected throughout the year.

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

**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, 200 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, School Improvement Team, and faculty to assess progress.)

- Increase student achievement
- Ensure best practices and resources in learning, teaching, leadership
- Actively engage community and stakeholders in the school
- Provide resources for appropriate learning environments
- Ensure a safe and healthy learning environment in collaboration with community resources
- Develop practices, processes and technologies for open, frequent, transparent and effective communication

2012-2013 PARENT SURVEY SUMMARY		
<b>Thank you, parents for your participation. 179 Surveys were received.</b>	Yes	Not Sure
Child feels successful at school		
Academically	93%	
Socially/Emotionally	96%	
Family feels welcomed by:		
Front Office	85%	
Administration	85%	
Classroom	92%	
Satisfied with learning in all content areas	91%	6%
Technology is adequately integrated.	89%	8%
My child feels safe in areas around the school.	98%	1%
Safety procedures are adequate.	87%	8%
My child demonstrates leadership skills.	96%	3%
I receive adequate communication from:		
Administration	98%	
Teachers	91%	
Support Staff	82%	12% (NA)

Coosa Elementary School  
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# School Improvement Council Report to Parents Coosa Elementary School 2012-2013



**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, *Assistant Principal*  
Christina Wilson, *PTO President*  
Abby Mitchell, *Teacher of the Year*

### Community Members

Col. Jack Snider  
Reverend Dr. Sam Spain  
Kim Fickes

### Parent Members

Audra Powell, *SIC Chair*  
Mary Mashke, *SIC Vice Chair*  
Heather Bruner, Dawn Freeman

### Teacher Members

Melissa Pender, *SIC Secretary*  
Jim Olsen

## 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 10th consecutive year
- 8 of our teachers are Nationally Board Certified
- 11 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.
- Received 2011 School Report Card Absolute and Growth Ratings of Excellent
- 2011 Coosa recognized as a USDA Healthier US School (Bronze Level) for implementing a healthier school nutrition environment.

## 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 meeting or exceeding MAP growth targets from Spring 2011 to Spring 2012.

Highlighted sections indicate same group progression from 2011 to 2012.

	Reading		Math	
	2011	2012	2011	2012
Kindergarten	89.2	81.6	95.7	84.9
1st Grade	84.8	91.8	82.8	93.8
2nd Grade	82	79.3	83.8	87.8
3rd Grade	77.5	83.2	83.8	84.3
4th Grade	82.2	79.5	87.8	84.3

## Pametto Assessment of State Standards (PASS) 2012

Aligned to the state academic standards, these assessments include 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 2011-2012 school year. Only 3rd and 4th grader students are tested.

	ELA	Math	Social Studies	Science
3rd Grade	88.8%	77.5%	82.9%	64.1%
4th Grade	88.8%	89.9%	91.0%	77.5%

## 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 who focus on professional development and teaching "best practices" to the teachers.

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

**Major focus on technology:**

- Interactive White Boards in all classrooms.
- 3-4 student laptops in each classroom.
- Personal response systems.
- Odyssey/ Compass Learning.
- Three computer labs.
- Teacher Websites.
- 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.