



Hilton Head Island Elementary School for the Creative Arts Report to the Community



Year 10

Spring, 2015

School Improvement Report

**Hilton Head Island
Elementary
School for the
Creative Arts
10 Bus Drive
HHI, SC 29926
843-342-4380
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Administrative Team

Principal
Gretchen Keefner

Assistant Principal
Matthew Hunt

Inside this report:

*Beaufort County School
District Vision and Mission
Statements*

2014-15 Recognition

Performance Goals

Parent Involvement

Events

Staff Accomplishments

SIC Members

Dear School Community,

The School Improvement Council (SIC) of the school is mandated by the state of South Carolina for the purpose of overseeing the school renewal plan and acting in an advisory role to the school's administrative team. Each year the SIC is charged with making an annual report to the school's community. Included in this newsletter you will find important information about the school and the progress and challenges that we face in our school improvement efforts.

Our goals are to ensure that all students are successful academically, to close the achievement gap between subgroups in our school, to provide an arts infused approach to learning, to provide a safe learning environment, to provide good communication and to foster partnerships with our community.

Under our Superintendent, Dr. Jeffery Moss, a new district plan was written for the 2014-19 school years. Our SIC was excited to work with this new plan during the 2014-15 school year.

We are fortunate at our school to have a team approach that includes the administrative team, staff, parents and the community. Our success is related to the commitment and focus of each of these groups. We have been proud to serve as the principal, SIC and PTO chairs for the 2014-15 school year at HHIESCA. Our hope is that each of you will continue or become involved next year in either our PTO or our School Improvement Council. It will take everyone's commitment if we are to continue to see success and improvements.

Respectfully submitted,

Gretchen Keefner
Principal

Debbie Myers
SIC Chair

Anne Finn and Wendy Sampson
PTO Co-Presidents

HHIESCA Vision Statement

We envision that Hilton Head Island Elementary School for the Creative Arts, in collaboration with an engaged community, is committed to actively ensuring that all learners will add value to their lives developing their potential by providing excellent education in an Arts Infused, safe and nurturing learning environment.

HHIESCA Mission Statement

As an Arts Infused School of Choice, Head Island Elementary School for the Creative Arts strives to support the mission of the Beaufort County School District in such a way that enables all students to be competent, competitive and successful in an ever-changing global society.

Beaufort County School District Vision and Mission

Vision

We will work with families and our diverse community to ensure that students perform at an internationally competitive level in a learning environment that is safe, nurturing and engaging.

Mission

The Beaufort County School District, through a personalized learning approach, will prepare graduates who compete and succeed in an ever-changing global society and career marketplace.

2014 -15 Recognition

1. In the fall, 10 current Creative Arts students and 13 former Creative Arts students now at the Middle School are identified as receiving a perfect score on one or more sections of the 2013-14 PASS (Palmetto Assessment of State Standards) exams for students in grades three through eight.

Grade	Subject	Name	
3	ELA	Catherine	Stubbs
3	Math	Jehanne	Arnal
3	Math	Noah	Gregory
3	Math	David	Locker
3	Writing, ELA, Math	Thomas	Finn
3	Writing, Math	Benjamin	Lewis
4	ELA	Leah	Anderson
4	ELA, Science	Nolan	Hawkins
4	Math	Lathan	Russell
4	Math	Tess	Sanford
5	ELA	Alexandra	Gentemann
5	ELA, Math	Damon	Kenny
5	ELA, Math	Rachael	Nold
5	Math	Mitchell	Berryhill
5	Math	Julia	Esteves
5	Math	Emily	Gaddy
5	Math	Haleigh	Gartner
5	Math	Kade	Harrison
5	Math	Thomas	Hughson
5	Math	Pia	Kayser
5	Math	Ana	Mullin
5	Math	Charlotte	O'Fee
5	Math	Robert	Wray

2. First grade teacher Justin Vaughn is named 2014-15 HHIESCA Teacher of the Year.
3. HHIESCA Special Education Para-professional Kathleen Paul is named 2014-15 Support Staff Member of the Year.
4. The following 5th grade students had their artwork published in the District's River of Words publication:

Brandy Santana
 Briasia Chisolm
 Hailey Mackenzie
 Kailah Monroe
 Laney Hawkins
 Malana Gaynor
 Zoe Castillo

5. Ella Smiley, 5th grade student, was named first runner up in the Sodexo Future Chef culinary competition. Second runner up was 4th grade student Samantha Montes Castro.
6. Taylor Reilley, 5th grade student, was named DAR Good Citizenship Award winner.
7. The following SCA students were chosen to have their artwork displayed for the Promising Picasso's Student Art Exhibit at the Arts Center of Coastal Carolina:

Lily Doyle
 Ella Riley
 Paula Lopez
 Delcie Swift

Opportunities for Students

- Robotics Club
- After-School Drama
- Garden Club
- Chorus
- Singers
- Dance
- Calypso BOOM
- Summer Drama Camp

HHIESCA Performance Goals

School Renewal Plan Goals for 2014-15

The five goals listed below followed the framework of the Beaufort County School District Five Year Strategic Plan. Within our school renewal plan are specific strategies and activities that are implemented, monitored and updated annually. A copy of the entire plan is on file at the school and available upon request for review.

Goal 1: Purpose and Direction: *As part of the Beaufort County School District, Hilton Head Island Elementary School for the Creative Arts maintains and communicates at all levels of the organization a purpose and direction for continuous improvement that commit to high expectations for learning as well as shared values and beliefs about teaching and learning.*

Goal 2: Resources and Support Systems: *Hilton Head Island Elementary School for the Creative Arts as part of Beaufort County School District has resources and provides services in all schools that support its purpose and direction to ensure success for all students.*

Goal 3: Teaching and Assessing for Student Learning: *Beaufort County School District's curriculum, instructional design and assessment practices guide and ensure teacher effectiveness and student learning across all grades and courses.*

Goal 4: Documenting & Using Results for Continuous Improvement: *Beaufort County School District implements a comprehensive assessment system that generates a range of data about student learning and system effectiveness and uses the results to guide continuous improvement.*

Goal 5: Governance and Leadership: *Beaufort County School District operates under governance and leadership that promote and support student performance and system effectiveness.*



2014-15 School Improvement Council

The school participated in the district wide AdvancED Accreditation process. Community, parent, staff and student surveys were completed and reviewed as part of the accreditation process. The school report was reviewed as part of the district wide process and met or exceeded all areas to be accredited.

The school received its first "Excellent" rating on the South Carolina Department of Education School Report Card. The rating validates the work and commitment of the school and the SIC to student achievement.

In addition to monitoring the School Renewal Plan, the Council elected to focus on a recommitment and focus on being an exemplary arts focused school. In addition, careful monitoring of student academic achievement, school related health and safety issues and communication.

Parent Involvement

- Meet and Greet before start of school
- Open House
- Active PTO
- 99% of students had parent/teacher conferences.
- PTO supported the arts program at HHIESCA by donating \$500.00 per grade level performance for costumes, props and supplies.
- Parent support to organize costumes for all performances
- PTO organized parent support with set up and tear down of grade level performances.
- PTO donated \$6.00 per student to attend a curriculum-related field trip.
- PTO organized and sponsored *See Our Spirit* fundraiser and student carnival.
- PTO organized Staff Appreciation Week in May.
- PTO participated in Teacher of the Year and Support Staff Member of the Year Recognition Program.
- PTO participated in submission of monthly articles for monthly school newsletter.
- Active School Improvement Council
- Informational Parent Nights were held.

Events

Belief: It is our belief that as an arts-focused school, students should display/exhibit their work in a variety of venues both in the school and the community.

- Beaufort County Dance Festival
- Beaufort County School District Elementary Drama Festival
- Annual community/school-wide performance or Expos by each grade level
- Creative Arts Players present “Annie, Jr.”
- Creative Arts Players present “Aladdin, Jr.”
- Creative Arts Players and staff present “Show Stoppers—A Broadway Revue!
- HHIESCA students participated in the BCSD River of Words project enabling students’ writing and artwork to be displayed and/or published.
- Winter Choral Program
- Audition Chorus
- Island School Council for the Arts “Promising Picassos” Art Exhibition
- BRAVO! Celebrate the Arts – Spring Choral Program and School-wide Arts, Science, Social Studies and Creative Writing Exposition which is open to the community as part of the Chamber of Commerce’s Arts and Cultural Committee Program
- HHIESCA Garden Club students participated in the Hilton Head Garden Club’s Arbor Day Program, Historic Trees-Historic Places.

Accomplishments

- HHIESCA receives an “Excellent” rating from the South Carolina Department of Education
- HHIESCA is recognized by the South Carolina Arts Commission as an “Arts in the Basic Curriculum” school and is awarded a \$7,500.00 grant.
- Beth Vargas-Giel, Justin Vaughn and Karen Cauller were recipients of Donor’s Choose Grants.
- Erin Davis and Jennifer Friend-Kerr were recipients of BCSD’s Foundation for Educational Excellence Grants.
- Teachers in grades 1-2 were provided staff development through the Savannah Musical Explorer’s Grant
- SCA staff participated in staff development/tour on the history of Hilton Head Island and the Gullah culture and community.

Respectfully Submitted by 2014-15 SIC Committee Members

Chair: Debbie Myers

Secretary: Cindy Bullock

**Parents: Stephanie Cauller
Debbie Myers**

**Randi Massett
Cindy Bullock**

Kyle Wallace

**Staff: Lyn Raichle
Caroline Johnson**

**Loren Pedlar
Kelly Soule**

Tracy Butts

Community: Marion Payne

Ex-Officio: Stephanie Tebrake-PTO

Gretchen Keefner