



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



Year 11

Spring, 2016

School Improvement Report

**Hilton Head Island
Elementary
School for the
Creative Arts**
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HHI, SC 29926
843-342-4380
www.beaufort.k12.sc.us

Administrative Team

Principal
Gretchen Keefner

Assistant Principal
Matthew Hunt
Nikki Lucas

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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. Jeffrey 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 2015-16 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 2015-16 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

Stephanie Cauller
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.

2015 -16 Recognition

1. HHIESCA is recognized by the South Carolina Department of Education as an Excellent School and one of 13 Beaufort County schools to earn a Palmetto Gold Award for student academic achievement based on our growth rating and growth index on the State Report Card.
2. Twenty-six after-school theatre club students representing Creative Arts at the ITheatric’s Junior Theatre Festival win the trophy for Best in Dance at the festival held annually in Atlanta with over 125 different theatre organizations/schools competing from 28 states, Australia, New Zealand and Korea.
3. Brooklyn Ricker’s poem placed 2nd in the statewide 2016 Garden Club of South Carolina Poetry and Sculpture contest. She received her award at the 2016 Garden Club of South Carolina Youth Symposium at Riverbanks Zoo and Gardens in Columbia. Brooklyn is a fifth grader at Creative Arts and member of the SCA Garden Club.
4. Fourth grade teacher Kelly Soule is named 2015-16 HHIESCA Teacher of the Year.
5. HHIESCA receptionist Randi Massett is named 2015-16 Support Staff Member of the Year.
6. Second grade teacher Cindy Strandt is one of only five Beaufort County Teachers to receive renewal of the prestigious National Board Certification.
7. The following 5th grade students had their artwork published in the District’s River of Words publication:

Courtney Clegg
 Becca Elman
 Chasity Machado
 Noah Gregory
 Jolene Balderas
 Alex Arrieta
 Drew Locker
 William Tebrake
 Vanessa Treacy
 Madison Fly
 Elijah Caron
 Jake Cauller

8. Alexa Pintos and Landen Bradberry, third grade students,

were selected as finalists in the Sodexo Future Chef culinary competition.

9. Jolene Balderas, fifth grade student, was the Creative Arts recipient of the Daughters of the American Revolution Citizenship Award.
10. The following SCA students were chosen to have their artwork submitted for the Island School Council of the Arts Promising Picasso’s Student Art Exhibit:

*Zoe Lucas
 *Karina Santiago-Alvarez
 *Noah Hooks
 **Lisa Shutz
 **Brody Doyle
 Quinn LaValley
 Miguel Velez-Sandoval
 Roman Strumm
 Jordan Gentemann
 Delcie Swift

*Artwork selected to be displayed at Arts Center of Coastal Carolina Board Room.

**Artwork selected to be displayed at Starbucks in Pineland Station.

11. The following SCA students were selected to perform in the Beaufort County Honor Choir Concert:

Brianna Robbins	Michaela Fagan
Jack Gibson	Grant Pagatpatan
Alex Wammock	Alexis Twaddle
Justin Finn	Constanza Martinez
Lexi Antman	Daniel Deneen
Erin Owcarz	Kyle Parella

Opportunities for Students

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------|
| • Student Council | • After-school Drama |
| • Robotics Club | • Chorus |
| • Garden Club | • Dance |
| • Singers | • Summer Drama |
| • Calypso BOOM | • Art Club |
| • Calypso Belles | • Seahawk Girls Basketball |
| • Technology Club | |

HHIESCA Performance Goals

School Renewal Plan Goals for 2015-16

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.*



2015-16 School Improvement Council

The school staff was surveyed to look at school climate. The school renewal plan was updated and reviewed as required.

The school again received an "Excellent" rating on the South Carolina Department of Education School Report Card and received the Palmetto Gold Award for academic achievement. 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 the recommitment and focus on being an exemplary arts focused school and supported the administrations recommendation to begin the accreditation process of becoming a model STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math) school. The Council continued to focus on issues relating to student academic achievement, school related health and safety issues and communication.

Parent Involvement

- Meet and Greet before start of school
- Open House
- Active PTO
- 98% 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.
- PTO organized parent support with set up and tear down of grade level performances.
- PTO donated \$7.00 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 April.
- 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.
- School Improvement Council conducted staff climate survey and encouraged STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math) certification.

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.

- Participation in Beaufort County Dance Festival
- Participation in Beaufort County School District Elementary Drama Festival
- Beaufort County Honor Choir Performance
- Annual community/school-wide performance or Expos by each grade level
- After-school Theatre Club presents “Seussical, Jr.”
- After-school Theatre Club presents “Godspell, Jr.”
- 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—Singers
- Island School Council for the Arts “Promising Picassos” Art Exhibition
- Spring Choral Program and Visual Art Exhibition
- HHIESCA first grade students participated in the Hilton Head Garden Club’s Arbor Day Program
- Instituted the “French Bistro” to support Creative Writing.

Accomplishments

- HHIESCA Palmetto Gold Award and 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 \$10,799.00 grant.
- New sound system is installed in gym for performances.
- Teachers recipients of Donor’s Choose Grants
- Arts Team was recipient of BCSD’s Foundation for Educational Peggy May Performing Arts Grants.
- Teachers in grades 1-2 were provided staff development through the Savannah Musical Explorer’s Grant.
- SCA STEAM Leadership team participated in staff development with South Carolina STEM consultants to begin process of STEAM certification.

Respectfully Submitted by 2015-16 SIC Committee Members

Chair: Stephanie Cauller

Secretary: Brooke Newsome

Parents: Cindy Bullock Stacie Bear Mike Quigley

Staff: Gretchen Mando Loren Pedlar Sandy Courtney
Karen Cauller

Community: Marion Payne Brooke Newsome Karen Tinnerholm

Ex-Officio: Stephanie Tebrake-PTO Principal: Gretchen Keefner

Daufuskie Island Elementary Mission Statement

We envision one school where caring, knowledgeable adults teach all children to love learning; to become honorable and responsible citizens; where academic excellence and respect for others are the standards; where teachers and students are positive contributors to the local and global communities; where teachers, parents, and children have a voice and a choice in their educational environment and curriculum.

Daufuskie Island Elementary Vision Statement

We envision one school where caring, knowledgeable adults teach all children to love learning; to become honorable and responsible citizens; where academic excellence and respect for others are the standards; where teachers and students are positive contributors to the local and global communities; where teachers, parents, and children have a voice and a choice in their educational environment and curriculum.

Daufuskie SIC Members

With only 18 students, Daufuskie Island Elementary School is a satellite to Hilton Head Island Elementary School for the Creative Arts. Under one principal, and because it is a satellite to School for the Creative Arts located on Hilton Head Island, the five-year School Renewal Plan is written jointly. Again, because of the small enrollment, Daufuskie operates with a joint SIC/PTO. Because both schools operate not only in different communities but also different islands, it was decided that two letters to the community would be written each reflecting the activities of the school in the community where it is located.

Daufuskie Island SIC Representatives

SIC/PTO Chair: Laura Leigh Miles, Parent

lauraleighmiles@yahoo.com

Community Member: Leanne Coulter

Principal: Gretchen Keefner

Gretchen.keefner@beaufort.k12.sc.us

Teacher: Melanie Willis

Melanie.willis@beaufort.k12.sc.us

Teacher: Kym Castillo

Kymberlee.castillo@beaufort.k12.sc.us

Support Staff: Amanda Lofton

Amanda.lofton@beaufort.k12.sc.us

Annual School Improvement Council “Report to the Parents” 2015-16



**22 Old Haig Point Road
P.O. Box 94
Daufuskie Island, SC 29915**

This Report is issued by the Daufuskie Island 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 2014-15 school year.

SIC Annual Goals

The School Improvement Council monitored the five-year School Renewal Plan with a focus on student achievement, health and school safety and home-school-community communications.

Goal 1: Improve Student Achievement.

- A. Increase Reading and Math skills by meeting growth goals as measured by the MAP (Measure of Academic Performance) and South Carolina PASS (Palmetto Assessment of State Standards) tests.
- B. Implement strategies and support for students to read on or above grade level. Guided Reading, Independent Reading Program and additional tutoring for identified students were implemented.

Goal 2: Improve Student Health and School Safety Measures.

- A. Install safety measures that include entrance, landscaping and monitoring cameras.
- B. Complete permanent improvement projects that include roof repairs, painting, new tile and new classroom air conditioning units.
- C. Continue student yoga program.

Goal 3: Implement activities that support strong communication and involvement with parents and the Daufuskie Island Community.

- A. Employment of community-based staff for music, physical education, technology, speech and tutoring.
- B. Monthly joint SIC/PTO meetings.
- C. Fieldtrip to Daufuskie farm.
- D. Holiday program at the Fire House with community invitation.
- E. School students sang at the community tree lighting ceremony and marched in the parade.
- F. Community participation at PTO fall festival.
- G. Student participation at community Halloween parade and fall festival.
- H. Open community invitation to spring “Stepping Up” school celebration.
- I. Fieldtrip to Tabby Ruins and Mansion,

Additional Information

2014-15 Enrollment at Daufuskie Island Elementary School:

- 18 students
 - 3 Pre-kindergarten Students
 - 3 Kindergarten Students
 - 0 First Grade Students
 - 2 Second Grade Students
 - 6 Third Grade Students
 - 2 Fourth Grade Students
 - 2 Fifth Grade Student

Contact:

Principal - Gretchen Keefner

- Phone: 843-342-4101

Lead Teacher - Kym Castillo

- Phone: 843-686-1582

Teacher – Melanie Willis

- Phone: 843-686-1581

Secretary/Assistant – Amanda Lofton

- Phone: 843-686-1580
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