

At Edmund A. Burns Elementary School of Personal Success, we are committed to empowering all of our students for success in a safe, engaging environment. We believe that the relationships we foster between students, parents, teachers, support staff, and administrators form the basis for increasing student achievement. This belief, along with our focus on implementing Personalized Learning, will allow our students to develop the 21st century skills needed for success in college and the workplace.

Our faculty offers a wide variety of academic and behavioral programs and support. Our staff is rated highly effective on both internal and external measures. Teachers continually plan and participate in professional development in order to ensure that we comply with best practices. We follow the workshop model in reading, writing, and math, with an emphasis on small group instruction. In addition to our PGA (Primary Grades Academy) and Reading Partners pull-out interventions, "push in" support is provided during guided reading for grades one through five. Our curriculum is rigorous, standards-based, and differentiated to meet the needs of each child. Students set goals and keep "data binders." Instruction and intervention are based on monthly data analysis. Teachers collaborate during shared planning time. We have a Personalized Learning coach, as well as literacy and math coaches, to assist teachers. Technology is integrated through the use of 1:1 iPads in many classrooms, as well as grade level shared sets of iPads.

We are a PBIS (Positive Behavioral Intervention and Support) school. Students participate in setting classroom standards of behavior and are recognized for earning points throughout the day. Students work to achieve "Master Scholar" status for improving their behavior and academic performance. We hold monthly celebrations to recognize improvement. Our goal is to produce community members who are reliable, responsible, and respectful. Our students also participate in the Second Steps Social Skills Program with our guidance counselors.

We encourage family involvement through daily home/school communication folders, conferences, e mails, phone calls, and home visits. We also invite parents to monthly Parent Power sessions, which feature activities designed to support and empower parents. We hold monthly school gatherings, such as Math Night and grade level performances. We encourage parents to visit and volunteer.

Enrichment programs include Engaging Creative Minds, ballet, violin, lacrosse, basketball, and Reading with Realtors. The highlight of the year for many of our third through fifth grade students was participating in the production of an original musical during Black History Month. The production, dedicated to the memory of the Emanuel Nine, focused on the role of African Americans in the development of gospel music.

We also have many community partnerships: two churches, two colleges, Communities in Schools, Charleston Hope, and the Lowcountry Food Bank are just a few. These organizations have provided food, care, and many helping hands in our efforts to bridge the achievement gap and poverty many of our students' experience. We have also worked with local agencies and churches to address the needs of displaced families.

We continue to work together as teachers, administrators, support staff, and parents to ensure our children have the best foundation as they begin the journey to achieve their dreams. We are truly "all about the children" at Burns Elementary.

Patricia Clerc, SIC Chairperson

L. Lynn Owings, Principal