

## PASS RESULTS

*Percentages Above Standards*

### ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS

	<u>2013</u>
6th grade	91.5
7th grade	85.9
8th grade	81.8

### MATHEMATICS

	<u>2013</u>
6th grade	91.1
7th grade	84.1
8th grade	87.6

**Absolute Rating: Excellent**  
**Growth Rating: Excellent**

### Academics

#### **High School Courses**

- ◆ Algebra I
- ◆ Geometry
- ◆ Spanish I
- ◆ Keyboarding/Computer Apps

#### **Science and Technology Courses**

- ◆ Forensics
- ◆ Pre-Engineering
- ◆ Environmental Science
- ◆ Emerging Technologies
- ◆ Wildlife Management
- ◆ Marine Science
- ◆ Science & Technology in History



## HIGHLIGHTS 2013-2014

- ◆ Absolute Rating- Excellent
- ◆ Growth Rating- Excellent
- ◆ A one-to-one technology school (iPad per student)
- ◆ 45 Junior Scholars
- ◆ Students recognized by state for Duke TIP
- ◆ Geography Bee winners
- ◆ Regional History Day winners
- ◆ First Lego Robotics winners
- ◆ Over \$1,000 dollars raised in Pennies for Patients
- ◆ The Citadel's Trebuchet competition participant
- ◆ SeaPerch competition winners
- ◆ Palmetto Gold Award winner for the past three years
- ◆ Superior rated Orchestra Program
- ◆ Excellent rated Choral program
- ◆ Awarded the Cooper River Bridge Grant promoting wellness for our students and staff.
- ◆ Presentations to three national audiences
- ◆ Integrated STEM Education Conference, Princeton, NJ
- ◆ International Technology and Engineering Educators Association, Orlando, FL
- ◆ National Science Teachers Association STEM Forum & Expo, New Orleans, LA



### **Comprehensive Guidance Program:**

- ◆ Classroom Guidance /Small groups
- ◆ Career Guidance
- ◆ Advisory Program
- ◆ Overcoming Obstacles curriculum

## LAING MIDDLE SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



2013-2014  
ANNUAL

### SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL'S REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

*The Mission of Laing Middle School of Science & Technology is to prepare and inspire generations of learners to meet the challenges of our 21st century society by fostering academic achievement through technological literacy, innovation, collaboration and creative problem solving.*

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## School Improvement Council Goals and Progress for 2013-2014

Laing's SIC is dedicated to supporting our school and on being an effective public school advocate. Public education is inextricably connected to economic development, and our Whole-School STEM Initiative is preparing our students for the future work force. To let the community know that we are doing our part to attract businesses to the area, the SIC is focused on three areas:

**Public Relations** – To get word out about Laing and to enhance its brand throughout the community, we developed and coordinated a media blitz about the 6th grade greenhouse build project and our STEM curriculum. Laing was featured in several local newspapers and news stations, and on the cover of the Charleston Regional Business Journal.

**Program** – To introduce our STEM Initiative to the community at large, we developed the "At Our Table" program to invite prominent business leaders, politicians, and educators to come into our school, take a tour, see our students engaged in our STEM curriculum, and dine with a select group of students and teachers to hear firsthand about the impact of our STEM initiative on the whole educational process.

**Communications** – There has been a void of general information for new families arriving in the area. To make the transition less stressful, we developed a "Welcome Packet" that includes information about Laing, CCSD, Mount Pleasant, and the Low Country. It is available to new enrollees at Laing, and also to real estate agents and businesses attracting out-of-town workers and their families.

## Laing Middle School's Whole-School STEM Initiative

Laing is transforming the way children learn by helping them become "STEM Thinkers" who know how to use tools of science, technology, engineering and math to solve a variety of real-world problems in all academic subjects.

Hands-on experiences with technological tools and engineering appear in every class; soldering irons, solar panels, and digital fabrications are just as likely to be seen in English or Social Studies classes as in Science labs.

Laing students learn to be problem-solving, out-of-the-box thinkers who have skills that employers seek for the 21st century workforce. Using real tools to solve real problems is interesting and fun. As a result, students are highly engaged in their classes; and that translates to improved academic performance. In addition to mastering the academic curriculum, Laing students are also expected to become technologically literate, which means they understand the roles of technology in human societies, and have basic abilities to use ten different kinds of technology.

Besides preparing our students to be successful 21st century citizens, Laing's Whole-School STEM program can significantly impact our nation's supply of scientist and engineers who are the key to global competitiveness.



## Core Beliefs

The Laing faculty is committed to...

- ◆ Facilitating student learning by encouraging innovation through independent and collaborative problem solving
  - ◆ Implementing collaborative ideas that promote openness to ask questions and take risks while seeking solutions
  - ◆ Developing professionally by setting goals and seeking growth opportunities
  - ◆ Creating assessments that address a variety of modalities so all students may achieve success
- Students are successful when...**
- ◆ Content is relevant, engaging, and revolves around real world problem solving
  - ◆ Given the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge utilizing a variety of modalities
  - ◆ Multiple learning styles and creativity are recognized and appreciated by the teacher
  - ◆ There is meaningful collaboration amongst teachers
  - ◆ They work effectively, respectfully, and collaboratively
  - ◆ They take ownership of their learning



CCSD

**"Where Excellence is Our Standard"**

**Core Values:**

**Results, Access, Partnerships, &**

**Diversity**