



Murray-LaSaine Elementary School

MLES School Improvement Council's

Annual Report to the Parents
2016-2017

691 Riverland Dr., Charleston, SC 29412

843-762-7568

<https://murraylasaine.ccsdschools.com/>



[Peace Day Video](#)

The Murray-LaSaine Mission

The mission of MLES is to prepare each student to become a functioning, **respectful** member of a diverse society.

We will provide a meaningful, stimulating, **child-centered** environment that emphasizes a positive atmosphere while promoting opportunities for optimum development.

Through active involvement of students, staff, administration, MLES will empower every child to become a **lifelong learner** while enhancing their desire to learn.

Purpose of the Report

This Report is issued by the MLES SIC 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 school year.

Murray-LaSaine Elementary School School Improvement Council Members

Chair: Joey Ballenger, Parent

Vice Chair: Mari Davin, Teacher

Secretary: Sue Grisanti

Megan Minchener, Teacher

Bailey Cooper, Community Member

Kate Calloway, Community Member

Lauren Dasher, PTO

Kisha Harvey, Title I/Teacher

Meredith Wallace, Principal



School Achievements

It's been a busy year:

- ★ International Peace Day Celebration
- ★ Growing our library by 1,500 books
- ★ Growing flowers & veggies in our garden
- ★ Field trips to the Gaillard, Edisto, DNR, Downtown, Gibbes Art Museum, Magnolia Plantation, & Epcot
- ★ A "Cool School" on News2
- ★ 2nd place at JICP Christmas Card Contest, 1st Place National School Program Champion's Cup
- ★ Talent show, strings performances, winter concert, Kids on Stage, Yoga through Wellness Grant
- ★ Run for Niger, Cooper River Bridge Run, Charleston Marathon
- ★ Grant with Heal with HeARTs
- ★ Parent development on Parenting in the Digital Age, Montessori, Literacy, and Healthy Development
- ★ Professional Development on analyzing data, Montessori math, Readers/Writers Workshop, workshops for assistants, positive discipline

SIC Annual Goals

- Establish a SIC with elected members separate from the Title I committee
 - [SIC Members & Info Here](#)
- Create bylaws for the MLES SIC
 - [Bylaws Here](#)
- Write the Report to Parents
- Review school assessment data and survey data. Use data to set goals.
- Form an Adolescent Committee and Enrichment Committee

Student Achievement

SC READY 2016

Exceeds & Meets	ELA	Math
MLES	47%	39%
3rd Grade	68%	54%
4th Grade	48%	29%
5th Grade	23%	27%

SC PASS 2016

Met & Above	Social Studies	Science
4th Grade	52%	78%
5th Grade	36%	50%



For more information, “S.C. School Report Card” for the previous school year online at www.ed.sc.gov.



Message from the SIC Chair and the Principal

MLES is a partial-magnet program serving students ages 3 through 6th grade in both Montessori and traditional classrooms.

We are a Title I school with a proud history of serving our community and working diligently to meet the needs of our students and their families.

MLES continues to transition to a full Montessori program serving James Island and will open an Adolescent Montessori program for 7th graders in 2018, 8th graders in 2019, and full Montessori by 2020 for age 3-8th grade.

We are excited to continue to grow and improve, ensuring that our students are provided authentic Montessori instruction that aligns with state and district expectations.

Opportunities for Parent Involvement: PTO, SIC, Volunteering, Principal Coffees, Title I, Wellness Committee, Farmers' Market, Talent Show, Running Club, after school clubs/activities.

We strive to be a community of lifelong learners that values independence, respect, responsibility, and growth. **We are Murray-LaSaine.**

Meredith Wallace, Principal

Joey Ballenger, School Improvement Council Chair