

## SCHOOL'S MESSAGE

James Simons Elementary School (JSES) is a Title I school located in downtown Charleston. in our newly constructed state-of-the-art school. James Simons opened as a Montessori school this year. We have six primary classes, five lower elementary classes and two upper elementary classes. Additionally, we have two traditional classes – one with third and fourth graders and another with fifth and sixth graders. It is easy to see that our highly qualified staff is passionate about serving children when you experience our positive nurturing school environment. Initiatives in place for continued improvement include 21<sup>st</sup> Century technology enhancements and a rigorous Montessori curriculum designed to meet children at their learning levels and accelerate achievement.

In addition to ensuring our students grow academically, socially and emotionally, our staff is continuously growing professionally as they learn more about the teachings, instructional best practices and philosophy of Dr. Maria Montessori. Our staff's journey to develop personally and professionally is rewarding and enlightening.

Various events held this year for our school community include the Fall Festival, Parent Education Night, Citadel Science Night, and several Parent Literacy events. Additionally, our staff and students benefited greatly from the many programs sponsored by our community partners such as Charleston Reading Partners, Rotary Reads, Rotary Family Member and Student of the Month, Backpack Buddies, WINGS, Kids Well Clinic, and Junior Doctors. We greatly appreciate the support of our PTA, School Improvement Council (SIC), Rotary, Communities in Schools, Charleston Promise Neighborhood, and the Citadel and look forward to our continued collaboration and success.

### SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

*Pamela Bryant, Chair*  
*Angie Greene*  
*Latoya Heyward*  
*Cathedra Johnson*  
*Erika Lerro*  
*Mary McAbee*  
*Maryland Miller*  
*Chavelta Montgomery*  
*Chris Ryan*  
*Rene Souther*  
*Bobby Stevens*  
*Paul Stoney*  
*Kim Odom*  
*Quenetta White*

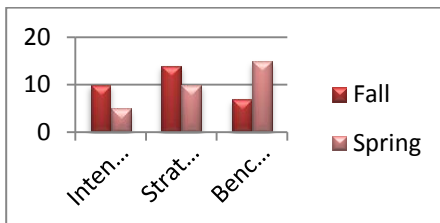
### James Simons Elementary School *A Montessori Focus*



### 2014 Annual Report To Parents and the Community

Charleston > excellence is our standard  
County SCHOOL DISTRICT

VISION 2016  
CHARLESTON ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE



Fall to Winter MAP – PGA Students

### STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

#### Measures of Academic Progress (MAP)

MAP tests measure our students' general knowledge in reading and math. These tests provide information as to the specific strengths and weaknesses of our students. They also provide us with the instructional level of each child. The information in the chart represents the growth of our first through third grade students (PGA) who received additional support in reading this school year. The chart shows the number of students reading well below grade level significantly decreased and the number of students reading at grade level or better significantly increased from Fall 2013 to Spring 2014.

