



Sullivan's Island Elementary School
A Partial Magnet Focused on The Coastal Environment

School Improvement Council
2015-16 Annual Report

Sullivan's Island Elementary School
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Our School

Sullivan's Island Elementary School is helping all students develop the world class skills and life and career characteristics of the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate by providing a safe, caring and academically challenging learning environment. Educating the whole child is our priority. We plan not only for academic development, but for social-emotional and physical development as well. Instruction is carefully aligned with SC State Standards and integrates the overarching theme of the coastal environment in all subjects and grade levels. Personalized learning and using the outdoors as a classroom are key components of our dynamic educational program.

Review

This year has been one of progress and growth for our organization, with great contributions from parents, faculty, administrators and community leaders. Our primary focus has been on **improving measurable student outcomes** and **working more closely with our parent organizations (PTA and Friends)**.

School Improvement Council Goals for 2015-2016

1. Create a parent survey to be distributed annually to gather feedback and satisfaction levels of our school.
2. Develop a school wide communication plan to include parent and community organizations.
3. Establish and cultivate 8 areas of focus for strategic, school wide improvement:
 - Literacy
 - Mathematics
 - Coastal Environment
 - Global Awareness
 - Technology
 - The Arts
 - Personalized Learning
 - Wellness

New Initiatives 2015-2016



Boardwalk Pathway

The Town of Sullivan's Island, in conjunction with Charleston County Council, constructed a boardwalk access from the schoolyard to the beach. Not only does the boardwalk make it easier for students to use the beach as a classroom, but it also helps protect the dunes!



Personalized Learning

This year our staff received coaching support and professional development in Personalized Learning. This educational framework is a competency-based model that encourages student self-direction and flexible learning environments.



Special Interest Units

4th and 5th grade students participated in elective-style classes on Friday afternoons. Students selected different mini-courses each grading period. This

year's selections included: computer coding, Coastal Curators, photography, French, mock stock market, video production, poetry, and many other relevant topics that expand opportunities for student learning.



Lego Robotics

Using the STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) philosophy, the SIES Lego Robotics team researched and developed an invention to prevent harmful micro-beads from entering the water system. Their project won first place in in the Regional FFL Robotics League Competition. Students worked

on their programming and problem solving skills during Special Interest Unit time and after school.



The GreenHeart Project

This year all grade levels have had an opportunity to work with gardening experts from the Green Heart Project. Each Monday, a different grade level at SIES participated in hands-on lessons that connect SC Science Standards to gardening and nutrition. Students also

had the opportunity to sign up and participate in the afterschool GreenHeart club.



Fresh Salad Bar

In February SIES introduced a daily student salad bar that includes a selection of proteins, fruits and vegetables. With the addition of the salad bar, the average number of lunches served per day increased from 190 to 240!

Contact Information

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