

## 2016-2017 Accomplishments

- Excellent Test Scores for state testing
- Excellent MAP scores with very small achievement gap
- Engaging Creative Minds School
- S.C. Distinguished Arts Grant Recipient
- Arts in the Basic Curriculum Grant
- MUSC Boeing Center for Children's Wellness Grant
- Sponsored Arts Conference for 250 teachers
- Artist in Residency Program at every grade level for a total of 12 residencies
- 16 National Board Certified Teachers
- Many Donor's Choose Grants
- First Tee Member
- Green School for CCSD
- Reflections Contest winners for the region
- 5th grade trip to Washington
- Boosterthon
- Many field trips for each grade level
- Brain Tumor Walk in memory of Mrs. Stuart
- Performances and Art Shows
- Performances in the Community
- Every grade level raises money to support community agencies including the Animal Shelters and Heifer Project
- Art Guild supporting the Pet Helpers for older animals
- Thousands of Tab Tops collected for the Ronald McDonald House
- Veteran's Day Celebration and letter to veterans in the hospital
- 95% of teachers retention from year to year
- \$1100 and 760 pounds of food donated to the Lowcountry Food Bank
- Donation to Orphanages
- Book Angels

Ashley River Creative Arts was established in 1983 as one of the first magnet schools in Charleston County. We were created with the idea that we would go the extra mile, we would provide an arts-integrated curriculum that will meet the needs of all children. We are very thankful for the support of the West Ashley Community for the past 33 years. Our teachers, staff, and parents have worked very hard to create an environment of excellence in education that we hope will continue for many years to come. We continue to be a leader in Arts Education in the District, State and Nation. Thank you for your support of our program and your children.

Ashley River Creative Arts is a member of the  
**Arts in the Basic Curriculum Project ,**  
**South Carolina Arts Alliance**

and the

**Palmetto State Arts Education.**

Arts Advocacy is essential to our continued success. Please join us in thanking our school board and legislators for the support that they give the arts in education.

### School Improvement Council Members

Greg Smith, Chairman

Johnny Weeks

Clara Heinsohn

Amy Bostwick

Mary Mac Jennings

Becky Kinne

Robin Berlinsky

Lisa Swatzyna

Cathie Middleton

Michelle Conner

Please contact one of us if you are interested in serving on this Council in the future.

**Charleston** > excellence is our standard  
**County SCHOOL DISTRICT**

## Ashley River Creative Arts Elementary School



### School Summary Report 2017

Ashley River Creative Arts  
Elementary School

1871 Wallace School Road

Charleston, SC 29407

ashleyriver.ccsdschools.com

843-763-1555

Catherine Middleton, Principal

Michelle Conner, Assistant Principal

Greg Smith, SIC Chair





# Ashley River Creative Arts Elementary School Summary Report 2017

The mission of the School Improvement Council for the 2016-2017 school year has been to continue to seek input from parents and to support the programs of Ashley River. We continue to expand the Wellness Initiative and encourage healthy eating and exercise. We participated in the United Way Day of Caring program. We reviewed budgets and coordinated with PTA to encourage more parents to participate in volunteering. During this school year we have continued to support the efforts of the school district to renovate the gym and upgrade it. We have also sold bricks to encourage parents and students to memorialize their time at Ashley River. We have installed the GaGa Pit on the playground and filled it with sand. We have coordinated with Charleston County School District to redesign the Kindergarten playground. The work will be done over the summer. The SLC sponsored the Principal's Coffee and continues to look for ways to encourage healthy lifestyles and families.



The school sponsors a Yoga Club and helped pay for our guidance counselor to be trained in children's yoga techniques. In January, Ashley River co-sponsored the Arts Conference for over 250 teachers in Charleston County. It was a huge success.

Ashley River receives several grants. Two of them are the ABC Grant and the Distinguished Arts Program grant. These are matching grants sponsored by the PTA. We continue to expand the planting area and use the greenhouse. The Garden Gourmet group is learning to cook and eat healthy foods that they grow. The Fitness Trail is complete and students love using it. Our golf team participated in the First Tee Golf Tournament and many of our students have begun to play tennis on the Ashley River Tennis Team. Charleston County School District facilities department met with the administration to go over concerns raised by the SLC, parents and teachers. Our Energy Management team has commended the staff for its efforts to conserve energy. It has been a productive year and we

appreciate all your thoughts and ideas.

We will be hosting a grounds clean up day at the end of April in conjunction with the Girl Scouts. We need to weed the flower beds and add some spring color. Continue to let us know if there are things we can improve as a school as we strive for excellence. Our campaign to raise the money to renovate and improve the gym as a space for physical education and an additional performance space is on hold at the moment as we are working with the district to complete the renovations they are able to do. We hope you will join us as a member of the School Improvement Council. With everyone working together, we will be able to continue to serve the students of West Ashley with excellence! We love having you involved and appreciate the support and ideas that everyone brings to the table. Feel free to contact one of the members for more information about serving.

