

School Achievements

Our students have had amazing STEAM opportunities through our partnership with Arts. Etc, which has allowed us to engage with the Gaillard, Charleston Symphony Orchestra, Charleston Stage, Palmetto City Ballet, Engaging Creative Minds, and the College of Charleston Opera this year.

Additional Mt. Zion teachers have participated in LETRS training this school year to further support literacy.

We have hired an additional teacher and teacher assistant who are dedicated to supporting our Multilingual Learners. The district recognized the school for the significant impact this has shown on our students' performance on our winter testing for reading.

With the support of a Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM) grant through Kiawah Cares, we have continued to have a STEAM related arts class and purchased additional Project Lead the Way Materials for CD-5th grades.

We have continued our mentoring program, serving 16 students in grades 2-5.

Mt. Zion has partnered with First Tee to have our first golf team this year, and has continued our partnership with Girls on the Run for another school year to give our older girls an opportunity to train for a 5K!

Mt. Zion received generous grants from Ground Swell Capital, Kiawah Seabrook Exchange, Water Wise, and Johns Island Council to support multiple initiatives at our school, including teacher morale, various instructional initiatives, our mentor program, and swimming lessons for our students.

Mt. Zion SIC Members

Co-Chairs: Mrs. Joanna Buffington, Parent
& Mrs. Corrie Nixon, Parent

Principal: Mrs. Anna Mims
Anna_mims@charleston.k12.sc.us

Teacher/Staff Members: Ms. Grace Baxter,
Mrs. Reagan Price, Mrs. Rachel Parker,
Mrs. Karen Urbanic, Mrs. Kendra Stewart

Parent Members: Mr. Brett Vigrass,
Mr. Taylor Morris

Ex Officio: Mrs. Michelle Faust

Community Member:
Mrs. Valerie Luzadder

Purpose of the Report

"This Report is issued by the Mt. Zion School Improvement Council 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."

Mt. Zion Elementary School

Annual School Improvement Council
(SIC)
"Report to the Parents"
April 2025



3464 River Road
Johns Island, SC, 29544
843-559-3841
www.ccsdschools.com/mtzion
facebook.com/MtZionCCSD

The mission of Mt. Zion Elementary School, working in partnership with students, staff, parents, and the community, is to ensure that all students are provided a high-quality education through a curriculum that utilizes approaches based on content advancement, analysis of abstract themes or concepts, development of complex thinking processes, and transformation of learning into creative products.

SIC Annual Goals

Goal 1: Collaborate with Angel Oak Elementary's SIC to prepare for the school transition in 2025-26.

- SIC held a joint meeting with the Angel Oak SIC to begin building relationships prior to the 2025-26 school year and collaborate to collect more information for both school communities about the upcoming transition.
- Our SIC has advocated to the School District to share information related to the school transition.
- Mt. Zion's SIC participated in a District 9 SIC collaborative meeting to further cooperation between the SICs for all schools on Johns & Wadmalaw Islands.
- Both schools have planned collaborative community events, and the schools' PTOs have worked together to support these events.

Goal 2: Honor the legacy of Mt. Zion as we approach the school's 70th anniversary and closure.

- SIC has engaged with community members to plan a community celebration in May

- SIC has engaged with other D9 schools to garner support for this celebration.

Student Achievement

The 2023-24 SC Ready results for Reading, and Math showed a small decline over the 2022-23 school year. However, our school continued to receive an overall rating of "GOOD" on our SC Report Card for 2023-24, and received a rating of "EXCELLENT" for Student Progress.

Our school's average percentile on SC Ready ELA (Reading) went down from the 46.3rd percentile in May 2023 to the 44.9th percentile in May 2024.

Our school's average percentile on SC Ready Mathematics went down slightly from the 50.5th percentile in May 2023 to the 50th percentile in May 2024.

Despite the downward trend in achievement, our students' growth was considered "Excellent", with 62.7% of students meeting their median annual growth targets in 2024 vs. 59% of students who met these in May 2023.

We will receive official achievement and improvement ratings for the 2024-25 school year after May 2025 state testing is completed. For more information, you may view Mt. Zion's "S.C. School Report Card"

for the previous school year online at www.screportcards.com

Additional Information

We welcome parents and community members to get involved with Mt. Zion by joining our PTO or by attending our monthly SIC meetings.

For more information about attending our monthly SIC meetings, please contact Ms. Anna Mims, MZE Principal, at anna_mims@charleston.k12.sc.us. These are held monthly on the second Wednesday and are held in-person in the MZE Library.

For more information about joining the Mt. Zion Elementary PTO, please reach out to mtzionelementarypto@gmail.com
