

School Achievements

The Gaillard named Ms. Erin Bianco their STAR Teacher of the Year for her dedication to bringing the arts to Mt. Zion students. Our students have had amazing STEAM opportunities through the Gaillard, Charleston Symphony Orchestra, Charleston Stage, and Arts, Etc. this year.

Reading Partners, Kiawah Cares, and Communities in Schools partnered with Mt. Zion this year for our first Reading Carnival. Reading Partners and Great Wave Books have also installed a Little Free Library stocked with excellent books.

Mt. Zion is the recipient of a Literacy United Grant from Trident United Way which has allowed us to partner with the University of Florida Lastinger Institute to better support all of our students through research-based small group literacy instruction. Mt. Zion teachers have participated in LETRS training this school year to further support literacy.

With the support of a Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM) grant through Kiawah Cares, we have added a STEM related arts class and purchased Project Lead the Way Materials.

We have restarted our mentoring program, and have 14 students in grades 3-5 working with mentors from the community.

Mt. Zion received generous grants from Ground Swell Capital, Kiawah Seabrook

Exchange, Water Wise, the PPG Foundation, Johns Island Council, Rev. Frazier, and Wal-Mart to support multiple initiatives at our school, including teacher morale, our community garden, various instructional initiatives, our mentor program, and swimming lessons for our students.

Mt. Zion SIC Members

Chair: Mrs. Michelle Faust, Parent

Vice Chair: Ms. Peggy Haertel, Librarian
Peggy_haertel@charleston.k12.sc.us

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

Teacher Members: Mrs. Reagan Price,
Mrs. Rachel Parker

Ex officio: Mrs. Ashley Burke, Parent

Community Member:
Mr. Rick Ross

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 2023



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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: Improve Home-School Relationships

- SIC is working to increase parental and community involvement in SIC as well as school events, specifically STEAM Night, Career Day, and the Reading Carnival.
- Advocate for an increased bilingual secretary allocation to improve the routine availability of Spanish translation for our non-English speaking families.
- SIC will be incorporating volunteer guests within the monthly meetings to further education and outreach goals

Goal 2: Advocate for the new school as well as the future use of the current campus

- SIC will advocate for the current Mt. Zion community to have a strong voice in the programming and vision of the new elementary school.
 - SIC will collaborate with others in the community to honor the history of the current Mt. Zion campus and advocate for its future use as a possible early childhood and community center.
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Student Achievement

The 2021-22 SC Ready and SC PASS results for Reading, Math, and Science showed growth over the 2020-21 school year. Our school received an overall rating of “Average” on our SC Report Card for 2021-22.

Our school’s average percentile on SC Ready Reading grew from the 31st percentile in May 2021 to the 36th percentile in May 2022.

Our school’s average percentile on SC Ready Mathematics grew from the 37th percentile in May 2021 to the 41.9th percentile in May 2022.

Our school’s average percentile on SC PASS (Science) grew from the 28th percentile in May 2021 to the 57.1st percentile in May 2022.

We are very proud of our students’ growth and are excited to see this upward trajectory continue in the future.

We will receive official achievement and improvement ratings for the 2022-23 school year after May 2023 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
