

Grassy Pond Gators And Our Community

- Earth Day Project with the Cherokee County Recycling Center
- Career Fair with Cherokee Technology Center
- Campo Giorno by Know 2
- Service Projects Such as: Relay for Life ~ Cherokee County Humane Society ~ Red Ribbon Week Fundraiser for the Cherokee County Sheriff's Department
- Mentors and Lunch Buddies
- YMCA After-School Program
- Good News Club with Grassy Pond Baptist Church



School Activities

- Beta Club
- Morning News Crew
- Fall & Spring Book Fairs
- Chick-fil-a Character Program
- Career Day
- Grandparent's Day Breakfast
- Honor's Choir
- Yearbook Staff
- PTC
- Santa Shoppe
- Science Fair
- Fall Festival
- Student Council
- Student Recognition each Nine Weeks
- Music Programs

Grassy Pond Elementary School

Report to the Parents



Cherokee County School District 1
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Report of Principal and School Improvement Council

The Motto of the Cherokee County School District for the 2012-2013 school year was to be ***Focused and Committed to our Students' Future***. Here at Grassy Pond Elementary we tried to focus our efforts on doing just that! Each person at Grassy Pond has an important role in our students' future and I want them to take that role seriously each and every day. Children are our number one priority. We encourage staff members to set goals for student achievement and in turn we have students set goals for achievement. It is our belief that by setting goals we can all work together to reach and achieve these goals.

This year Grassy Pond was named a Focus School by the SC State Department of Education. We received this identification because we have two groups of students that are not performing up to state standards on the PASS assessment while our other groups are performing well. The two identified groups are students who receive free and reduced lunch and African-American students. GPES had to develop a plan to help increase performance of these groups of students. These students were offered Supplemental Educational Services through Title I, access to an After School Academy, the classroom teachers worked closely with these students to offer increased classroom accommodations and modifications, and we again had the services of our Reading Interventionists. It is our sincere hope that these efforts will pay off for our students!

Teachers began to implement the new Common Core State Standards in classrooms this year. Students in kindergarten through second grade were taught with use of all CCSS and students in third to fifth grades were taught using a mix of CCSS and the current SC State Standards. Students also began using a new English Language Arts textbook this year, *Journey's*, by Scott Foresman. Some of our teachers are currently working with a group from the district to complete a new Curriculum Guide for ELA. It will be finished for the upcoming school year. We are excited about the new opportunities this will present to our students!

GPES continued to focus on Response to Intervention this year. The entire school district worked to develop a framework for the RTI process. We at GP felt fortunate to already have strategies in place to support our students. This year we again employed three Reading Interventionists to support our students not yet on grade level. Students were able to work with the interventionists in addition to receiving small group instruction with their classroom teacher. We also were able to receive help from two part-time ESOL teachers. This helped to increase our services for students who were bridging the language gap.

We also had great support from our parents and community this year at Grassy Pond. The Sheriff, Steve Mueller, and Coroner, Dennis Fowler, helped us start the year with needed supplies for all children. The PTC once again provided money for "Too Good for Drugs" t-shirts for 5th graders, a volunteer breakfast, teacher appreciation activities, a field trip and/or a field trip experience at school for all students, and various other items as needed. Parents, grandparents, and even willing community members come in weekly, monthly, or as needed to copy papers, help out in the media center or around the school, mentor a student, or even be a lunch buddy. Grassy Pond Baptist Church once again sponsored our Good News Bible Club on Monday afternoons. The Cherokee County Fire Chief's Association and The Grassy Pond Fire Department did lessons for students on Fire Safety and Severe Weather. As you can see, community and family partnerships are always valued here at Grassy Pond. We truly appreciate each and every person who has been able to devote their time, talents, or treasures to our school and students this year!

Purpose of the Report

This report is provided to parents in compliance with the Education Finance Act (EFA) of 1977, the Education Improvement Act (EIA) of 1984, and the Elementary and Secondary Academic Act (Act 135) of 1993. It presents information about the school accomplishments in the 2010-2011 school year and updates on the 2011-2012 goals.

School Statistics

Enrollment: 560 students

70% Caucasian

18% African-American

12% Hispanic & Other Ethnicities

62.21 % on Free and Reduced Meals

97% Average Daily Attendance

Mission Statement

The mission statement of Grassy Pond Elementary School, in alliance with family and community, is to guarantee that comprehensive, quality educational experiences are provided in a safe environment for all students; thus, preparing them for their next level of education and ensuring their success in becoming a productive, contributing individual in an ever-changing society.

Review of 2012-2013 Focus & Goals

- Utilize Staff Development Days and Wednesday faculty meetings for professional development on the Implementation of Common Core State Standards
- Continue Implementation of RTI, Keep RTI cards on each student in notebooks, create RTI Folders for students to keep information in from year to year
- Improve Guided Reading Instruction by surveying teachers on what they feel

they need in order to be able to deliver effective small group instruction to students

- Analyze Student Test Data from various sources such as MAP, PASS, Dominion, ITBS/CogAt, DIAL 3 in order to create goals to improve student learning
- Identify Students that fall into Gap Sub-Groups according to the ESEA Waiver to ensure these students are provided opportunities for instruction to help close the achievement gap

Summary of 2011—2012 PASS Results

% of students Met or Exemplary

Grade	School	District	State
Grade 3			
ELA	76.2	69.3	80.3
Math	75.2	62.3	72.6
Science	42	48.3	60.7
Social Studies	72.5	60.4	74.6
Grade 4			
ELA	78.5	67.1	78.2
Math	77.4	70.9	78.4
Science	71	63.9	73.8
Social Studies	79.6	72.5	80.9
Grade 5			
ELA	78.4	67.1	76.5
Math	81.1	70.3	76.1
Science	78.4	66.7	71.7
Social Studies	62.2	59.1	69.9