

Why School Improvement?



Under the ESEA Federal Accountability System, Brunson-Dargan Elementary School achieved an "A" rating, meaning the school's performance substantially exceeded the state's expectations. In addition, our school was recognized as a Title I Reward School for high student achievement.

Brunson-Dargan was proud of the academic progress reported on the 2012 state report card. Proudly, our school received an **AVERAGE** rating.

We continue to set goals for high student achievement. For the 2012-2013 school year, we are striving to move from and **AVERAGE** rating to the rating of **GOOD**. We firmly believe our students can accomplish that goal.

Rating Over 5-Year Period

School Year	Absolute Ratings	Growth Ratings
2012	Average	Excellent
2011	Average	Excellent
2010	Below Average	Below Average
2009	Below Average	Average
2008	At-Risk	Below Average

School Improvement Council

SIC Members may be contacted through the school office at (843) 398-5080.	
Terry McPhail, Chair	Ada Sindab, Ex-Officio
Ronald Sparks, PTO President	Gwendolyn McElveen, Title I Coordinator
Lisa Fagan, Community Member	Cecil Bromell, Community Member
Cynthia Boulware, Teacher	Jennifer Heilbronn, Teacher
Natalie Pigatt, Teacher of the Year	Kim Nelson, Community Member
Jessica Carnell, Parent	Natalie Goodman, Parent



Mission Statement

The mission of Brunson-Dargan Elementary School is to provide students with quality instruction in an environment that fosters the developmental needs of the whole child, empowering all students with the knowledge and educational resources needed to make their "dreams become a reality".

What is the Report to Parents?

South Carolina statute (ACT 135 of 1993) requires each of the state's School Improvement Council to publish and distribute a Report to the Parents by April 30th of each year, highlighting the progress the school is making in achieving the goals and objectives of the school's strategic plan. This report is unique to each school and is developed by the SIC to share the challenges and success of the school, students, parents and teachers for the current school year.

Parental

Involvement

Parents are encouraged to be active in their child's education at Brunson-Dargan Elementary School. Some activities include:



- BDE GIVES Parent Volunteers
- Parent, Teacher, Community Workshops
- Parent-Teacher Conferences
- School Improvement Council/Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO)
- School Volunteers (Media Assistants, Office Workers, Test Monitors, Field Trips, etc.)
- Title I Planning Committee
- Special Events for Parents and Grandparents



Brunson-Dargan Elementary School

"Where Dreams Become Reality!"

Report to the Parents 2012-2013



**400 Wells Street
Darlington, SC 29532
Phone (843) 398-5080
Fax (843) 398-2534
<http://bde.dcsdschools.org/>**

**Ada O. Sindab
Principal**

School Demographics

Brunson-Dargan Elementary is a Title I school that serves 222 students in grades 3 – 5 from various socio-economic and ethnic backgrounds. Seventy-six percent (76%) of our students are African-American, twenty-one percent (21%) are Caucasian, and five percent (5%) are classified as Other. Ninety percent (90%) of our students receive subsidized meals. Fifteen percent (15%) of our student population receives exceptional educational services.



School Renewal Goals

The following steps have been continued for the 2012-2013 school year to improve student achievement:



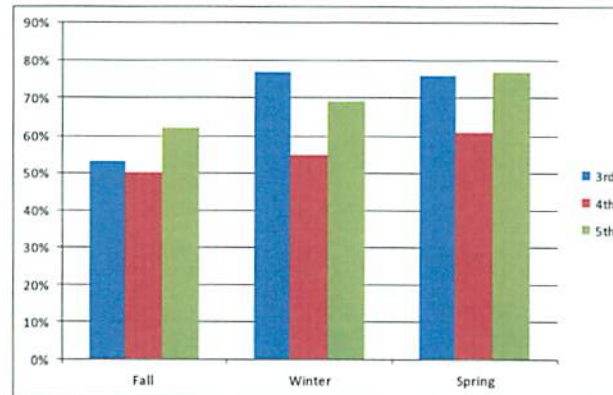
- School-wide departmentalization, resulting in one teacher responsible for no more than two core areas
- Accelerated classroom for students identified as gifted and talented and advanced learners
- Weekly cluster data analysis meetings with teachers to analyze student work samples and learn research-based instructional strategies
- School-wide use of PASS-like assessments in all core subject areas
- Reading intervention program for targeted students
- SC Chamber of Commerce Homework Center After-School Program
- Daily PASS-like question implemented per core content area
- School-wide Accelerated Reading Program
- Math Masters program to encourage students to learn math facts
- Professional development sessions for teachers in all subject areas
- Mentoring program for targeted students
- Critical Thinking Questions (Hot, Hotter and Hottest)
- Six Thinking Hats for Critical Thinking

Gains in Student Achievement

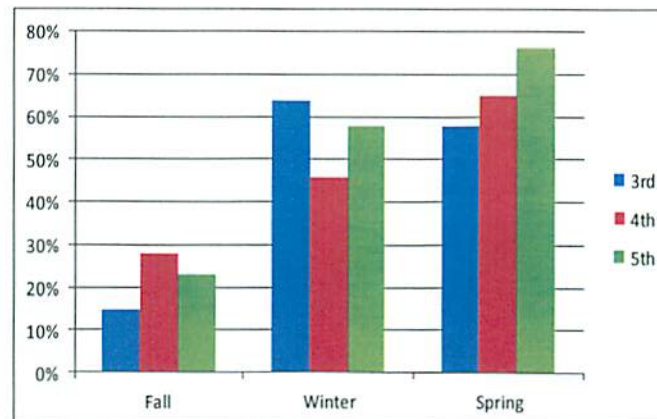
Brunson-Dargan Elementary School's achievement goal for the 2012-2013 school year was to improve the percentage levels of all students to at least 80% of the grade level obtaining mastery in reading and math. In order to achieve this goal, many instructional strategies have been implemented. As a result, gains in student achievement have been documented by various data sources. The graphs below show students' progress in reading and math as measured by the MAP (Measures of Academic Progress).



Comparison of Fall to Spring MAP Data in ELA
Percentage of Students Meeting Standard



Comparison of Fall to Spring MAP Data in Math
Percentage of Students Meeting Standard



Academic Programs

Brunson-Dargan Elementary is a school that prides itself on the inclusion of academic programs that provide students an opportunity to experience educational growth and success. Some activities include:

- Teacher Advancement Program (TAP)
- Weekly Teacher Data Meetings
- Balanced Literacy Model
- Master Teacher and Mentor Teachers that support classroom instruction
- Reading Interventionists (Read Well)
- Multiplication Step-by-the-Step
- Universal Math Morning Work/Daily Oral Language
- Bonus Reading Time (25 additional minutes twice a week to focus on reading strategies)
- Early Morning Computer Assisted Math Instruction
- Early Morning Math Facts Drills
- COMPASS Learning Odyssey Lab
- Science Lab
- Gifted and Talented Program
- Positive Behavioral and Interventions Support Model (PBIS)
- Elementary Science Fair
- Academic Jeopardy Tournament
- School-wide Assessments (Benchmark Testing, Measures of Academic Progress, etc.)
- Black History Program
- Kiwanis Club's Terrific Kids

Academic Honors Include...

- AdvancED Accreditation; 2008-09
- Five Star Award; 2007-08
- Value Added 5:Top TAP Rating for Student Growth; 2011-12, 2012-2013
- Palmetto Gold Award; 2011-12
- Palmetto Silver Award; 2011-12, 2004-05
- Title I Reward School; 2012-13

