

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 2013 state report card. Proudly, our school received an **AVERAGE** rating.

We continue to set goals for high student achievement. For the 2013-2014 school year, we are striving to move from an **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
2013	Average	Good
2012	Average	Excellent
2011	Average	Excellent
2010	Below Average	Below Average
2009	Below Average	Average

School Improvement Council

SIC Members may be contacted through the school office at (843) 398-5080.

Megan Trevino, Chair	Ada Sindab, Ex-Officio
Ronald Sparks, PTO President	Gwendolyn McElveen, Title I Coordinator
Lisa Fagan, Community Member	Sgt. Kim Nelson, Community Member
Cynthia Boulware, Teacher	Kinsey Byrd, Teacher
Jennifer Greene, Teacher of the Year	Lakeshia Durant, Community Member
Deitra Steward, Parent	Ezekiel Williamson, Parent



Mission Statement

The mission of Brunson-Dargan Elementary School is to provide students with a quality education, so every child's dreams can become a reality.

What is the Report to Parents?

South Carolina statute (ACT 135 of 1993) requires each of the state's School Improvement Councils 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
- Fundraisers / Festivals
- All Pro Dads



Brunson-Dargan Elementary School

"Where Dreams Become Reality!"

Report to the Parents

2013-2014



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 236 students in grades 3 – 5 from various socio-economic and ethnic backgrounds. Sixty-nine percent (69%) of our students are African-American, twenty-nine percent (29%) are Caucasian, and two percent (2%) are classified as Other. Eighty-nine percent (89%) of our students receive subsidized meals. Seventeen percent (17%) of our student population receives exceptional educational services.



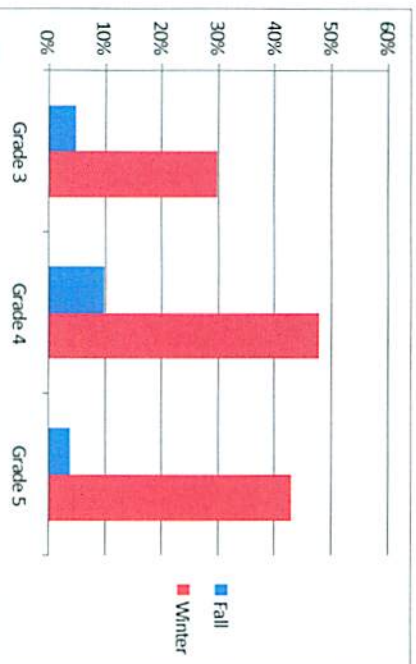
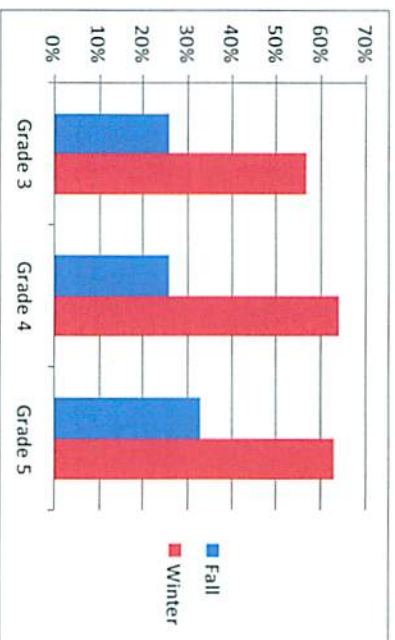
School Renewal Goals

The following steps have been continued for the 2013-2014 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)
- Learning Pods Cooperative Learning Strategy
- Computer Assisted Instruction for every student (Fast ForWord, Aleks Math or Compass Learning)

Gains in Student Achievement

Brunson-Dargan Elementary School's achievement goal for the 2013-2014 school year was to improve the percentage levels of all students to at least 85% 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).



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 (Fountas and Pinnell)
 - 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
 - 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; 2012-2013, 2013-2014
 - Palmetto Silver Award; 2011-12, 2004-05

