

Brunson-Dargan Elementary School

"Where the dreams of college and career readiness becomes a reality!"

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Report to Parents 2019-2020



Brunson-Dargan Elementary School's (BDE) classrooms are progressive! At our school, you will not find rows of quiet listeners and teachers lecturing. BDE classrooms are learning centers! Daily, you will

find small groups of active learners, thoroughly engaged in discussion and exploration. You will see teachers on the move observing, asking questions, and guiding students to make sense of the world and solve real-world problems.

In addition to traditional books, classrooms have expanded beyond traditional walls or even the borders of Darlington County. We have devices that connect to the Internet opening up to a world of information. Not only do we teach the traditional subjects, but we have expanded these areas to include what has been described as 21st century skills...The Four C's: **collaboration, creativity, communication and critical thinking.**

Flexible Seating Arrangements
BDE believes that not all students learn by sitting upright in a traditional school desk. In our classrooms, you will find various seating options, such as, bean bags, Big Joe chairs, rugs, standing desk with stools, bungee stools, etc.



Grade 3 Learning Centers

In grade three, students are assigned to four (4) classrooms. Within the classroom, students learn in small groups. Each classroom is staffed with regular education teachers and a special education teacher or assistant to provide more individualized instruction.



Integration of Technology

iPads are used to enhance the curriculum. As a result, students are able to create digital projects, access information on the world-wide web and utilize a variety of

online applications and programs to support the content in the classroom. iPads are also used to provide computer-assisted instruction for students in need of additional support in reading and mathematics.

What will you see in BDE Classrooms?

Teachers as Facilitators: At BDE, teachers are NOT "sages on the stage." BDE teachers are facilitators of learning, planning lessons that engage students and foster independence.

Use of a Problem-solving Methodology: BDE teachers plan lessons to encourage problem solving throughout the curriculum.

Inquiry-based Approach: BDE teachers plan lessons that encourage students to be curious and ask questions about a variety of topics.

Opportunities for Creative Expression/Collaborative Environment: BDE teachers plan lessons that allow students to collaborate and foster the development of communication skills.

Justification for Answers: BDE students are given opportunities to defend and explain their thinking orally and in writing.

Hands-on learning: Science classrooms provide authentic science experiences in a lab-like environment.

Writing for Reflection: BDE teachers are expected to incorporate writing in all subject areas.

"The Darlington County School District does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, religion, national origin, gender, disability, genetic information, sexual orientation or other protected characteristics in its programs and activities."

Special Programs...Needs of the Whole Child



Brunson-Dargan Elementary School believes in preparing students for the real-world. In doing so, we have established the BDE Economy.

The BDE Economy is a financial literacy program designed to educate students about the importance of making wise economic decisions. To increase the program's effectiveness and elevate students' motivation, the BDE economy has been merged with Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS), a proactive approach to establishing social and behavioral support. Together, the programs help establish the type of culture needed for students to achieve social, emotional and academic success. Designed to mimic the authentic exchange of currency, each child has a student bank account through a computerized banking system called *Bankaroo*. Each child begins with a balance of \$75 and is encouraged to participate in a variety of salary and non-salary based activities that enable them to earn money and grow their bank account.



In order for a child to reach his/her full potential, ALL areas (physical, emotional, and cognitive domains) need to be healthy. **Project Healthy Me** provides emotional support for

identified students throughout the school day. This service is made possible through a partnership with *Positive Influences*, a local counseling agency.



The BDE Little Gents, Ladies of Excellence and Girls of Character are school-based mentoring programs for at-risk boys and girls. These programs are effective interventions and

personal empowerment programs, helping participants mature into responsible citizens.



BDE Rating Over 5-Year Period

| School Year | Absolute Ratings | Growth Ratings |
|-------------|------------------|----------------|
| 2018 | Below Average | Excellent |
| 2014 | Average | Average |
| 2013 | Average | Good |
| 2012 | Average | Excellent |
| 2011 | Average | Excellent |

Below you will find the percentage of students that scored Met or Exceeding standard on SC Ready data from spring 2018.

NOTE: Due to COVID-19 standards based testing did not occur.

English Language Arts (Reading and Writing) - Percent met and exceeding

School Score: 20.10% (44 / 219)

Mathematics - Percent met and exceeding

School Score: 37.90% (83 / 219)

In the chart below, growth experienced in ELA and math are shown through 2018-2019 MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) data.

| ELA | Does Not Meet | | Approaches Expectations | | Meets and Exceeds | |
|---------|---------------|--------|-------------------------|--------|-------------------|--------|
| | Fall | Winter | Fall | Winter | Fall | Winter |
| Grade 3 | 44% | 30% | 47% | 51% | 9% | 9% |
| Grade 4 | 47% | 39% | 40% | 43% | 14% | 18% |
| Grade 5 | 42% | 32% | 44% | 39% | 14% | 18% |
| Math | Does Not Meet | | Approaches Expectations | | Meets and Exceeds | |
| | Fall | Winter | Fall | Winter | Fall | Winter |
| Grade 3 | 30% | 41% | 45% | 48% | 24% | 25% |
| Grade 4 | 34% | 30% | 36% | 36% | 30% | 34% |
| Grade 5 | 30% | 32% | 58% | 60% | 12% | 8% |

School Improvement Council 2019-2020

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|--|--|
| Diane James, Chair | Ada Sindab, Ex-Officio |
| Jeanette Davis, Community Member | Gwendolyn McElveen, Title I Coordinator |
| Kathryn Wright, Parent | Kinsey Johnson Teacher of the Year |
| Pamela Swinney-Johnson, Community Member | Kathryn Wright, Teacher |
| Gary August, Community Member | Shana Harrell, Community Member |
| Brittany Johnson, Teacher | *SIC Members may be contacted through the school office at (843) 398-5080. |