

Our School

North Aiken Elementary is a Title I community school located on the north side of Aiken, SC. Our main focus is on student achievement and youth development.

North Aiken partners with the family YMCA in conjunction with the 21st Century Community Learning Center (CCLC). Our students have opportunities to excel in both areas through the various programs and experiences provided through the 21st CCLC and through an after-school Homework Center sponsored by the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce.

North Aiken collaborates with USC-Aiken as an on-site Professional Development School (PDS). The PDS program provides college students experiences in the classroom, as well as individual assistance for the students.

The students had opportunities to participate in *The Reading Is Fun* (RIF) program. Local members of a national sorority came into the school to read to the students and provided books and snacks for the children who participated.

SIC Members

Sharonda Robinson -Parent/Chairperson

Kimberly Bradley-Parent

Kevin Cunningham-Community Member

Tony DeStefano-Community Member

Charlie Williams-Community Member

David Robinson-Community Member

Teresa Spann-Teacher

Beverly Franklin-Teacher

Elisa Sanders-Pee-Principal

Cathy Ellis-Assistant Principal

North Aiken Elementary School

School Improvement Council

2012-2013

Annual Report



Mission Statement:

The educational mission of North Aiken Elementary School is to provide each student with instruction using best practices based on scientific research through a challenging curriculum to assist in the development of mind, character, and overall well-being; while actively welcoming and encouraging parent and community involvement in the education of our children.

*North Aiken Elementary School
100 Bears Rock Road
Aiken, SC 29801*

803-641-2690

Website:

[http://www.aiken.k12.sc.us/schools/
NorthAikenEl/index.html/](http://www.aiken.k12.sc.us/schools/NorthAikenEl/index.html/)

Our Instructional Program

The teachers of North Aiken Elementary provided quality education based practices. Our students received instruction based on Common Core State Standards. They were assessed using MAP, Dominic, and PASS to identify strengths and weaknesses. Our students were exposed to extended learning opportunities in writing and RIT Band Instruction during a scheduled period during the school day. Technology based programs such as *First in Math*, *Moby Math* and *Ticket to Read* were available before and after school to strengthen skills in Math and Reading. During the spring, our third and fourth grade students participated in Smarter Balanced Pilot testing, which helps pave the way for future assessments. The teachers participated in professional development in Positive Behavior Management Interventions and using Common Core State Standards and the newly developed Aiken County Pacing Guide to develop and implement instruction in the classroom.

Title I Funds

Title I funds received were used to employ a half-time curriculum specialist, BMR aide, full time instructional aide, and three half-time academic interventionists. Professional development opportunities for teachers were also increased with these funds. In addition, parenting workshops were financed.

Accomplishments

The Chamber of Commerce provided a grant for the 21st CCLC.

Gwendolyn Byrd (5K) received a \$1,500 Star Grant from SRP.

Jane Timmerman (5th Grade) received a grant from the ExxonMobil Educational Alliance for Math & Science.

Instructional Mini Grants were awarded by Savannah River Nuclear Solutions to the following teachers:

Kathy Mathis (Third Grade) for "*Place Your Number!*"

The First Grade Team (Shantia Wheeler, Tyisha Carter, Melissa Henry, Curtis Dawkins, Latoya Wise, and Charidy Simon) for "*Building a Foundation*"

Community Involvement

North Aiken partnered with parents, community members and local businesses to heighten the awareness of the benefits of having a community school. Our faculty and staff joined the Crosland Park Homeowners Association for a work day to clean around the local neighborhood. The group's goals are to strengthen home-school relations and build relationships within the community.

Volunteer Program

Parents and community members were immersed with opportunities to become involved in our school. We have an active volunteer program sponsored through our guidance department. We continued to sponsor events such as: Donuts for Dads breakfast, Muffins for Moms breakfast, Literacy Night, Parenting Nights, and Family Feud Math Night. Parents and community members also participated in our National Walk to School event sponsored in conjunction with the Safe Routes to School organization.

Mentor Program

Identified students in fourth and fifth grades participate in mentoring programs. FOCUS Incorporated sponsors *Young Men of Distinction* which emphasizes training in scholarship, manhood, perseverance and community service. Members of *Young Men of Distinction* participated in a field trip to a local airport to learn about civil aeronautics. The students were able to view airplanes and learned about airplane history and aerodynamics. Aiken Youth Empowerment sponsors *Girls Circle* which teaches positive decision making and positive self-esteem. Other trained mentors work with our guidance department to provide support and