

Curriculum Cornerstones

- Benchmark assessments/Pacing guides in all subject areas
- E-Learning School
- Literacy/Math Instructional Models
- Waterford for 4K-First Grade
- Reading Counts and AR programs to encourage students to meet individual reading goals
- S.T.E.P.S.(Sequential Teaching of Explicit Phonics & Spelling) program all grades
- ELA Intervention classes (K-5)
- Fine Arts Academic Assistance for 3rd grade (ELA)
- Math Intervention classes (3rd -5th)
- Read 180 Program for 4th and 5th graders
- System 44 Program for 3rd graders
- Compass Learning/Fastt Math/Imagine Learning/Study Island
- Innovative Technology- Apple I-pads sets for all grades/ OSMO available for checkout/2 STREAM Carts
- Math and science manipulative kits
- One to One Devices (Pre-K - 5th grade)
- Full Time ESOL teacher
- Responsive Classrooms/Morning Meeting
- STEM Lab
- Growth Mindset Focus
- Career Focus— Speakers/Career Vehicle Day

Service Learning Opportunities

- Lost and Found maintained by ID Mod class
- Relay for Life
- Jump Rope for Heart
- March of Dimes
- Grade Level Service Projects Angel Tree
- United Way/ A Day of Caring
- Can Food Drive
- Boosterthon

School Improvement Council

Elected Members

Dawn Davis, Ashley Smith, Teneshia Stempa, Ashley Clemmons, Amber Yost

Appointed Members

Dominique Lincoln , Justice Mandrell

Ex-officio Members

Annette Pletcher, Mandy Rogers, Susan Kephart

Opportunities for Families

Meet the Teacher Night	Kids Art Fair
Open House	Career Vehicle Day
Spring Musical	Veterans Day Parade
STEM Night	Volunteer Opportunities
Book Fairs	Coffee with the Principal
PTA Family Events	Community Spirit Nights
Growth Mindset Activities	Booster-Thon Fun Run
Choral Performances	Grandparents Lunch
SIC/PTA Organizations	Gator Speakers Series
Spring Carnival	Walk to School Days
Trunk or Treat	Gators Raising Readers Series
Read Across America	Fine Arts Week
Talent Show	Military Support
Safety Programs	Ball for All
	Family Health Fair

Opportunities for Students

Musical	Peer Mentor Program
Terrific Kids	Gator-Up Club
PTA Reflections	Principal Pals
Chorus	Spelling Bee
Gator Techs	Fifth Grade Dance
Gator Greeters	Boosterthon Pep Rally
WGGN	Afterschool Science Club
Extended Day	Field Trips
Gifted Programs	Question of the Day
Robotics Team	N. Chas. Cultural Arts Fair
Great Gator of the Day	Peer Tutors
Peddling for Perfect Attendance	Running Club
Reading Goal Celebrations	New Gators on the Block
Quarterly/Yearly Awards	Talent Show
SNAP Squad	Morning Meetings
Field Day	Responsive Classroom
Book Buddies	PBIS Quarterly Celebrations
Flag Attendants	Art Club
Special Olympics	Growth Mindset Activities
Grade Level Clubs (ERD)	

Points of Pride

2018-2019 – Excellent Report Card Rating
Palmetto Gold for Overall Achievement
Palmetto Gold for Closing the Gap
Palmetto's Finest Winner
Red Carpet School
Accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools
PBIS Banner School (Positive Behavior Intervention System)
Excellence in Patriotism Award-State PTA Award 2016
2017 District /State PTA Awards (Superintendent Award, Principal of the Year, Volunteer of the Year, Student of the Year, Support Staff of the Year)
Art Curriculum Grant Awarded to Art /Music Department
Cool School Award

Fort Dorchester Elementary

Annual School Summary Report November 2020

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<https://www.ddtwo.org/FDES>



TAILS FROM THE LOWCOUNTRY
Teamwork Achievement Integrity Leadership Service

Mission Statement

Fort Dorchester Elementary School is committed to guiding and challenging each student to succeed in life.

Vision Statement

All students will be engaged in the learning process and challenged to meet their highest potential.

Dear FDES Parents,

This School Summary Report has been prepared for you by the Fort Dorchester Elementary School Improvement Council and our administrators. Once again, we took the 2019-2020 school year by the TAIL... "TAILS from the Lowcountry" to be exact. Our school motto encompasses everything to help make our students successful life-long learners - Teamwork, Achievement, Integrity, Leadership, and Service.

The students at FDES strive to build a community of learners through teamwork with peers, teachers, parents, and community members. Our students and families come from 22 countries and speak 24 different languages. The diverse student backgrounds provide for unique opportunities for teamwork! Teachers strive to assist student academic success through well planned, explicit direct instruction. Teachers, administrators, and parents work together to create data-driven decisions to enhance student achievement. Our focus on Responsive Classroom has set high expectations for all of our students, and our students respond with enthusiasm and integrity! Through a school-wide Responsive Classroom initiative, we use Morning Meetings to build strong relationships! Common language and procedures assist in creating an environment of consistency throughout the school. One of our goals at FDES is to instill leadership qualities in all of our students. FDES continues to provide numerous opportunities for our students to take on leadership roles in our school, from Gator Greeters and Book Buddies to our WGGN staff, who produce and star in our school's morning news show. We've continued the practice of each grade level participating in their own service project, in addition to our school-wide project of Jump rope for Heart, Boosterthon, and Relay for Life.

Fort Dorchester Elementary School is not only a Palmetto's Finest school, but also a "Cool School" who is taking each school year by the TAIL!! Teamwork... Achievement... Integrity... Leadership... Service!! What a COOL place to learn!

Thank you for taking time to study this report.

Amber Yost
SIC Chairperson

Annette Pletcher
Principal

2019-2020 Strategic Plan Goals

Student Achievement

- Increase student achievement scores in core academic subjects on standardized achievement tests and narrow the achievement gap between all subgroups at FDES.
- Increase the percentage of students reading on grade level (K-5) by 2% each year. Grade Level proficiency will be defined as: On grade level for primary grades (K-1) is defined as performing at the designated DRA2+ levels that are determined by the district. Kindergarten-Independent Level 4, 1st-Independent Level 18. On grade level for elementary/secondary (2-5) is defined as performing at the 36th percentile or above on the Reading Inventory.

Teacher Quality

- Increase the number of staff members who hold advanced degrees and endorsements.
- Continue to provide staff development for interpreting data and analyzing results to review progress to drive instruction.
- Provide staff development for SC Read to Succeed Initiative.

School Climate

- Improve school culture and climate by developing home/school relationships.
- Continue to improve school culture and climate among teachers, students and parents to promote collaborative relationships.

2020-2021 Strategic Plan Goals

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School Climate

- Improve school culture and climate by developing home/school relationships.
- Increase schools participation in strategically planned and developed partnerships in order to promote reading and writing
- Continue to improve school culture and climate among teachers, students and parents to promote collaborative relationships.

Evidence

Student Achievement

- Fastt Math was implemented to help students master basic math facts.
- READ 180 (4th and 5th grade) and System 44 (3rd grade) students who read below grade level by two or more grades.
- Math Interventions for 3rd -5th grade students struggling in math.
- ELA Interventions for K-5th grade students struggling in reading.
- Compass Learning(3rd -5th)/Imagine Learning (2nd/3rd) are used for 30 minutes daily to provide differentiated instruction.
- Study Island (3rd-5th)
- A data wall was maintained to monitor student progress.
- Fine Arts Academic Assistance Program fostered individual students academically as well as socially.
- ELA and Math Formative Assessments are administered according to District schedule.
- Continued use of the SST (Student Support Team) to assist and provide interventions for struggling students
- On-going staff development for SC College and Career Ready Standards
- Literacy Assessment Portfolios for all students K-3 reading below grade level.

Teacher Quality

- All teachers were highly qualified, in that they met or exceeded the SC State requirements.
- Data conferences were held at regular intervals to discuss areas of strengths and weaknesses.
- Weekly PLC team planning meetings were held to discuss student needs and plans for the week.
- Math and ELA debriefings are held to discuss and analyze formative assessment data.
- Staff developments were held to strengthen the use of data to guide instruction.

School Climate

- Business Partnerships
- PTA/SIC Programs
- Peer Mentoring Program
- Gators Raising Readers Series
- Grade Level Service Learning Projects
- Home/School communication
- School Wide Health Fair
- Growth Mindset Focus
- Gator Speakers (Career Focused)

