

Curriculum Cornerstones

- Benchmark assessments/Pacing guides in all subject areas
- Literacy/Math model/Workstation Model (3rd and 4th grade)
- 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
- Innovative Technology- Apple I-pads sets for all grades/OSMO available for checkout
- Math and science manipulative kits
- PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports)
- Four computer labs
- Full Time ESOL teacher
- Responsive Classrooms/Morning Meeting

Service Learning Opportunities

- Lost and Found maintained by ID Mod class
- Relay for Life
- Jump Rope for Heart
- Clean City Sweep
- Grade Level Service Projects (Clothing Drive/Recycling/Coat Drive/SPCA Collection/Box Tops)
- Angel Tree
- United Way/ A Day of Caring
- Can Food Drive
- Boosterthon
- March for Babies

School Improvement Council

Elected Members

Merry Ard, Allison Cleveland, Glynis Morrison, Tara Riemer, Lisa Kelien, Yaisha Simmons

Appointed Members

Dominique Lincoln, Kim Lazik, Renee Gosnell

Ex-officio Members

Harolyn Hess, Rachael Mahaffey, Susan Kephart, Katie Lombardi, Amber Yost

Opportunities for Families

Meet the Teacher Night
Glory Greeting
Spring Carnival
Drama Performance
Blood Drive
Math & Science Night
Book Fairs
PTA Family Events
Literacy Night
Choral Performances
SIC/PTA Organizations
Career Speakers
Trunk or Treat
Technology Night
Read Across America

Talent Show
Safety Programs
Kids Art Fair
Career Vehicle Day
Veterans Day Parade
Volunteer Opportunities
Darkness to Light training
Community Spirit Nights
Booster-Thon Fun Run
Technology Night
Family Health Fair
Walk to School Days
SIC Beautification Day
Clean Cities Sweep
Military Support
Winter Sock Hop

Opportunities for Students

Drama Club
Terrific Kids
PTA Reflections
Chorus
Student Council
Gator Techs
Gator Greeters
WGGN
Extended Day
Gifted Programs
Robotics Club
Great Gator of the Day
Peddling for Perfect Attendance
Reading Goal Celebrations
Quarterly/Yearly Awards
SNAP Squad
Gator Patrol
Field Day
Book Buddies
Flag Attendants
Quiz Bowl

Special Olympics
SCReady/SCPASS Testing
Grade Level Clubs (ERD)
Peer Mentor Program
Sewee Earth Stewards(5th)
Student Advisory Board
Spelling Bee
Fifth Grade Dance
Pep Rally
Afterschool Science Club
Field Trips
Question of the Day
Kickball Club
N. Chas. Cultural Art Fair
Peer Tutors
Running Club
Patriot Partners
New Gators on the Block
Book Clubs
Talent Show
Morning Meetings

Points of Pride

Palmetto Gold for Overall Achievement(2010-2015)
Palmetto Gold for Closing the Gap(2010-2013)
Palmetto's Finest Winner
Red Carpet School
Accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools
Innovative Grant (two grants awarded)
PBIS Banner School (Positive Behavior Intervention System)
Excellence in Patriotism Award-State PTA Award 2016
District 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 April 2017

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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 2016-2017 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 14 countries and speak 23 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 PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention and Support) model has set high expectations for all of our students, and our students respond with enthusiasm and integrity! Through a school-wide PBIS initiative, our students are able to "clip up" to an Outstanding day! 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 Peer Tutors 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

Allison Cleveland
SIC Chairperson

Harolyn Hess
Principal

2016-2017 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.
- Create and implement School Reading Plan in compliance with the SC State Reading Initiative
- Continue implementation of New SC State Standards(K-5).
- Continue to use assessment data to guide instruction.
- Continue to work toward narrowing the achievement gap between all subgroups at FDES.
- Continue implementation of a comprehensive Pyramid of Intervention.

Teacher Quality

- Ensure that 100% of teachers who teach core academic subjects will be highly qualified.
- Continue to provide staff development for interpreting data and analyzing results to review progress to drive instruction.
- Provide staff development for SC Reading Initiative.

School Climate

- Continue to improve school culture and climate by developing relationships.
- Continue Wellness Committee to help promote healthy choices for faculty and families.
- Promote community stakeholder involvement in the school through outreach events.

2017-2018 Strategic Plan Goals

Student Achievement

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School Climate

- Continue to improve school culture and climate by developing home/school relationships.
- Continue Wellness Committee to help promote healthy choices for faculty and families.
- Promote community stakeholder involvement in the school through outreach events.

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) are used for 30 minutes daily to provide differentiated instruction.
- 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 Benchmark 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

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.
- Quarterly math and ELA debriefings are held to discuss and analyze benchmark data.
- Staff developments were held to strengthen the use of data to guide instruction.

School Climate

- Business Partnerships
- PTA/SIC Programs
- Peer Mentoring Program
- Patriot Partners Mentoring Program (FDHS students)
- Grade Level Service Learning Projects
- Classroom web pages are being updated on a continual basis.
- Wellness Committee Award
- School Wide Health Fair

