

Curriculum Cornerstones

- Formative assessments/Pacing guides in all subject areas
- Virtual Academy Classes K-5
- 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)
- 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
- Math and science manipulative kits
- Technology Devices (Pre-K - 5th grade)
- Full Time ESOL teacher
- Responsive Classrooms/Morning Meeting
- STEM Lab
- Growth Mindset Focus
- Career Focus— Speakers/Career Vehicle Day*
- E-Learning School

**suspended due to Covid safety protocol*

Service Learning Opportunities

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

**suspended due to Covid safety protocol*

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
Open House
Spring Musical *
Virtual Family Tech Night
Book Fairs*
Virtual PTA Family Events
Growth Mindset Activities
Choral Performances*
SIC/PTA Organizations
Trunk or Treat*
Read Across America
Talent Show*
Kids Art Fair*
Career Vehicle Day*

Veterans Day Presentation
Volunteer Opportunities*
Coffee with the Principal*
Booster-Thon Dance Party
Grandparents Lunch*
Gator Speakers Series*
Walk to School Days*
Fine Arts Week*
Military Support
Ball for All*
Family Health Fair*

**suspended due to Covid safety protocol*

Opportunities for Students

Musical
Terrific Kids
PTA Reflections
Chorus
Gator Techs*
Gator Greeters*
WGGN
Extended Day
Gifted Programs
Robotics Team*
Great Gator of the Day
Peddling for Perfect Attendance
Reading Goal Celebrations
Quarterly/Yearly Awards
SNAP Squad*
Field Day*
Book Buddies*
Flag Attendants
Special Olympics
Grade Level Clubs (ERD)*
Peer Mentor Program*

Gator-Up Club*
Principal Pals*
Spelling Bee
Fifth Grade Dance*
Boosterthon Fun Run-Virtual
Afterschool Science Club*
Field Trips*
Question of the Day
N. Chas. Cultural Arts Fair*
Peer Tutors *
Running Club*
New Gators on the Block
Talent Show*
Morning Meetings
Responsive Classroom
PBIS Quarterly Celebrations
Art Club*
Growth Mindset Activities

**suspended due to Covid safety protocol*

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 April 2021

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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.

2020-2021 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.

2021-2022 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.
- 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

- 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.
- 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*
- Virtual Family Nights
- School –Wide Service Projects
- Home/School communication
- School Wide Health Fair*
- Growth Mindset Focus
- Gator Speakers (Career Focused)*

*suspended due to Covid safety protocol



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 2020-2021 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 19 countries and speak 22 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 participating our school-wide project of Jump rope for Heart and Boosterthon.

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