



# FDES SIC School Summary Report

April 30, 2026

**Dear FDES Families,**

We are pleased to present this annual summary, which reflects our mission to develop successful, lifelong learners. Guided by our school motto—Teamwork, Achievement, Integrity, Leadership, and Service—FDES strives to build a community where every student can excel.

Our staff utilizes evidence-based, explicit direct instruction to drive student achievement, using data to tailor our approach to each child’s unique needs. Beyond academics, we prioritize the social-emotional well-being of our students through the **Capturing Kids’ Hearts** initiative. This fosters an environment of mutual respect and high expectations.

Student agency is a cornerstone of the FDES experience. From our student-led WGGN morning news show to our various school-wide service projects, we provide diverse opportunities for students to lead and give back. We are proud of our accomplishments this year and remain committed to making FDES an exceptional place to learn and grow.

Thank you for taking the time to study this report.

Courtney Wyant/ Alison Waring

SIC Chairperson/ Principal

## **Mission Statement**

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

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## **Vision Statement**

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

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## **2025–2026 and 2026–2027 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 FSS levels that are determined by the district. On grade level for elementary/secondary (2-5) is defined as Met or Exceeds on MAP.

### **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 of Achievement

## Student Achievement

- READ 180 (3rd-5th grade) students who read below grade level by two or more grades.
- Math Interventions for 1st -5th grade students struggling in math.
- ELA Interventions for K-5th grade students struggling in reading.
- Exact Path/Edmentum
- ELA and Math Common Assessments are administered according to District schedule.
- Continued use of the MTSS process to assist and provide interventions for struggling students
- On-going staff development/collaborative planning 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
  - Virtual and In Person Family Nights
  - School –Wide Service Projects
  - Home/School communication
  - School Wide Health Fair
  - Capturing Kids Hearts
  - Mystery Reader Mondays
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## **Curriculum Cornerstones**

- Pacing guides in all subject areas
- Common Assessments
- Literacy Model
- Math Instructional Model
- Waterford for 4K-K
- ELA Intervention classes (K-5)
- Math Intervention classes (1st -5th)
- Read 180 Program for 3rd- 5th graders
- Exact Path/Edmentum Reflect/Study Island
- Math and science manipulative kits
- Technology Devices (Pre-K - 5th grade)
- MLL Teachers (1 Full Time and 1 Part Time)
- Career Focus— Speakers/Career Vehicle Day
- E-Learning School
- Literacy Coach
- Military Counselor
- Two Full Time School Counselors
- Full Time School Psychologist
- Capturing Kids Hearts

## **Points of Pride**

2024-2025- Excellent Report Card Rating  
2023-2024– Good Report Card Rating  
2018-2022-2023– Excellent Report Card Rating  
2021-2022– Excellent Report Card Rating  
2019—Excellent Report Card Rating  
2024-2025 Palmetto Gold Award  
2025-PTA Creative Program of the Year  
RAMP Award  
Palmetto’s Finest School  
Red Carpet School  
Accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools  
PBIS Banner School (Positive Behavior Intervention System)  
Excellence in Communication PTA Award(2024)  
Health and Wellness Award  
CKH Rising Star School(2023-2024)  
CKH National Showcase School (2024-2025)

## **Opportunities for Families**

Meet the Teacher Night  
Title I Annual Meeting  
Spring Musical  
Book Fairs  
Monthly Virtual Storytimes  
MLL Family Information Night  
Choral Performances  
Parent Powerhours  
SIC/PTA Organizations  
Trunk or Treat  
Read Across America  
Talent Show  
Career Vehicle Day  
Veterans Day Presentation  
Volunteer Opportunities  
Booster-Thon Fun Run  
Grandparents Breakfast  
Walk to School Days  
Fine Arts Week  
Military Support  
STEAM Family Night  
Raising Readers Workshop  
PTA General Meetings  
MTSS Model

## **Opportunities for Students**

Musical  
Terrific Kids  
PTA Reflections  
Chorus  
WGGN  
Gifted Programs  
Robotics Team  
Great Gator of the Day  
MAP Growth Celebrations  
Quarterly/Yearly Awards  
Field Day  
Book Buddies  
Flag Attendants  
Special Olympics  
Spelling Bee  
Guitar Club  
International Percussion Club  
Rock Band Club  
Boosterthon Fun Run  
Field Trips  
Question of the Day  
Student Council  
Gardening Club  
Talent Show  
Morning Meetings  
PBIS Quarterly Celebrations  
Art Club  
Running Club  
Capturing Kids Hearts

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# **School Improvement Council**

Elected Members

Lawanda Wilson, Rachel Ashby, Courtney Wyant

Appointed Members

Greg Smith, Jody Williams

Ex-officio Members

Alison Waring, Eddie Cohen, Susan Kephart