

## About Us

Brown's Ferry Elementary School is a small neighborhood school rich in tradition and heritage. Brown's Ferry's mission is to prepare and challenge our students to succeed as independent learners in today's society. The Brown's Ferry community, staff, and students are proud of their accomplishments and are committed to the belief that all children can be successful in school.

Brown's Ferry's goal is to ensure that students demonstrate competency in the core academic areas and exhibit the qualities of respectful, responsible, and productive members of society. Academic excellence and student engagement continue to be the focus of Brown's Ferry Elementary School. MAP, standardized test results, computer assisted instruction results, and running records are some of the information used to provide targeted instruction for individual students. In addition, remediation and enrichment are provided through use of a daily morning intervention block, flexible grouping, and focus groups.

During the school year, our teachers participated in district-wide collaboration sessions, vertical planning at the school level, and other professional development specific to teacher needs. Our teachers study areas of need and interest and collaborate effectively with their colleagues. We will continue to assess our strengths and weaknesses for school improvement. Brown's Ferry will also set new goals for improved student performance and focus attention on student achievement, teacher quality, parental involvement, and character education.

While academics are our focus special programs and initiatives beyond the classroom are available through other avenues such as art contests, music programs, Special Olympics and the community recreation department's sports programs. Character education is an important part of our school with administrators and teachers emphasizing the school's expectations daily. Students are recognized for their efforts, excellence, and positive behavior.

A dedicated and involved PTO and SIC continue to provide leadership and vision in the quest for excellence at our school. With the assistance of the PTO and SIC, our school community has the opportunity to participate in Family Curriculum Nights, Title I Parenting programs, Holiday programs, and other activities/events.

As we move forward, the school and community remain committed to the success of all students served at Brown's Ferry. We truly have a special school environment as the result of home, school, and community "Working in Harmony."

### Student Enrollment

180

### Number of Certified Staff

17

### School Report Card Ratings

2013 Below Average	Average
2012 Average	Average
2011 Below Average	Below Average

### ESEA Ratings

2013 F

2012 B



### Recognitions

#### Teacher of the Year

Ms. Katie Mueller

#### Support Staff of the Year

Mrs.. Maggie Brown

#### Volunteer of the Year Award

Lily of the Valley OES



## Brown's Ferry Elementary School



7292 Brown's Ferry Road  
Georgetown, SC 29440  
(843)527-1325  
[www.gcsd.k12.sc.us](http://www.gcsd.k12.sc.us)

Dr. Bethany Giles- Burgess  
Principal

Dr. H. Randall Dozier  
Superintendent



### Progress Achieved

- ☺ Maintenance of small class sizes
- ☺ Strong parent participation in academic conferences
- ☺ Increased number of interventions to positively impact student performance amongst those students considered at-risk
- ☺ Strengthened collaboration among stakeholders to support student achievement
- ☺ Implementation of Balanced Literacy
- ☺ Implementation of Data-Driven Decision Making

### Challenges and Needs

- ☺ Improving reading and math scores
  - ☺ Increasing enrollment
- ☺ Enhancing PBIS— Positive Behavioral Interventions Support Implementation
- ☺ Improving home-school-community relations

### Enrichment Opportunities

- Balanced Literacy
- BFES Marching Band
- Career Awareness Day
- Character Education Program
- Chorus
- Donors Choose Grant Recipients
- Family Curriculum Nights
- Healthy Schools Silver Award
- Jump Rope for Heart
- National Board Certified Teachers
- Parenting Workshops
- Quarterly Celebration Days
- Sewee Educational Foundation—5th grade
- Spelling Bee Participation
- SACS Accredited

## OUR MISSION

The Mission of the Brown's Ferry School Family is to challenge and prepare children to succeed as independent learners in a culturally diverse global society.

### Our Beliefs

Brown's Ferry Elementary School realizes that student success improves with a strong home/school partnership.

### We believe:

1. The purpose of education is to promote critical thinking, problem solving, team building and creativity.
2. Teachers and parents have the most influential impact on the students' learning environment.
3. Student success is supported by a positive self-concept.
4. The school needs to function as a learning organization and promote opportunities for teachers, students and parents to work together as a community of learners.
5. All students can be life-long learners in an ever-changing society.
6. Learning occurs most when there is a strong partnership between home, school, and community.
7. Each student is responsible for his/her choices which enhances a safe and comfortable learning environment.
8. All students can learn, and learn in various ways using different resources.
9. Cultural diversity can increase students' understanding of various ethnic groups in our present society. Multi-cultural experiences and relationships support students' understanding of and ability to work with others in our ever-changing society.
10. The family is the key component in a child's development, learning and well-being.

The purpose of this Annual Report to the Parents is to provide a comprehensive overview of Brown's Ferry Elementary's mission, beliefs, stakeholders, successes, and challenges.

### School Improvement Council Goals 2013-14

- ☺ To improve student achievement
- ☺ To promote positive behavior
- ☺ To increase home/school/community involvement

### **Brown's Ferry Elementary School Improvement Council Members 2013-2014**

Bethany Giles- Burgess, **Ex-Officio**  
Gail Hendriks **Teacher**  
Ellen Ruffin **Teacher**  
Coretta Green, **Teacher**  
Andrea Collins **Parent**  
Nakeya Armstrong, **Parent**  
Mack Reed, **Community Member**  
Keith Moore, **Community Member**

### P.T.O Officers

Andrea Collins  
Isha Cuttino  
Octavia Darby  
Quentin Miller

