

Our Mission

McDonald Elementary School will provide every student with a multi-faceted curriculum challenging students to reach their maximum potential and be productive in a global society.

Vision Statements

We envision a safe school where children are nurtured and encouraged to come prepared to learn.

We envision a staff that cares for and believes in their students, peers, and themselves.

We envision a total school community involved and supportive of student learning.

Our Beliefs

We believe...

All students can learn.

Our highest priority is student learning and achievement.

Curriculum and instructional practices should incorporate a variety of best practices to accommodate student needs.

We provide a safe and physically comfortable environment to promote student learning and achievement.

Administration, faculty, support staff, students, parents, and the community share the responsibility for student learning and achievement.

Each student is a valued individual with unique physical, social, emotional, and intellectual needs.

Our school is committed to continuous improvement that gives our students the opportunities to become confident, responsible, life long learners.

Parent, Teacher, Organization (PTO)

Daphne Smith, President
Dodie Gray, Vice-President
Teresa Cobb, Secretary
Sabrina Billings, Treasurer

School Improvement Council Members

Chairperson: Tracie Vereen
~ *Parents* ~
Dodie Gray, Teresa Cobb,
Sabrina Billings, Daphne Smith
~ *Community* ~
A.B. Marshall, Nathaniel Nixon,
Nancy Davis, Luethal Nixon, Cynthia Simon,
Joyce Linnen,
~ *Teachers* ~
Marylou High, Judith Rich
Yvonne Glasgo-Goss, Catherine Creson
Janice Dozier, Robin Kirtley
~ *Ex Officio* ~
Miriam Daniels, Principal
Melissa Miller, Assistant Principal
Donna Carraway, Teacher of the Year
Derenda Marshall, Teacher of the Year
Wendy Locklear, Teacher of the Year
Amy Norton, Teacher of the Year

Communications

Monthly/Classroom & School Newsletters, School Messenger Communication System, Channel 12, Annual/Title I Reports, Recognition Cards, Agendas, Phone Calls, Parent Conferences, Progress Reports, Home Visits, School Sign, Homework Hot Line, Email, School, Teacher, and District Websites

Curriculum/Programs

Project Learning Tree	Science/Tech Coaches
Lang. Arts/Balanced Literacy	Gifted/Talented
Intervention Programs	My Math
Writing Lab/Success Maker	Daily 5
PreK Vocabulary Development	Notebooking/dash notes
Technology Integration	Art/Music/PE
Common Core State Standards	MAP/Benchmark Tests
Accelerated Reader	Reading/Math

PLTC Professional Learning

Interventionist
ELA/Science//SS
integration

School Improvement Council Annual Report 2013-2014



McDonald Elementary School "Home of the Seagulls"

532 McDonald Road
Georgetown, SC 29440
Phone: (843) 527-3485
Fax: (843) 546-8674

Website: www.gcsd.k12.sc.us/mces

Palmetto's Finest Finalist 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 Red Carpet School

Mrs. Miriam R. S. Daniels, Principal
Ms. C. Melissa Miller, Assistant Principal
Ms. Angela Blocher, and Mrs. Kimberly Nesmith, Curriculum Coaches

*"Developing Our Best Resources...
Our Children"*

Demographic and Needs Assessment

Opening in 1955, we are a Title I school serving suburban and rural communities. Our enrollment of 528 students includes pre-kindergarten through fifth grades. We serve a diverse population consisting of African Americans, Caucasians, Hispanics, and a fragile special needs group. Our community consists predominantly of families in the lower socioeconomic range as indicated by the 88% of our students who qualify for free and reduced lunch. Parents and community have high expectations that our school will prepare their children for higher education and inspire them to become 21st Century Learners.

Enrollment by grade:

40+27	PreK	<u>77</u>	3
90	K	<u>75</u>	4
75	1	<u>68</u>	5
76	2		

Ethnicity of school (*numbers and percentages*):

0%	Asian
320/61%	African American
174/33%	Caucasian
5/1%	Hispanic
0%	Hawaiian-Pacific Islander
0%	Other

Free/Reduced Lunch: 80% Free
8% Reduced

Student/Teacher Ratio:

- 1:18 This ratio should include certified teachers to number of students
- 2 number of certified administrators
- 1 number of guidance counselors
- 1 number of instructional coaches
- 0 Other

Special Education (*numbers and percentages*):

0%	EM	0%	TM
0%	EH	1/1%	VH
5/1%	HH	6/1.2%	OHI
30/6%	LD	0/0%	TBI
0%	OH	0%	PMD
52/10%	SP	10/2%	AU

Gifted and Talented (*numbers and percentages*):

16/3% of the school population receives Academic GT services

ESOL Population by Grade (*numbers and percentages*):

4/1.3%	Pre-K	5/.9%	3
3/.5%	K	0/.0%	4
7/1.3%	1	2/.4%	5
5/.9%	2	Total	22

Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (PASS) *Numbers and Percentages of students meeting objectives (Met and Exemplary)*

English/Language Arts

School Year	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5
2010-2011	81.8%	61.8%	71.6%
2011-2012	83.6%	76.5%	71.6%
2012-2013	66.7%	65.7%	73.8%

Mathematics

School Year	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5
2010-2011	56.1%	64.5%	73.9%
2011-2012	64.2%	70.6%	65.4%
2012-2013	32.1%	62.7%	64.6%

School Report Card

Absolute Rating...Below Average
Improvement Rating...Below Average

We measure our students' academic achievement using the Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (PASS), Measures of Academic Progress (MAP), Fountas and Pinnell leveling program, Accelerated Reader (AR) STAR test, teacher-made tests, anecdotal records, writing samples, and teacher observations. PASS data continues to indicate improvements are being made in Special Education in ELA and math. We are aggressively implementing success alternatives to close the gap between Caucasian and African American student achievement. Academic data is the driving force behind school improvements. We utilize independent consultants for the purpose of analyzing data and student engagement. They collaborate with administrators to plan strategies for program improvement. At the beginning of the year data are analyzed and strategies for improvement are planned in grade level and faculty meetings. Teachers utilize Enrich that provides student data for PASS and MAP. An accumulation of data from PASS, MAP, running records, and IEPs drive the decision-making process for program development and improvement. Our Title I Plan initiatives were selected based on academic data.

The School Renewal Plan sets goals for improving student achievement for PASS and MAP for the next five years and outlines strategies to reach these goals. Grades K-5 utilize the running record guided reading levels to plan ELA instruction. Teachers facilitate instruction that will scaffold students to a higher reading level. MAP is given three times a year in grades 1-5 and the data is used to monitor student strengths and weaknesses in goal performance areas for math and reading. Our curriculum coaches facilitate staff development related to literacy and student achievement. Our data wall is updated regularly to help teachers track the progress of their students. Teachers are involved in Professional Learning and Teaching, staff development, weekly meetings designed to improve student achievement. Students are aware of the standards being taught because teachers vocalize them during instruction and post them in the classroom and on flip charts, written assignments, and displays. Interactive white boards are utilized to actively engage students in the instructional process. Small group focus times are scheduled daily to provide time for intensive instruction based on student needs. Classroom mini labs provide avenues for individualized assistance during small group instruction through the use of SuccessMaker. Hand-held computer software provides opportunities for individual students to practice previously taught skills in reading and math. Parents receive daily communication of homework assignments and standards through the student agendas that are taken home each day. Student achievement is celebrated each quarter on Success Day, when teachers and administrators recognize specific accomplishments: academic success, perfect attendance, AR point goals, and character of the month. Students wear their school shirts to promote unity and receive incentives for their accomplishments. Parents and community are invited to attend and celebrate success with us. All recognitions are reported in the *Seagull Gazette*, our school newsletter which is also included on our school website. Through all of these initiatives, we are striving to improve student achievement. We continue to remember our school motto of "Developing our best resources...our children" as we provide a quality education that helps them "reach their maximum potential and be productive in a global society." Please stop by and see our state of the art media center and interactive classroom.

