

Waccamaw Elementary School

Faculty and Staff

Waccamaw Elementary School has a staff of 51 professionals, 2 administrators, 1 Reading Coach and 27 support personnel plus various itinerant persons dedicated to providing the best educational program possible for each student. Medical services including health screening are provided by an onsite R. N., HGTC Nursing Dept., and speech therapists. Guidance services are provided by two counselors and a school psychologist. Bachelor degrees are held by 100% of the faculty. Of this group, 73% hold advanced degrees. Seven of our teachers have National Board Certification. Our teachers have an average of 20 years experience.

Student/Teacher Ratio

Pre-K	20/1 (1 parapro)
K	27/1 (1 parapro)
1st	14/1
2nd	17/1
3rd	25/1

Report to the Parents 2014-2015

1364 Waverly Rd.
Pawleys Island, SC 29585
843-237-4233
www.gcsd.k12.sc.us



Excellent Report Card Rating 2013-2014
Excellent Report Card Rating 2012-2013
Excellent Report Card Rating 2011-2012
Excellent Report Card Rating 2010-2011
Excellent Report Card Rating 2009-2010
Palmetto Gold Award Winner
2002, 2003, 2004, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013
Palmetto Silver Award 2006
2008 Safe Route to School Grant Recipient
Character Education Honorable Mention

Principal: Vervatine A. Reid

Assistant Principal: Roland Hewes

Reading Coach: Kim Means-Nesmith

PTA President: Brantley Danahy

SIC Chairperson: Melissa Moschgat

Programs / Activities/Events

Academic Fair Team
Accelerated Reader
Academic Fair
Backpack Buddies
Book Buddies
Book Fair Night
Book-It
Curriculum Night (Common Core)
Dolphin Derby Reading Day
Earth Day
Fall, Christmas and Spring Music/Drama Production
Fall Art Fundraiser
Fall Festival
Family Reading Day
First Tee w/Grade 3-4
Rtl Grades K-3
Good News Club
Grandparents Day
High Touch-High Tech
Honor Roll – Grades 2 & 3
Market Day- Grade 2
Multi-cultural Day
Private Tutors
Discovery Day
PASS Challenge
Perfect Attendance
South Carolina First Lego League & Robotics Education
SPICE Club
Spring Rainbow Run
Spring Art Show
Terrific Kids / Awards Day
Volunteer Program
Walk To School Day

School/Community Projects

March of Dimes
United Way
American Heart Association
Toys For Tots
Pennies For Patients

Curriculum The school encourages students to have a zeal to be inquiring, knowledgeable, caring, and active lifelong learners.

The school offers a comprehensive educational program with courses in the common core state standards areas including language arts, math, science, social studies, and special education. Classes in art, music, physical education, technology, media, and gifted and talented are also provided.

MAP (Measures of Academic Progress)

MAP provides teachers, students, and parents with an accurate assessment of student progress in mastering the basic skills. This assessment is given at least three times during the school year. Teachers can use this assessment information for instructional planning for individual students or an entire class and communication with parents. Intervention groups are developed to provide academic assistance.

PASS Palmetto Assessment of State Standards is a statewide test administered to all public school students in grades 3-8. The goal is for all students to score proficient or exemplary in the four core subjects (math, language arts, social studies, science).

Intervention/Enrichment Focus Group is a process used throughout the school year with grades K-3 to address early literacy with diverse learners and advanced readers. Diagnostic, progress monitoring, interventions, and assessments are exercised consistently (such as MAP, Running Records, teacher input, etc.).

Benchmark (District test)

Students are administered a test in the areas of math and language arts standards at least two times per year.

Professional Development

Teachers and paraprofessionals are engaged in monthly staff development to enhance their professional growth in the areas of ELA, math, social sciences, and technology.

Waccamaw Elementary School Information

Waccamaw Elementary School was built in 1976 on 35.3 acres of wooded land in Pawleys Island, SC. Originally, the school housed grades K-8, but because of the population growth in the area, the school now serves full day Child Development through 3rd grade. WES feeds into the Waccamaw Intermediate School.

A fine arts complex was built in 1984. This complex includes a music room, 2 art classrooms, a full size gymnasium and special service rooms for speech teachers and other itinerant teachers.

The attendance area for WES includes Murrells Inlet as the northern border and Hobcaw Barony as the southern boundary.

Classrooms

Individual classrooms are equipped with at least five computers, a printer, telephone, current maps, globes, and overhead projector, a listening station, headphones, and an abundance of books and teaching supplies. All classrooms are equipped with Promethean Boards/ interactive projectors. Pre-K-K-1 classrooms have bathrooms and sinks.

Technology

All classrooms are connected to our LAN and WAN (computer networks) which enable all computers to have internet access and access to our school Sprint system. This state of the art system gives teachers the ability to schedule educational television programs from their classroom computers and to also receive voice mail. Teachers are also equipped with a laptop and grade level computers on carts. WES has 2 computer labs. The CAI (Computer Assisted Instruction) Lab is used for reinforcement in language arts, math, and MAP testing. The other lab is used for enrichment in social sciences and technology and is equipped with 26 computers. Portable mini-laptop labs are available for all grades. The media center is equipped with scanners, digital cameras, a large screen display system and an abundance of educational software. Teachers are privileged to have the use of a fax machine, e-mail, telephone with voice mail, web page, and homework box to communicate with parents.

A surveillance system with 20 interior and exterior cameras are installed to insure a safe learning environment for everyone.



Enrollment

Our current enrollment is 677 students. Of those, 68% are Caucasian, 26% African-American, 3% Hispanic, and 3% other.

Special Area Classes

The fine arts, resource, enrichment, science resource lab, guidance, and physical education departments are excellent. These programs not only compliment the curriculum, they enhance and complete the educational experience.



Student Achievement

WES strives for and expects the best from all of our students academically and socially. Over the years we have excelled academically in performance both at the district and state on achievement tests. We attribute our success to the following:

- High expectations
- Committed and dedicated teachers
- Strong parental involvement
- Students entering school prepared to learn
- Support for teachers
- External resources and programs
- Regular student and teacher attendance
- School/Community relations

Goals

To improve and enhance student learning and achievement.

Provide a safe, healthy and creative learning environment.

To enhance the effectiveness of parents as they support their children in learning activities.

To enhance teacher quality through professional development.

Mission Statement

The mission of Waccamaw Elementary School, an inquiry-based learning school, is to help children become knowledgeable and caring citizens through cultural understandings and respect by providing developmentally appropriate curriculum in a safe and supportive environment.

School Motto

Achievement, Respect & Integrity
Through Education

Dear Parents and Students of WES,

Welcome to the 2014-2015 school year at Waccamaw Elementary School of inquiry-based learners, where we anticipate window of opportunities for all students to be successful.

I encourage you to take the time to review the contents of the student handbook. It will be resourceful both to you and your child in being organized and up to date on school policies, procedures and activities during the school year. Being knowledgeable of school policies and expectations may prevent your child from encountering problems at school, and enable your child to confidently reach his/her maximum potential.

We are excited to pilot two (2) 4 year old Child Development Education classrooms full day.

Our main thrust this upcoming year is to encourage students, teachers, parents, and the community to be involved in the learning process as we continue to implement the State Standards in all four core subjects and the Daily 5 predictable structures in all classrooms.

As a South Carolina Gold Award school, we will continue to focus on well-defined strategies as we infuse the South Carolina Common Core Standards through inquiry-based units instructionally. Diagnostic and achievement instruments will be administered by the teacher to students, such as MAP (Measuring Academic Progress), running records, common assessments, etc. to identify students' strengths and weaknesses in the areas of language arts and math.

As an inquiry-based learning school, we will continue to encourage our students in Child Development through 3 to become independent, inquired, active, and compassionate lifelong learners. We will continue to implement school-wide and in our community the following: Character Education, Balanced Literacy, student engagement, My Math, technology usage, Science Discovery, Response to Intervention process, Go-Green Recycle Project, promoting the Alliance for Healthier Schools initiative, and service learning projects.

As your principal, I welcome you to embrace the shared vision for the 2014-2015 school year at Waccamaw Elementary School.

Please visit our website:

www.gcsd.k12.sc.us to keep abreast of happenings at WES.