

School History

1917

Stone Primary School opens on Stone Avenue as Greenville's first school to exclusively serve elementary age students.

1923

A new building is constructed on Wilton Street, three blocks north of the original campus.

1995

Stone Elementary is renamed Stone Academy, and becomes an arts magnet school. That same year, the school is awarded a \$10,000 *Target 2000 Grant* to implement the South Carolina Framework for the Arts Curriculum Standards. Similar proposals are funded in 1996, 1998 and 1999.

1996

Stone Academy is designated an ABC (Arts in the Basic Curriculum) Advancement Site by the South Carolina Arts Commission and awarded \$6,000 to support the arts-integrated curriculum.

1997

Stone Academy is recognized by the South Carolina State Department of Education's South Carolina Writing Network as having an exemplary writing program. This award is received for three consecutive years.

2000

The Greenville County School District constructs a "new" Stone Academy and renovates the original 1923 school building on Wilton Street.

2004

Stone Academy playground comes alive through a collaboration with the City of Greenville and a grant from *KABOOM*. The kindergarten play area is also doubled in size.

2010

Stone is awarded the **2010 Dick and Tunky Riley School Improvement Award**.

Stone Academy parents and volunteers create a new play space with the .75 acre of land purchased by the district. Students now enjoy a track and multipurpose field.

2011

Stone Academy is named **Palmetto's Finest finalist**.

2015

Stone Academy receives a federal grant from Safe Routes to School. SRTS activities and resources focus on improving walking and biking conditions around schools while building healthy habits and safety skills.

2017-18

Stone Academy began a year-long Centennial Celebration "In 100 years there is only one you."

2019-20

In response to an unprecedented global pandemic, South Carolina school buildings were closed from March 16 to June 5. Four years of personalized learning practices enabled Stone Academy to transition smoothly to eLearning to continue to provide quality instruction and personal relationships with our students.

What Makes Stone Special?

"The teachers and activities make Stone special, like how 5th graders get to paint a mural somewhere, whether it is in the Stone Academy building or somewhere downtown."

Emma Johnson, 5th grade

"The library is special because we get to check out books. Mrs. Littlejohn and Mrs. Walter read stories to us."

Hobbes Tooker 1st grade

"Stone Academy isn't just an amazing school for kids to learn and grow, Stone Academy contains a family, starting with the principal to every single teacher, staff, and student in the school. If you are blessed to attend Stone, you will have an adopted family for life!"

Lura Godfrey, parent



STONE
ACADEMY
OF COMMUNICATION ARTS

Annual Report 2020-2021

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Stone Academy's mission is to prepare all students for lifelong learning by actively engaging students in a comprehensive, sequential, academic program interwoven with the arts and enriched with creative problem solving experiences appropriate for all learning styles.

This annual report is prepared by the School Improvement Council to inform parents of the school's progress in achieving goals and objectives of the Strategic Plan of Stone Academy.

2020-2021 Snapshot

Stone Academy embarked on this year in unique circumstances. Appropriately, our theme “**Hope is in...**” launched us into a hybrid model of student learning. Students and teachers have proven this year that learning can occur not only in the classroom, but also through our computers and in our living rooms and kitchens, alongside parents, siblings and pets. While COVID protocols prevented our annual school-wide production, staff and artists across our community committed to providing a variety of arts experiences throughout the year. Stone maintained for the twentieth year its success as an ABC (Arts in the Basic Curriculum) model school site and received funds to support the arts program. First and fifth grade students created incredible murals in the building. Third, fourth and fifth grade students participated in residencies with Dorrance Dance and the 92nd Street Y in New York City, New York..

Play Production and students in strings practiced throughout the year and performed. Jumpstart News transitioned to a weekly pre-recorded student production, using both in-studio and at-home recordings. Twenty-two fourth and fifth graders served on three crews during the school year.

Encore enrichment classes after school offered continued learning experiences in art, dance, drama, publishing and writing.

Stone students continue to perform academically higher than the district average in all areas.

In the 2020-2021 school year, the School Improvement Council continued to support the school’s academic growth and achievement through the school’s improvement plan. Arts integration continued to be a school-wide goal.



First grade mural

School Improvement Council 2020–2021

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School Portfolio Goals

A plan for continuous school improvement has been in place for over 10 years. At its inception, four data-driven goals were identified and became the focus of our Vision Planning Committees. The four Vision Planning Committees annually assess the plans, the implementation, the processes and progress to determine what needs to improve and how to make those improvements. When test data is available, each committee reevaluates their plan for appropriateness and effectiveness.

Stone’s School Improvement Council’s focus was aligned with our data-driven goals, and all stakeholders worked towards the same end. At each SIC meeting, members shared and discussed minutes from the four Vision Planning committees. Through hard work and commitment, the SIC, in conjunction with the Vision Planning committees, made the following noteworthy achievements:

- Professional Development focused on several areas – Personalized Learning, Arts Integration, data analysis, inclusive practices, writing and math. Teachers participated in weekly professional development opportunities focusing on differentiation and personalized learning.
- Students in grades K-5 have 1:1 access to a Chromebook. Additionally, students have access to class sets of iPads and virtual field trip equipment.
- This year students continued instruction in Media Literacy. Focusing on digital citizenship, bias, media balance, and other topics, students learned important technology skills and theory to better integrate technology into their lives in healthier ways. Students also developed digital learning skills to interact with content and curriculum through personalized learning, eLearning, and online support offered at Stone. Teachers implemented typing instruction through Typetastic to better support students’ use of devices.

Stone Academy School-wide Goals

- Goal 1:** Improve the reading and writing achievement of all students across all grade levels and demographic groups.
- Goal 2:** Improve the math achievement of all students across all grade levels and demographic groups.
- Goal 3:** Improve instructional support and innovative practices through technology and media literacy for increased student achievement and well-being.
- Goal 4:** Improve school and community understanding of Social Emotional Learning and the health and safety of our students to increase student achievement.