

# 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

Additional Related Arts courses were added to the weekly schedule: Creative Writing, Creative Movement, Media Arts, and Music Integration.

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?

"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*

"The awesome teachers at Stone make learning fun!" *Paul Godfrey, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade*

"Stone Academy is the nicest school ever! My teachers are the best and so funny and so kind!" *Blakely Ann Hickman, 1st Grade*

"Stone Academy's dance and drama classes--not all schools have those options. I'm thankful Stone does because I love them."  
*Emma Lynn Hickman, 3rd Grade*



**STONE**  
**ACADEMY**  
OF COMMUNICATION ARTS

## Annual Report 2019-2020

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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.*

# 2019-2020 Snapshot

Stone Academy's theme for this school year is "**Create Your Story.**" The annual school-wide production, held in early March, featured this theme and showcased music, dance, drama, and strings. An audience of more than 2,000 people watched the performance at Furman University's McAlister Auditorium. Stone maintained for the nineteenth year its status as an ABC (Arts in the Basic Curriculum) model school site and received funds to support several artists-in-residence. Fifth grade students created and performed a Rainbow Etude for the entire school. Third grade students participated in a felt making residency on the Underground Railroad Quilt.

Many students successfully auditioned for the various performing groups at school, with 55 in Stone Singers, 17 in Dance Ensemble, 32 in Play Production, and 101 students in strings. Jumpstart News continued as a daily, live student-produced TV program. Forty-seven fourth and fifth graders served on five crews during the school year.

Encore enrichment classes after school offered continued learning experiences in art, music (percussion & guitar), dance, drama, robotics, engineering, publishing and writing. The Stone Literary and Art Magazine (SLAM) was published by an Encore class. Stone parents also organized a running club that met each Tuesday morning before school at the school track. Any student was invited to attend.

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

In the 2019-2020 school year, the School Improvement Council continued to support parent involvement programs, including the Watch D.O.G.S. program, monthly lunch and learns, and the PTA. Several members of SIC specifically worked together to gather information on diversity, with the hopes of recommending Stone Academy for a diversity award in the near future.

Arts integration continued to be a school-wide goal. Many of our teachers chose to participate in either the Peace Center's Summer Institute or the Metropolitan Arts Council's SmartARTs program over the summer. Both provide teachers with a week-long intensive training in the Arts led by renowned artists-in-residence.

## School Improvement Council 2019–2020

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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.
- Student access to technology increased significantly this year. Students in grades 1-5 have 1:1 access to a Chromebook. All Kindergarten classrooms are equipped with N-Computing stations. Additionally, students have access to class sets of iPads, laptop carts, 16 mini iPads in the library, and virtual field trip equipment.
- Parent Lunch and Learns were offered throughout the school year to keep parents informed and integrated into technology use at Stone Academy. Parents interacted with the Google Suite, as well as various instructional apps and tools. Internet safety presentations were offered to both parents and students.

## 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 technology skills of students, teachers, and parents for increased student achievement, communication, and life-long technology skills.
- Goal 4:** Improve communication, parent involvement and parent understanding to increase student achievement.