



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. Students begin the 2001-2002 school year in the new building.

2004 Stone Academy playground comes alive through a collaboration with the City of Greenville and a grant from KABOOM. \$70,000 in new equipment and landscape improvements make hundreds of Stone students jump for joy. The kindergarten play area is also doubled in size with landscaping and grading and age appropriate equipment is installed.

2006 Stone Academy's inner courtyard garden becomes a fully functioning Outdoor Classroom for the school. Donations from Southern Greens, Landscape Architect Dabney Peebles, along with grants from Lowe's and Greenville Federal Credit Union, make this goal a reality.

2009 The Greenville County School District purchased .75 acres adjacent to the school.

2010 In March, the School Improvement Council (SIC) of Stone was awarded the 2010 Dick and Tunky Riley School Improvement Award. The award was created to recognize the significant contributions made to public education by the more than 15,000 SIC members who volunteer in every public school in the state. Stone Academy parents and volunteers create a new play space with the .75 acres purchased. Students now enjoy a track and multipurpose field.

2011 Stone Academy named Palmetto's Finest finalist.

2013 Stone Academy received Palmetto Gold for overall achievement.

What Makes Stone Special

I think the sense of community and care within the school environment is what truly makes Stone Academy special. Being a tutor for two years now I have seen the interactions between the students, teachers and administrative staff. Everyone always wears a smile and makes kind remarks towards one another. One of my favorite things about Stone is "The Big Show". This event allows all of the kids to work together as one cohesive team to put on a terrific show. These extracurricular events help the students develop both academically and socially, which is extremely important for their overall development. All in all, I love the fact that the students are comfortable and happy to be there and that the teachers (and administrative staff) realize the need for both social and academic progress. – **Jonathan Guerrier, Furman tutor**

Stone is special because we have dance and drama. We are the only school that offers those, and it is such a special opportunity to have the arts in our school. – **Eleanor Hart, 4th grade**

Stone's outstanding teachers make our school special. Our teachers care not only about our students' academic growth, but genuinely care about and foster their personal and social skills, teaching them as if each child were their own. – **Jennifer Medlock, SIC**

Stone Academy is special to me because I have teachers that care about me and want to help me learn new things. – **Symone Gamble, 5th grade**

One of the things that makes Stone special is the teacher camaraderie. We respect and share each other's advice, wisdom and knowledge. We monitor a child's progress throughout their years here. Just because a child has completed our "year", we are not done caring, or working with that child. The teachers treat each other as family. We care and know about their children, grandchildren and home. It is that kind of caring that makes Stone so very special. – **Betty Russell, Teacher**

Stone Academy is the best school I have ever been to because of all the nice teachers. – **Mi'quan Walters, 3rd grade**

Stone is not just a school. Stone is a community working together to celebrate learning by creating an educational environment that gives all students the opportunity to find their "voice" through the Arts. – **Susan Whitmire, Teacher**

**2010
Dick and Tunky Riley
School Improvement
Award Winner**



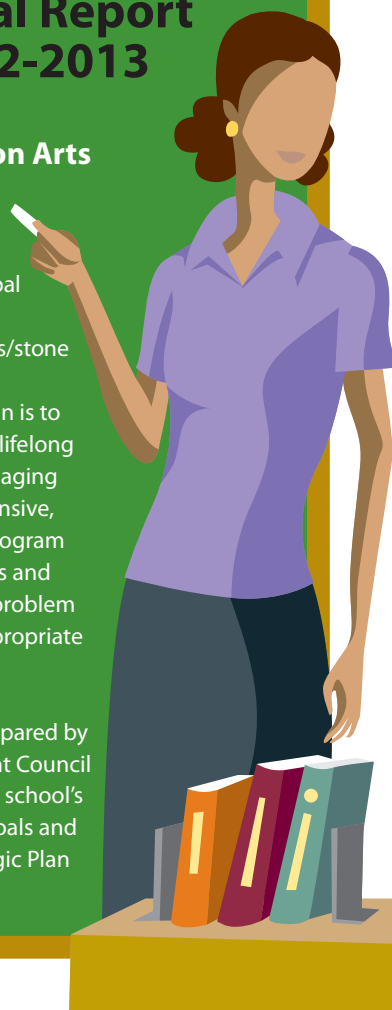
Annual Report 2012-2013

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of Communication Arts**
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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.

The 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.





2012-2013 Snapshot

Stone Academy met Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). We met 17 of the 17 standards set by the U.S. Department of Education in the "No Child Left Behind Act," giving us the distinction of meeting AYP. Adequate Yearly Progress focuses on the percentage of students scoring only at the highest levels – Met and Exemplary, and compares the performance of subgroups within the school. Stone also received the Palmetto Gold Award for receiving an excellent Annual School Report Card and excellent improvement rating.

Stone maintained for the fifteenth year its status as an ABC (Arts in the Basic Curriculum) model school site and received funds to support several artists-in-residence. The school-wide instructional theme was "Ubuntu." The annual school-wide production featured this theme and showcased music, dance, drama, and art. An audience of almost 2,500 people watched the performance at Furman University's McAlister Auditorium. Second grade students performed the American History Timeline in the fall, and third grade students did a spring showcase on South Carolina History.

Many students successfully auditioned for the various performing groups at school, with 70 in Stone Singers, 17 in Dance Ensemble, 22 in Play Production, and 55 students in strings. Jumpstart News continued as a daily, live student-produced TV program. Five crews of 15 members of fourth and fifth graders served during the school year.

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

Friday clubs were offered to fourth and fifth grade students and featured drama, dance, literature, publishing, physical activities, artistic creation, and music.

In the 2012-2013 school year, we continued to support parent involvement programs, especially the new Watch D.O.G.S. program which involves men volunteering during the school day in the classrooms. SIC also promoted community involvement through the mentoring program at the Frazee Dream Center. SIC continued to

collaborate with the City of Greenville to have open communications on the traffic flow and jointly used Croft Park, as well as the newly acquired lot adjacent to the school designated for additional parking. In addition, the SIC made efforts to evaluate the potential of the "basement" area in the old part of the school building.

Arts integration continued to be a school-wide goal. Ten teachers participated in the IDEA program. IDEA, Intensive Development in Education through the Arts, is a 3 year professional development program with intense training on integrating the arts across the curriculum.

School Improvement Council 2012-2013

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Stone Academy received the Palmetto Gold Award, receiving an excellent Annual School Report Card and excellent improvement rating.



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 improve student achievement.

School Portfolio Goals

A plan for continuous school improvement was developed in the 2002-2003 school year. Four data-driven goals (listed below) were identified, and these goals became the focus of a Vision Planning Committee empowered to implement the strategies and action plans defined in the school portfolio. 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. In May 2012, each committee presented the strategy and action plan to be implemented in the 2012-2013 school year. When the test data is made 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. The minutes from each committee were also shared with all faculty and staff via e-mail. Through hard work and commitment, the SIC, in conjunction with the Vision Planning committees, made the following noteworthy achievements:

- Professional Development focused on two areas – Autism Awareness and iPad Training. Behavior School Psychologists with Greenville County presented on the following topics: Introduction to Autism, Visual Strategies for Students with Autism, and Behavior Principals for High Functioning Students with Autism. Our iPad training focused on safe use with iPads, evaluating apps for education purposes, and effective use in the classroom.
- Family Math and Technology Night was offered to all Stone parents and students in October 2012.
- The Watch D.O.G.S. Chili kick-off was held in January 2013. Watch D.O.G.S. have signed up for each school day through the end of May.
- A Parent Muffins and Math workshop was held in November 2012. Parents attending received strategies and game ideas to use when working with their preschool or school-age children.
- A Responsive Parenting workshop was held in January 2013.

