

## **Highlights**

### **School**

- PBIS Exemplar school – the only school in Greenville with this highest PBIS Award ranking

### **Students**

- Honor Roll/Attendance Recognitions
- Positive Based Intervention Supports – PBIS
- Terrific Kids
- Won 1<sup>st</sup> Place 2014 Upstate Bridge Competition
- Student Council hosts community fundraisers
- Safety Patrol
- Broadcast Team
- Visiting Artists
- Parents in the Classroom Day
- PTA Math & Reading nights
- Gifted / Talented Program expanded services
- Jump Rope for Heart

### **Community Involvement**

- Buncombe Street United Methodist Church
- Box Tops
- Boy Scouts of America
- Public Education Partners
- Good News Club – Long Branch Baptist Church
- Kiwanis Club of Greenville
- Marvin’s Produce – Healthy Snack Grant
- SC Children’s Theater
- Greenville Little Theater
- Pennies for Pasta – leukemia research
- Pop Tabs for Ronald McDonald House
- Recycling
- Greenville Symphony Orchestra

### **Safety Features**

- School Check-In System for visitors
- Controlled entry to school and hall
- Weather radios
- Room phones
- Intercom communication system
- Classroom Safety Bags
- Direct Connect Safety Radio
- AED, Trained First Responders
- Certified CPR Responders
- Tornado, Fire, and Lockdown Drills

**Thomas E. Kerns Elementary** is a Title I school which receives supplemental federal funding. These funds are used to reduce class size, provide specialized staff, provide materials/supplies and provide professional development for teachers.

Thomas E. Kerns School Improvement Council goal for the 2014-2015 school year is to emphasize the use of the school tag line “CATCH the Wildcat Spirit” to impact student health by educating ourselves and parents. Our secondary goal is to get parents involved in making good decisions for their child’s health.

The SIC for the 2014-2015 school year has met, discussed, and researched ways to help families live healthier. We have collaborated with LiveWell Greenville to better learn about community resources. We are sponsoring a “CATCH” night during which parents and children are given the opportunity to learn different ways to make changes that impact their health.

Ways we have worked toward our goals this school year:

- Nutritional workshops
- Fresh fruits and vegetables grant
- Healthy tips in the newsletter
- Encouraging and providing alternate food celebration ideas
- 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Graders attended SAFE KIDS UPSTATE Homerun for Health at Fluor Field.
- Clemson 4H speakers came to our 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade to instruct about portions and exercise (choosemyplate.gov)
- LiveWell Greenville grant

For the 2015-2016 school year we will continue to focus on creating a healthy lifestyle because children focus and test better when they eat healthy foods and exercise regularly.

**MISSION** – *The mission of Thomas E. Kerns Elementary School is to develop successful, responsible life-long learners.*

**VISION** - *The vision of Thomas E. Kerns Elementary School is to encourage a community of excellence for students, staff, and parents.*

**BELIEFS** - *We believe . . .*

- *all students can learn.*
- *every student can achieve success.*
- *teachers are responsible for providing a high-quality education to all students.*
- *education should be developmentally appropriate and differentiated to meet individual needs.*

### **Professional Development for Staff**

State Standards

Data Teams

Balanced Literacy training

Professional Book Studies to enhance instruction

Technology Training

Mathematical Practices

### **Specialized Staff**

Instructional Coaches

Guidance Counselor

Title I Facilitator

Reading Interventionists

Related Arts Teachers

Speech Therapists

Occupational Therapist

Physical Therapist

Resource Teachers

English as a Second Language Teachers

Gifted/Talented Teacher

Title I Social Worker

Greenville Mental Health Worker

Title I Nurse

Parent Involvement Coordinator

**After School Child Care Centers** who pick-up at the school are kept on a list that can be requested from the office.

**Upcoming Testing:**

ACT Aspire Grades 3-5 will take place April 28<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>.

SC PASS Grades 4-5 will take place May 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>.

Reminders to help your child be successful during testing include:

- Make sure your child gets a good night of rest the night before.
- Dress your child comfortably.
- Refrain from arguing with or upsetting your child the morning of testing and send them with a positive remark.
- Consider re-scheduling any appointments that are during the school day.
- Please see that your child has a nutritious breakfast (school breakfast is free for all children and is served from 7:15-7:45).
- Send your child to school early so they can be ready to begin testing.

***Did you know. . .***

- For 2014-2015, Mrs. Lauren Van Tassel was our Teacher of the Year? For 2015-2016, Mr. Anthony Esposito will serve our Teacher of the Year? Congratulations!
- Our students collected approximately \$1400 for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society through their participation in Pennies for Patients? Congratulations to our classroom winners, Mrs. Armstrong's class for raising \$261.
- Thomas E. Kerns Elementary is named in honor of Dr. Kerns, former Superintendent of Greenville County Schools?
- Thomas E. Kerns Elementary won the Energy Star Award?
- TEK has been recognized by SAFE KIDS UPSTATE every year since we opened?
- TEK is a fully accredited school by AdvancED until June 30, 2019?
- All of our parent workshops are provided in both English and Spanish?

**Thomas E. Kerns Elementary**

**School Improvement Council  
Report to the Community  
2014-2015**

**Active Council Membership****Stephanie Baker, Chairman****Marsha Garrett, Vice Chair****Erica Martin, Secretary****Lisa Roh****Loida Evatt****Judy Hall****Ann Heatherly****Judith E. Mulkey, Principal****Cynthia Crouch, Assistant  
Principal**

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**Thomas E. Kerns  
Elementary**

**School Improvement  
Council**

**CATCH the Wildcat Spirit!**

**Report to the Community  
2014-2015**