

## 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
- Student Council hosts community fundraisers
- Safety Patrol
- Broadcast Team
- Visiting Artists
- Field Trips
- Parents in the Classroom Day
- PTA Math & Reading nights
- PTA Technology Night
- School-wide mile walk – Leap into Leap Year!
- Gifted / Talented Program expanded services
- Jump Rope for Heart
- Field Day

### Community Involvement

- Buncombe Street United Methodist Church
- Box Tops
- 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

### 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, and professional development for teachers.

Thomas E. Kerns School Improvement Council's goal for the 2015-2016 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 2015-2016 SIC has met, discussed, and researched ways to help families live healthier. We have collaborated with a CATCH coordinator from Greenville County Schools to better understand the CATCH lifestyle. We sponsored a "CATCH the Healthy Eating Spirit!" week during which parents and children were encouraged to participate in a daily healthy eating challenge. Primary grade winners were treated to an extra recess. Secondary grade winners explored additional healthy snacks.

Ways we have worked towards our goals this school year:

- Nutritional workshops
- Fresh fruits and vegetables grant
- Healthy tips in the newsletter
- Encouraging and providing alternate food celebration ideas
- Fourth Graders went to Fluor Field to attend Homerun for Health
- Clemson 4H speakers came to our 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade to instruct about portions and exercise (choosemyplate.gov)
- Grant funding from LiveWell Greenville

For the 2016-2017 school year, we will continue to focus on creating a healthy lifestyle. TEK's tagline, "CATCH the Wildcat Spirit!" embodies the Coordinated Approach to Child Health philosophy.

**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

### Specialized Staff

Instructional Coaches

Guidance Counselor

Title I Facilitator

Reading Interventionists

Literacy Specialist

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 Workers

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:**

SC Ready - Grades 3-5 will take the ELA tests on April 26-27, 2016. The math portion will be taken online in April and May.

SC PASS will also be taken online by Grades 4-5. The window for the science and social studies tests is May 11-27, 2016.

Below are some suggestions to help your child be successful during testing.

- Make sure your child gets a good night's rest the night before.
- Dress your child comfortably.
- Be positive and encourage your child to do their best.
- 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).
- Have your child arrive at school before 8 AM, so they can be ready to begin testing.

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

- For 2015-2016, Mr. Anthony Esposito was our Teacher of the Year? For 2016-2017, Mrs. Morgan Warner will serve as our Teacher of the Year. Congratulations!
- Our students collected approx. \$1600 for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society through their participation in Pennies for Pasta? Congratulations to our winner, Mrs. Dean's class, for winning the Olive Garden lunch!
- Thomas E. Kerns Elementary is named in honor of Dr. Kerns, former Superintendent of Greenville County Schools?
- TEK has been recognized by SAFE KIDS UPSTATE every year since we opened?
- TEK students all have personal learning devices to use at school?
- All of our parent workshops are provided in both English and Spanish?

**Thomas E. Kerns Elementary****School Improvement Council  
Report to the Community  
2015-2016****Council Membership****Stephanie Baker, Chairman****Marsha Garrett, Vice Chair****Erica Martin, Secretary****Cynthia Langman****Hakima Robinson****Loida Evatt****Judy Hall****Ann Heatherly****Judith E. Mulkey, Principal****Lakeshia Rainey, Assistant  
Principal**

**Thomas E. Kerns Elementary**  
**6650 Frontage Road at White Horse**  
**Greenville, SC 29605**  
**Phone: 864-355-1300**  
**Fax: 864-355-1351**

**Thomas E. Kerns  
Elementary****School Improvement  
Council****CATCH the Wildcat Spirit!**

**Report to the Community**  
**2015-2016**