

Highlights

School

- Rated a “B”, exceeds expectations, by the state on student performance
- Earned PALMETTO SILVER AWARD for overall general performance
- 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
- Battle of the Books
- King and Queen Contest
- Student Council hosts community fundraisers
- Safety Patrol
- Broadcast Team
- Visiting Artists
- Parents in the Classroom Day
- PTA Math/Science & Reading nights
- Gifted / Talented Program
- Jump Rope for Heart

Community Involvement

- Buncombe Street United Methodist Church
- Boy Scouts of America
- Camp Greenville
- Good News Club – **Long Branch Baptist Church**
- Kiwanis Club of Greenville
- Marvin’s Produce – Healthy Snack Grant
- Papa John’s Pizza
- Pennies for Pasta – leukemia research
- Pop Tabs for Ronald McDonald House
- Recycling- Go Green
- Roper Mountain Science Center Xplorers
- SC Children’s Theater

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 CPI Responders

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. Additionally, the funds are used to provide extended day tutoring to students in grades 2–5.

The enrollment of Thomas E. Kerns Elementary School is approximately 625 students. The population of students is diverse representing five different ethnic groups. The population of Thomas E. Kerns Elementary is significantly transient and 93% of the student body qualify for free or reduced priced meals.

Response to Intervention (RtI) is a program designed to identify the needs of students in their beginning literacy skills. Results from the fall 2013 screening of the kindergarteners indicated that nearly half of the students at Thomas E. Kerns Elementary began kindergarten with a Letter Sound Fluency score of <2 letter sounds. The kindergarten goal for students is a Letter Sound Fluency score of 31 letter sounds. In 2011, the RtI program was expanded to include first, second and third grade students.

Measuring Academic Progress (MAP), a district-wide testing initiative, is used to track student growth. Data indicate students are moving forward in their knowledge and concepts of basic skills in math and reading.

In 2007, our school implemented Positive Based Intervention Supports (PBIS). This intervention system rewards positive student behavior through individual and class rewards. Since the implementation of PBIS, data indicates a decline in office referrals resulting in more time on task for teachers. In 2011 and 2013, our school was recognized by the State as an “Exemplar” PBIS school. This is the highest level of recognition! We are the only school in Greenville County who has earned this top award.

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

Common Core State Standards

Data Teams

Balanced Literacy training

Professional Book Studies to enhance instruction

Technology Training

Math Journaling

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 Teacher

Gifted/Talented Teacher

Title I Social Worker

Greenville Mental Health Worker

Title I Nurse

Parent Involvement Coordinator

After School Child Care Centers

There is a list that can be requested from the office.

Fax: 864-355-1351

Test Data – The State of South Carolina requested a waiver through the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Under these guidelines, the annual measurable objective for 2013 was 635 for all subject areas. In 2013, the percentage of objectives met was above 88% in all areas but science and math. Thomas E. Kerns had an overall weighted points total of 82.8%. Therefore, our overall grade was a “B”. Additionally, we are recognized as a Title I Reward School by the State for our performance. Later in the year, we were again recognized with the Palmetto Silver Award for general performance. We are so proud of our students and teachers for their outstanding performance on the PASS tests!

Did you know. . .

- for 2013-2014, Mrs. Christy Duncan was our Teacher of the Year? For 2014-2015, Mrs. Lauren Van Tassel will serve as our Teacher of the Year. Congratulations!
- our students collected \$1800 for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society through their participation in Pennies for Patients?
- Thomas E. Kerns Elementary is named in honor of Dr. Kerns, former Superintendent of Greenville County Schools?
- Thomas E. Kerns Elementary won the Clean School Award?
- TEK has been recognized by SAFE KIDS UPSTATE every year since we opened?
- TEK has earned the State of South Carolina’s SILVER AWARD for overall performance on the PASS tests for the past three years?
- all of our parent workshops are provided in both English and Spanish?
- TEK was selected by Roper Mountain Science Center to participate in a 21st Century Grant Explorers Program?

**Thomas E. Kerns Elementary
School Improvement Council
Report to the Community
2013-2014**

Active Council Membership
Anita Thompson, Chairman
Stephanie Baker
Marsha Garrett
Tamiko Gingles
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!

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2013-2014**