

# STERLING



Inclusiveness

Experiential Learning

## SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

Each year, the School Improvement Council (SIC) prepares the School Report to the Community. This document highlights the accomplishments of our school in implementing our 5-year Strategic Plan for School Improvement and our plans for the future.

Sterling's School Improvement Council (SIC) has been working hard this year to help shape the direction of Sterling. The following report outlines much of what has been done this year and summarizes much of what has been accomplished by the students and faculty of Sterling as well.

This year, Sterling focused on Program specific goals within the Strategic Plan as well as continuing to develop Griffin PRIDE, a shared set of student and staff values. PRIDE stands for Positivity, Respect, Integrity,

Determination and Empathy. At the beginning of the year, teachers in each program set up an aggressive set of issues they wanted to address. Each month, the teachers would come together and discuss curriculum issues, assessment and ways to make their programs better and improve student learning.

Teachers were provided planning days periodically throughout the school year. These days were used to develop common assessments for the upcoming nine weeks as well

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*"Where the Uncommon is Common."*

## STUDENT ENGAGEMENT



### Experiential Learning

Students in clubs and organizations complete the test their knowledge.

Middle School students developed their own Activism Projects to act to make the world better.

Students across all grade levels engage in hands-on labs and field experiences to apply skills.

as a review of student progress for the current nine weeks.

Our Special Education Department and Administration trained this year in an inclusion model of providing services to students with identified disabilities. This will allow students to be served in a wider array of formats that meet student learning needs.

Our counseling department helped connect students and teachers to Graduation +. This will help students become college and career ready when they graduate.

As you look through our accomplishments, please review the two key areas through which we should evaluate our initiatives: **inclusiveness** and **experiential learning**.

#### Inclusiveness:

Through this objective, the school seeks to create an environment in which students, teachers, parents and community members feel accepted and a part of the school. Inclusiveness values these roles and appreciates the differences that each individual brings in fulfilling his or

her respective role. Characteristics of inclusiveness identified through our brainstorming include:

- Tolerance
- Acceptance
- Engagement
- Collaboration
- School pride

**Experiential Learning:** Through this objective, the school seeks to encourage students and teachers to engage in the

learning process in a manner that allows for learning from and through failure, risk taking and trial and error.

Experiential Learning is consistent with the currently used approach of inquiry-based learning. The characteristics of inquiry-based learning are demonstrated regularly in our teaching. However, there is a desire to see this approach expanded, encouraged, and emphasized.

Identified characteristics of experiential learning include:

- Value failure
- Trial and error
- Continuous improvement
- Create relationships of trust
- Safe and nurturing environment
- Support from peers
- Administrative leadership

Experiential  
Learning

Inclusiveness

Sterling has an exceptional staff. Each year they come together and perform at the annual Talent Show to surprise the students and parents!

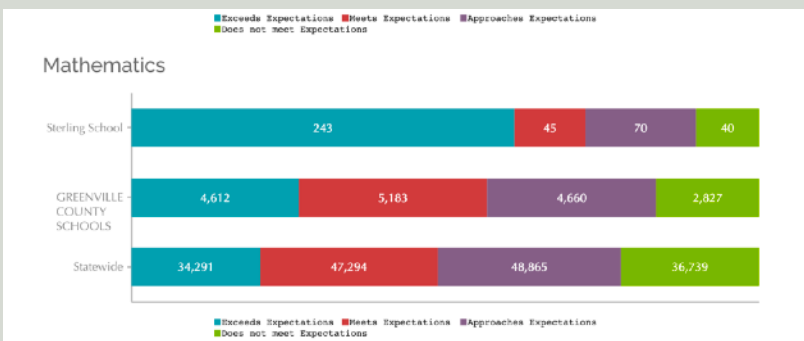
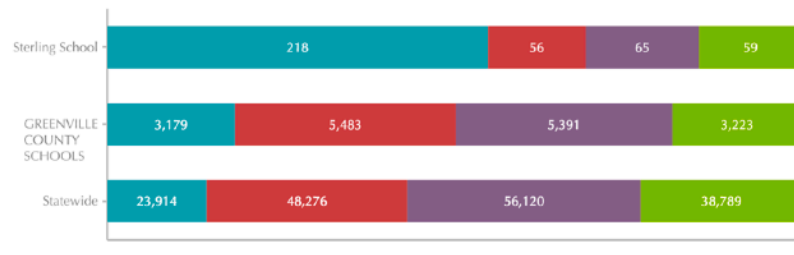


## South Carolina College-and Career-Ready Assessments (SC READY)

The South Carolina College-and Career-Ready(SC READY) assessment was given to students in grades 3-8 in Spring 2016. Students were assessed in the subject areas of Reading, English, Mathematics and Writing.

0 = Results for groups with 4 or fewer students

### English



## Test Scores:

The ACT Aspire and PASS scores reported on the School Report Card show combined scores of both programs. As a School Improvement Council, we look at the scores by program to ensure quality achievement for both programs in the school.

We continue to watch for trends and strive to build consistency across all areas tested. We also want to see the Sterling program continue student improvement in 3rd, 4th and 5th grades. Sterling elementary students made positive gains as well as showed areas that need improvement. Charles Townes Center students have continued to post a high percentage of Exemplary & Exceeds Expectations scores.

## SCPASS

The SC Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (SCPASS) was given to students in grades 4 - 8 in Spring 2016. Students were assessed in the subject areas of Science and Social Studies.

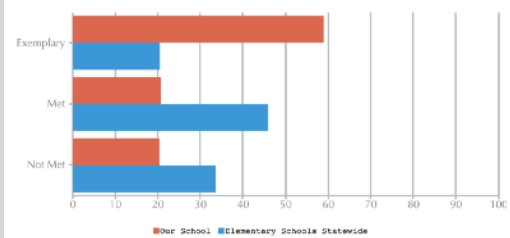
**"Exemplary":** student demonstrated exemplary performance in meeting the grade level standard.

**"Met":** student met the grade level standard.

**"Not Met":** student did not meet the grade level standard.

*Note: Results include SC-AIT assessment results.*

### Science

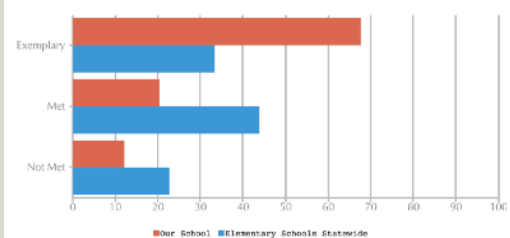


Our School: Percent Met and Above for each grade level

4th Grade 5th Grade

78.2 81.1

### Social Studies



## Looking Forward: 2017-2018

- **Assessment:** Continue to develop curriculum continua, common assessments and other strategies to better evaluate and communicate student growth and progress.
- **Curriculum Development:** Continue to explore standards alignment and integration into our instructional units by program.
- **PRIDE:** Continue to develop and implement a school-wide set of values to support the social and emotional development of students while strengthening our school culture.
- **Differentiation & Enrichment:** Continue to expand opportunities for remediation, enrichment, extension and acceleration of curricula to meet student needs regardless of age, grade or program.



Our people make Sterling great. From traveling to see best practices to supporting our students in need, our people model GriffinPRIDE





# PRIDE

Positivity Respect Integrity Determination Empathy



SIC MEMBERS 2015-2016	PARENTS	COMMUNITY	TEACHERS
Ex-Officio David Johnstone Principal	Anne Spence Chair	Pastor Darin Blue Nicholtown Missionary Baptist Church	Amy Brown
Elizabeth Hart PTA President	Crystal Andrews	Jane Snyder Dir. Gifted & Talented	Anna Dean
Casey Noble Guidance	Christine Bruner	Beth Waters/ Kendra Stout Regions Bank	Danielle Forman
	Jeff Diaz	Delores Durham President Nicholtown Neighborhood Association	
	Danielle Hestermann		
	Shayla Read		

## STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

