



Palmetto Elementary School - 2020-2021
School Improvement Council - Report to Parents
Amy W. Cothran, Principal

2020-2021 SIC Committee

Teachers:

Amanda McCall
Maggie Allen
Leslie Phillips
Julia Clardy
Ashley Dodgens
Sylvia Rogers
Heather Wilson
Andi Williams

Parents:

Amber Ford
Christie Shealy
Buffie Yates

Community:

Paulette Kirkpatrick
Michelle Starnes

*Palmetto Elementary is a **SAFE PLACE** where young **LEADERS** achieve their **PERSONAL BEST** and **IMPACT** the world.*

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A Message from Mrs. Cothran:

Palmetto Elementary School has so many extraordinary things to share. Title I funds were used to purchase new iPads and additional reading materials for all classrooms. We are excited to have the second year of the YMCA After-School Program at PES. In March of 2020, COVID-19 shut down schools across the state. However, PES continued to provide virtual learning for all students. Besides our teachers' daily academic instruction, our food and nutrition staff served meals daily to students. The staff parade to visit families was a huge success. At the end of the year, our drive through celebrations were also a fantastic way to wrap up the year and celebrate our students. I am so proud of our faculty and staff for providing quality instruction and staying connected to our students and families. As we began the new school year, many safety protocols were implemented to ensure the students' and staff's safe return. We have both students and staff who are a part of the Anderson One Virtual Learning Academy. All students in Kindergarten through 5th grade have their iPad for learning in the classroom, and these iPads will be available to send home if the need arises for Virtual Classroom Instruction during the year. Despite the challenges and changes of COVID-19, our students and staff continue to MAKE IT HAPPEN every day.

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Palmetto Elementary School - 1 Roberts Blvd. Williamston, SC 29697 - 864-847-5442

The Vision of Palmetto Elementary School:

- All children are provided with equal learning opportunities, which will enhance their intellectual development and meet our changing society's demands.
 - The community members, students, school staff, and parents work as educational partners to provide service and support their academic mission.
 - Instructional goals are established and supported by the administration, faculty, office staff, parents, and students.
 - The educational experiences blend and balance children's creative, emotional, intellectual, and social needs.
 - There is an integration of skill proficiencies and expectations among all disciplines that are incorporated into the curriculum.
 - All individuals are treated and expected to treat others with dignity, fairness, and respect.
 - The educational experiences foster active involvement, independence of thought, and emphasize problem-solving and critical thinking.
 - The value and contributions of diverse cultures are recognized and appreciated.
 - Children develop a life-long appreciation of the arts, physical fitness, and the importance of good healthy choices.
 - Children depart with a positive sense of self, love of learning, and skills necessary to continue their life-long development.
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School Improvement Council Plan:

- Participate in the development of the five-year school improvement plan.
- Assist in the monitoring of the implementation of the plan and evaluation of results on achieving the goals.
- Assist in the writing of annual updates.
- Write a report to the parents about the progress of the school and the district. Additionally, the message is to include ideas to achieve goals and objectives on the strategic plan.
- Write a narrative to the School Report Card in conjunction with the principal.
- Participate in revising the school improvement plan if the school is rated unsatisfactory on the School Report Card.

The Role of the School Improvement Council:

The SIC of Palmetto Elementary works closely with all stakeholders to support and provide students the best opportunities at Palmetto Elementary. Throughout the school year, the committee meets numerous times to discuss, evaluate, and plan to continue achieving the school improvement plan's goals.

Parent Communication:

Palmetto Elementary continues to improve communication with parents and families in new and innovative ways. To share information, exciting news, and upcoming events, we utilize Remind, Facebook, the school website, and Bright Arrow. All classrooms use Seesaw to communicate with parents and showcase student learning and growth in a digital format, creating a digital portfolio for each student. Many classrooms also use Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, Remind, and Class Dojo to share important information, photos, and videos of student learning.

GoalPOST:

GoalPOST is an after school program developed in collaboration with Clemson University and Anderson School Districts 1 and 4. The program is grant funded by 21st Century Communication Learning Centers that help students with many skills. The program's skills include academic enrichment, recreational activities, and life skills for students in 3rd through 5th grades. The program is free of charge and staffed by certified teachers and Clemson students. Bus transportation is available for students. The program begins at school dismissal time and ends at 5:15 pm. During these times, students participate in homework sessions, fun activities designed to emphasize skills and concepts they are currently learning at school, technology enrichment, and recreational activities.

The Mustang Way:

Our Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) system is known as "The Mustang Way." This approach establishes behavioral and social expectations for all PES students and promotes a positive school culture. At Palmetto Elementary, we want everyone to Be Safe, Be Respectful, and Be Responsible. That is the Mustang Way. Students who demonstrate safe, respectful, and responsible behavior can be rewarded with a Dojo point by any faculty or staff member, including teachers, custodians, cafeteria staff, bus drivers, and administrators. The teachers' classroom systems reward Dojo points to students.

During the 2019-2020 school year, parents, students, and community involvement opportunities included: open house - Grandparents Breakfast - Thanksgiving Lunch - Treats with Teachers - GoalPOST - YMCA After-School Program - BETA Club - Student Council - Mother/Son Kickball - Daddy/Daughter Dance - Mighty Mustang Celebration.

We are exploring ways to continue to keep our families and the community involved in our school while following the Anderson District One Return to School Plan and Protocols.

We are Safe. We are Respectful. We are Responsible. --- We MAKE IT HAPPEN.