

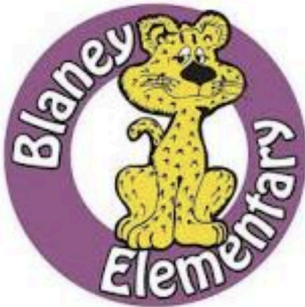
Blaney Elementary School School Improvement Council:
Report to the Parents
2023-2024

Vision & Mission



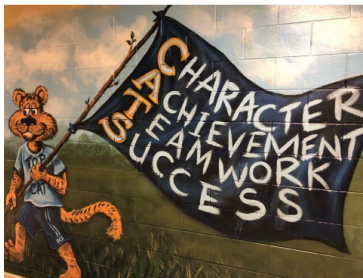
Kershaw County School District Mission

Our mission is to educate all students for success.



BES Vision

Where we love, empower, and grow each student as they develop socially and academically.



BES Mission

As a Blaney Wildcat, I will care for others, aim to be great, and think positively.
It's the Wildcat Way!

School Improvement Council

South Carolina Statute (Act 135 of 1993) requires each of the state's School Improvement Councils to publish and distribute an annual Report to the Parents highlighting the progress the school is making in achieving the goals and objectives of the school's strategic plan. The report

is developed by the School Improvement Council to share the challenges and successes of the school, students, parents and teachers for the current school year.

Purpose of the Report

“This Report is issued by the Blaney Elementary School Improvement Council in accordance with South Carolina Law to share information on the school's progress in meeting various goals and objectives, the work of the SIC, and other accomplishments during the school year.”

SIC Members(2023-2024)

- Dr. Chastity Evans, Principal
- Harriet Boykin-Garity, Assistant Principal
- Chelsey Ford, Chair
- Kimberly Chancey, Vice-Chair
- Kimberly Ball, Secretary
- Jamaica Hopkins, Parent
- Melissa Emmons, Community Member
- Whitney McIntyre, Community Member
- Lorenzo White, Community Member
- Janet Wilhite, Teacher
- Frances Goodwin, Teacher



Progress on School Improvement Council Goals

Our School Improvement Council has made progress throughout the 2023-2024 school year. The council is very proud of our teachers, students and families for demonstrating resilience, creativity, and collaboration throughout this school year.

This year, our School Improvement Council has focused on re-establishing effective school improvement council and developing goals that will improve our school. We are in the process of reviewing school level data and determining updated goals for the School Renewal Plan that will be implemented during the 2024-2025 school year. The council is currently working on ways to improve parent involvement at Blaney Elementary School.

Parents and community members have been able to participate in school activities again this year. Our volunteers have been active and engaged in various events throughout the year. Our School Improvement Council is always looking for ways to improve our school climate and culture. We thank you for your support and welcome any suggestions you might have as we continue to love, empower, and grow each student as they develop socially and academically.



SEAGUL

The SEAGUL Program caters to gifted and talented students from third to fifth grade, providing daily sessions during a designated PAWS time. Throughout the program, students engage in problem-solving and critical-thinking activities to challenge their intellect. One notable highlight is the fifth-grade unit on neuroscience, where students delve into the intricacies of the brain before culminating in a hands-on sheep brain

dissection. In another engaging project, fourth-grade students explore ancient civilizations, constructing miniature paper versions of landmarks such as the Great Wall of China and the Roman Colosseum. Meanwhile, third-grade students are immersed in the art of research, focusing on subjects like the birds of South Carolina and ocean habitats. This experiential learning approach includes a trip to Huntington Beach State Park, enriching their understanding of the natural world firsthand.

Collective Leadership Institute (CLI)

Blaney Elementary School has also become a Collective Leadership Initiative school, a free state initiative. A CLI school focuses on collective leadership throughout the school including students, staff members, and families. As a CLI school, we have analyzed data and determined our Problem of Practice which is, "How might we rebuild the culture of trust to embrace collective leadership that aligns with Blaney's vision and mission". Our staff has worked on three collective leadership teams (Leadership, Academics, and Culture) to plan and execute events, challenges, and celebrations to continue our efforts in rebuilding our culture. Staff are surveyed three times a year regarding the culture and leadership throughout the school and data is analyzed to influence plans moving forward.

Academics

The Academics Team works to celebrate students for their academic achievements and support school efforts to improve the academic success of all students. We continue to work on our goal to help students see that they can be successful in so many different areas of academics. Following is a list of key focus items for the Academic Team:

- Fall Academic Night-Title 1-Parent Orientation
- Spring Academic Night-Title 1-Celebration of One Book One School
- One Book One School
- Student Academic Celebrations: Middle of the Year and End of the Year
- Goal Setting for MAP Testing-Value Added Targets

- Black History Month Celebration
- Heritage Tea Project (Grades 3rd-5th)
- Dreambox Celebrations



A-B Honor Roll

One Book One School Event

Culture

The culture team takes the lead in orchestrating all school-wide events throughout the year. Additionally, we dedicate ourselves to nurturing staff morale through a range of engaging activities and appreciation incentives. Our commitment extends to actively fostering parent and community involvement by carefully planning events year-round and collaborating closely with our Parent-Teacher Association (PTA).

Here is a list of things that fall under the culture team and are taken care of by one or more members of our team:

- CATS Awards
- Staff Crafts (these happen quarterly)
- Blaney Blessings
- Monthly Birthday Celebrations
- Random Staff Appreciation
- Monthly Staff Celebrations: Blaney Blessings, Birthdays, Random Staff Appreciation
- Appreciation Days: These appreciation days happen all year long and celebrate our staff based on their positions at the school.
- PTA - We are directly involved with PTA and help bridge the relationship between PTA and our staff. We also assist with PTA led events: Boo-Thru, Paint Night, Holiday Shop, etc.
- SIC - We have two representatives from our team on the SIC to make sure teacher voices are heard.
- Buddy Classrooms - We lead the buddy classroom initiatives. Once classrooms are paired for the year, the classroom teachers take this over.
- Kidz in Lidz

- Partnering with Local Business: This is for things like raffle gifts for events, student incentives, teacher incentives, honor roll incentives, golden apple gift certificates, etc.
- Food Trucks
- Yearbook

Here is a list of the community involved events that Culture Team leads:

- Grits with Grands
- Pastries with Pastors
- Veterans Day Parade
- Pancakes with Pals
- Paint Night (PTA sponsored event but Culture Team Members help with this)
- Boo-Thru (PTA sponsored event but Culture Team Members help with this)
- Staff Christmas Party
- Blaney Ball



Blaney Ball

Pancakes with Pals



Student Leadership

The Student Leadership team's goal is to empower students to be student leaders of their school, in order to create a feeling of ownership and responsibility. This year we have created some student leadership roles throughout the building, as well as encouraged teachers to create classroom leadership roles. Additionally, we began preplanning for additional leadership roles to begin next school year. This year, our school participated in the Canned Food Drive, this event was run by our student leaders. We had students apply for a leadership job for this event and students were then based on their applications for specific jobs.. Our Recycling program was started and we have student leaders who help to manage this program within each class and throughout the school. The Student Leadership Team has also helped to plan and coordinate

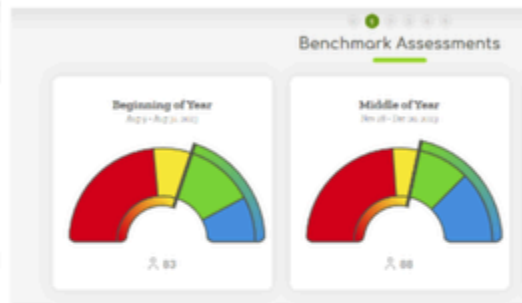
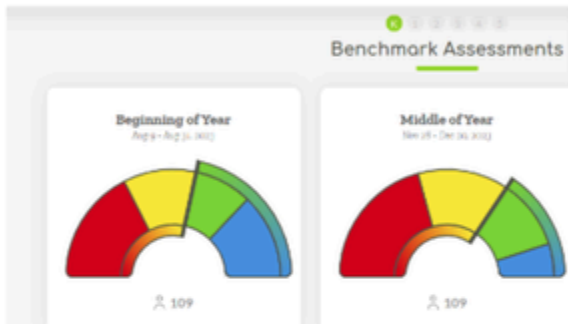
the Winter/Spring Pep Rally. This rally is to acknowledge students who are leaders outside of the classroom in an athletic realm. Finally, we have created leadership roles for our Kindergarten students, such as assisting with the morning announcement with our guidance counselor and with managing our lost and found items.

Student Achievement Data

Acadience Reading:

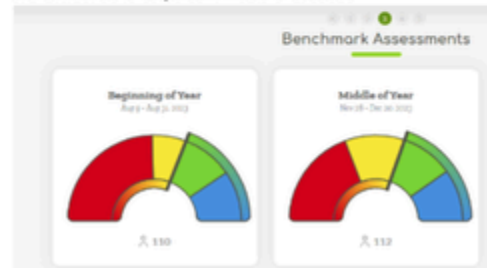
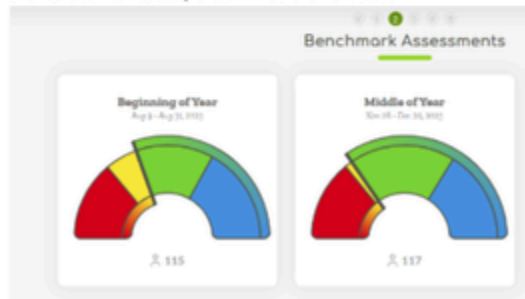
Kindergarten: 43 to 31 percent meets or exceeds

1st Grade: 40 to 43 percent meets or exceeds



2nd Grade: 61 to 69 percent meets or exceeds

3rd Grade: 38 to 39 percent meets or exceeds



Acadience (DIEBLS)

Acadience Reading is a universal screening and progress monitoring assessment that measures the acquisition of early literacy skills from kindergarten through sixth grade.

MAP (Mid-Year Data)

| Grade Level | Reading (% Average or Higher) | Math (% Average or Higher) |
|--------------------|--|---|
| 1st Grade | 35.9% | 40.4% |
| 2nd Grade | 47.4% | 42.0% |
| 3rd Grade | 35.9% | 35.9% |
| 4th Grade | 44.6% | 41.8% |
| 5th Grade | 33.3% | 43.4% |

Measure of Academic Progress (MAP)

MAP assessments are computer adaptive achievement tests in Mathematics and Reading. The computer adjusts the difficulty of the questions so that each student takes a unique test. The difficulty of each question is based on how well the student has answered previous questions.

SCReady (2023)

| Grade Level | ELA (% Meets or Exceeds) | Math (% Meets or Exceeds) |
|--------------------|---|--|
| 3rd Grade | 55% | 49.17% |
| 4th Grade | 55.32% | 47.52% |
| 5th Grade | 47.69% | 37.41% |

SCReady

The South Carolina College- and Career-Ready Assessment (SC READY) is a statewide assessment in English language arts (ELA) and mathematics. All students in grades 3-8, including students with disabilities and English learners (ELs), must be administered SC READY except those students who qualify for the alternate test, as determined by their IEP team.

Curriculum/Programs/Enrichment



- HMH Into Math
- Edmentum: Reading Eggs, Mathseeds, Exact PathSTEM/ABL Lab
- Tutoring Services for at risk students
- Letterland Day
- Morning Show Crew
- Pirate Math
- Elgin Toy Round-Up
- SEAGUL
- P.A.W.S
- Beta Club
- Art Club
- Chorus
- Little Red Riding Hood Play - 3rd Grade
- Service Quest
- Archery Team
- Instructional Coaches (Reading, Math & Science)
- Interventionist (Reading, Math, & Behavior)
- Field Experiences
- Pep Rallies to recognize our student athletes
- One Book One School

Connecting with our Families/Community

- Monthly Most Valuable Business
- Parent Orientation Night
- One Book One School - Spring Academic Night
- Hispanic Family Night
- Purple Star Military Family Breakfast
- STEM Night - Sponsored by PTA
- School Holiday Store
- Holiday Chorus Concert
- Veteran's Day Parade
- 3rd grade Little Red Riding Hood play
- Elgin Christmas Parade
- Heritage Tea Project
- Celebrating the Arts (Visual & Performing)
- Elgin Tree Lighting
- Pancakes with Pals
- Pastries with Pastors
- Grits with Grands
- Boo Thru - Sponsored by PTA
- School Webpage
- School Facebook Page
- Wildcat Parent Connection - Monthly School Ne
- Class Dojo



Recognitions and Achievements



**Teacher of the Year -
Baleigh Johnson**

Support Staff of the Year: Royall Turner





Golden Oar Recipient

Mrs. Pam Johnson
Mrs. Megan Letter



National Board Certification Recognition - Ms. Randi Ray



Golden Apple Recipients - Teachers

- Hayley Davis - 3rd Grade
- Courtney Lybrand - 3rd Grade
- Randi Ray - 1st Grade
- Christan Richardson - Special Education
- Janice Wilhite - Music
- Not Pictured:
- Andy Beck - Special Education
- Deanna Furniss - Art
- Glenna Brown-Kaiser - School Counseling



Golden Apple Recipients - Support Staff

- Guy Brown - Lead Custodian
- Melissa Emmons - Bookkeeper
- Laurie Gonzalez - Registrar
- Ashley Lawny - Instructional Assistant (5K)
- Lauren Mims - Instructional Assistant (Library)
- Jamie Parker - Instructional Assistant (SPED)
- Royall Turner - Behavior Interventionist
- Not Pictured:
- Denise Tate

A Special Thank You to our Community Partnerships

- Orthodontics for all ages --> Sponsored our car tags
 - Chavelas - Elgin
 - Southern Momma's - Elgin
 - Gyromania - Elgin
 - Lisa Hall Realty
 - Little Theater - Camden
 - Chick Fil A - Camden
 - Texas Roadhouse - Columbia
 - Skateland - Pontiac
 - Marble Slab - Columbia
 - Sonic - Lugoff
 - Jersey Mikes - Camden
 - Royal Z Lanes - Columbia
 - Substation II - Lugoff