



HEATH SPRINGS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Heath Springs Elementary School

Report to the People- School Profile, 2021.

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Heath Springs Elementary School is committed to helping all students develop the World Class Skills and Life and Career Characteristics of the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate by providing opportunities for students to master grade level standards across the curriculum through project or problem based learning experiences. We provide these experiences through the implementation of our school vision: Change Your Mindset, Expand Your World! We demonstrate this vision by challenging our students with best practices and professional development for our teachers. These learning experiences will emphasize STEAM activities and encourage creativity, innovation, critical thinking and collaboration. These experiences will also promote self-direction, perseverance, tolerance and a positive work ethic as new windows are opened to global perspective. We have a STEAM lab which includes a science lab, drama room with dance floor, and pottery room. We have two computer labs, computers in the classrooms, and have a 1:1 device ratio for 1st-5th grades. Teachers have worked diligently to acquire iPads and iPad minis through grant money to further our technology initiative. We facilitate the development of engineering and math through opportunities with building and design activities with LEGO blocks and sets, KEVA planks, project design, and coding.

Heath Springs Elementary School's curriculum emphasizes whole child education, reading, and writing across the curriculum, and the response to intervention (RTI) protocol. Our faculty and staff "study and use data results to develop instructional goals and plans to meet each and every child's need." In the 2018-2019 school year, Heath Springs Elementary served 395 students in Prekindergarten to Grade 5, with 48 percent being female and 52 percent being male. We had a student to teacher ratio of 19.9:1 for core subjects, and approximately 55.6 percent of our faculty members had advanced degrees. In 2019-2020, the enrollment was 398. 59.3% of our faculty members had advanced degrees.

In the spring of 2019, 65.7 percent of Heath Springs Elementary students scored meets or exceeds expectations on the SC PASS assessment in social studies (compared to a district average of 66.0 and a state average of 67.6 percent). 45 percent of students scored meets or exceeds in SC PASS science (compared to a district average of 50.2 percent and state average of 49.1 percent). Meanwhile, 44.3 percent of Heath Springs students reached the same level in SC Ready ELA (compared to a district average of 46.5 percent and a state average of 45.4 percent). In the SC READY math assessment, 45.4 percent of Heath Springs students scored meets or exceeds (compared to a district average of 47.5 percent and state average of 45.1 percent). There is no data from the spring of 2020 due to the pandemic.

We have a LEGO competition team and after school club. We also have an afternoon pottery class for teachers and students to learn pottery skills. We are an arts infused school. The teachers coordinate opportunities for the arts to be blended across the curriculum. We have two main drama productions a year. In 2018-2019, Mrs. Leis, our music teacher, produced and directed our 3rd-5th graders as they performed *Jingle Bell Jukebox*. Mrs. Gardner, our art teacher, was the director of the stage set and design. Students in Grades K-2 performed *Snow White*. We had artists in residency which included an instrumental story-telling duo, Susana and Timmy Abell (Silver Trout Arts) and Brassworks. Vicky McClain came to offer a visual art residency. We offer clubs each semester that include pottery, drama, photography, robotics, etc. We believe that it takes a community to raise a child and welcome volunteers. In 2019-2020, 3rd-5th graders performed *Annie* in November. K-2 students were preparing for the performance of *The Ugly Duckling* when everyone was sent home due to the COVID pandemic.