

## 2015 BLES School Report Card

Year	Absolute Rating	Growth Rating
2014	Average	Average
2013	Average	Below Average
2012	Average	Good
2011	Average	Good
2010	Average	Average
2009	Average	Average
2008	Below Average	Below Average

- *Report card ratings were not provided on the 2015 school report card due to a change in standardized testing. However we are continuing to focus on the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate as our blueprint for continued success.*
- *Batesburg-Leesville Elementary School is the proud recipient of the Palmetto Silver award for the 2014-2015 school year! We received this award for our work towards closing the achievement gap.*
- *BLES is applying to become a TransformSC school...stay tuned for more details!*



## School Improvement Council Members 2016-2017

**Amy Alexander— Parent**  
**Jane Corder —Community/Parent**  
**Mandy Luckadoo— Community/Parent**  
**Katie Eargle—Parent/ SIC Secretary**  
**Tamara Holmes— Parent/SIC Chair**  
**Sharon McKie— Parent**  
**John Yorio— Parent**  
**Donna Padgett—Afterschool Program Director**  
**Brandee Quarles— Teacher of the Year (16-17)**  
**Michelle Smith— Teacher of the Year (15-16)**  
**Matthew Velasquez, Assistant Principal (Ex-Officio)**  
**Jaime Hembree, Principal (Ex-Officio)**

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**Batesburg-Leesville  
Elementary School**

# Annual Report to Parents 2016-17



**Jaime L. Hembree, Principal**

**Matthew N. Velasquez,  
Assistant Principal**

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## Principal's Message

Welcome to Batesburg-Leesville Elementary School! I am proud, honored, and thrilled to serve as the principal of BLES! We have had some exciting initiatives going on this year at BLES. If you step into our classrooms, here are a few things you may see:

You may notice students wearing lanyards with pins, and talking about clipping up on the behavior chart. This is our Panther PRIDE PBIS system in action! Students have an opportunity to earn Panther PRIDE tickets on a daily basis, which they, in turn, can use lanyards and pins for their lanyard. PRIDE is an acronym that stands for the following:

Positive

Respectful

Involved

Determined

Enthusiasm

Through this system, we firmly believe that we are addressing the needs of the "whole child". Our students and teachers love this system!

You may see students engaged in "Panther time" throughout the day. Our "Panther Time" differentiation blocks for ELA and Math are built into the day to provide opportunities for students to receive small group, one-on-one instruction, and to collaborate with their peers. Technology is often integrated into learning stations at this time. Our students can hardly wait for "Panther time" each day!

You may also notice the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) approach woven into our instructional day. Our teachers have had intensive STEM training, and that had been put into practice in our classrooms. Stop by to see this in action!

BLES implemented a 1:1 technology initiative this year, meaning that every student has a Google Chromebook in their hands every day! What does this mean for us? We embarked upon project-based learning this year, as a means to cultivate problem solving skills in all of our learners. We utilize a blended learning model, meaning that part of the day is direct instruction from the teacher, and other phases of the day, our students are working on specific skills appropriate to their needs on their Chromebook.

Our ultimate goal at BLES is to cultivate students who are problem-solvers, effective communicators, and lifelong learners. We base much of our planning for students around the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate. The profile focuses on world class skills such as creativity and innovation, critical thinking and problem solving, collaboration and teamwork, and being an effective communicator. It also focuses on instilling life and career characteristics in our students, such as integrity, self-direction, perseverance, and interpersonal skills. Through strategic planning and intentional instruction, our teachers are striving to ensure that each and every student we serve exhibits the world class skills and life and career characteristics that are a part of the profile..

Jaime L. Hembree

Principal, BLES

## 2016– 2021 School

### Renewal Plan Goals

- End-of-school year mean RIT scores on the Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) testing in reading and math will increase to the 60th percentile (rank conversion) or higher by 2021.
- The attendance rate for teachers and administrators will be at least 96% each year.
- By 2021, 100% of parents will participate in at least one parent conference with school personnel each year to discuss their child's progress.
- The percentage of teachers, parents, and students who indicate satisfaction in response to the Education Oversight Committee School Climate Surveys will increase from 87% in 2015 to 97% in 2021.

Lexington School District Three recently completed an external review process with AdvancED and received above the network average scores. The District and Batesburg Leesville Elementary School are fully accredited through AdvancED. As part of the process, the School Renewal Plan was updated. The BLES School Improvement Council and School Leadership Team will provide annual updates on progress towards our goals.

## BLES Highlights

- PBIS Panther PRIDE system
- Panther Time Differentiation and Enrichment block for both ELA and Math.
- BLES has created a School of Journalism to expose students to various careers in media, technology, and broadcasting.
- Our students are learning French, Italian, or Spanish through Rosetta Stone in our computer labs.
- Off campus field trips to Charleston, Lake Toxaway, NC and Capers Island
- SC Honors Choir participants
- Implementation of Lucy Calkins Writing Workshop this year.
- Math-a-thon and Literacy Bowl
- After School Tutoring Program
- Girls on the Run
- Verizon Grant recipient
- Math Club
- Annual Veteran's Day Program
- Student competing in State Youth Art Exhibition through the SC Arts Education Association
- Project Unify
- 5th Grade Maker Faire
- We have implemented Project Based Learning (PBL) in all grade levels.