

SPES Report to the People

April 2018

GROW
SERVE
INNOVATE

Sandhills Primary & Elementary, Lexington 4



Bryan Evans
Principal

Tricia Crist,
Assistant Principal

Holly Miller,
Assistant Principal

Dawn Patterson,
Assistant Principal

130/140 Lewis Rast Road
Swansea, SC 29160

Phone: (803)
490-7003/7004

Our Purpose

We empower our students to become global citizens.

Our Vision

We seek to be a personalized system of learning.

Our Beliefs

Every student needs a personalized pathway for success.

Our strength is found in the value of each individual's voice.

Student-Centered Inquiry and formative feedback nurture deep learning.

Perseverance is a given for sustained success.

Tiger Cubs Respect...

Ourselves
Our School
Others
Learning

Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (PASS)

Aligned to the state academic standards, these assessments include science and social studies for 4th graders. Below are percentage of students who scored approaching, Met& Exceeds.

2016—2017	SES
Science	50.2
Social Studies	56.3

SCREADY Online 16-17

The SCREADY was first given to third and fourth grade students in the Spring 2016. Below are percentage of students who scored approaches, meets and exceeds.

2016—2017	3rd	4th
ELA Composite (English, Reading, Writing)	44.7	42.4
Math	44.2	42.3

Awards, Recognitions, and Exciting Happenings at SPES!

- Career Fair/Week
- Spring Related Arts Nights
- Leaders of the Month (7 Habits)
- Veteran's Day Ceremony
- SC State Fair Art Entries
- Chorus
- Academic Achievement Recognition
- Sandy's PAC: Perfect Attendance Cubs
- Outstanding Tiger Cub Citizenship Award
- Group & Individual Counseling
- Computer Labs
- Run Hard Team
- Academic Gifted/Talented
- Art Club
- Safety City Presentation
- Tiger Cub Cadets Leadership Team
- PALS for Parents
- Montessori by Choice
- West Metro Chamber of Commerce Dictionary Project Recipients
- City Year Partnership
- Special Olympics
- Service Projects and Project Based Learning
- SC Dept of Commerce Just Right Campaign



- Math Superstars
- Duke TIP Recipients
- Fit Club
- Carolina Fence Garden
- SC Garden
- 4H After School Program
- Be a Fan Club
- Backpack Program
- Current District Teachers of the Year Winners, Kimmy Miller (2010) and Tricia Crist (2013)
- Teacher of the Year 2017: Dr. Mary Beth Thomas, Amanda Reingardt
- Starfish After-school Program
- City Year Math Madness Event
- PTO Literacy Night
- I CARE Program & Banquet
- Summer Reading Celebration
- 1:1 Chromebooks for students
- 5 Summer Reading Books for all students
- Girls on the Run Team
- School Kickball Tournament
- Field Day
- Diamond Del



School Renewal Plan Goals for 2018-2019

Student Achievement

- Increasing reading proficiency for all students enabling students to shift from learning to read, to reading to learn
- Preparing students to be college, career, and citizenship ready in reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language
- Preparing students to apply mathematical concepts to real world situations and problems

Teacher/Administrator Quality

- Through professional learning community model, continuing school-wide focus on embedded literacy and implementation of 21st Century skills throughout the curriculum
- School-wide professional development focusing on integrating inquiry in the classroom, including Project-based Learning
- School-wide professional development building on best practice beliefs embodied in both Classical and Montessori classrooms
- School-wide professional development on the seven habits of happy children

School Climate

- Working to develop, apply and integrate world class skills and life and career characteristics, such as work ethic, perseverance, communication, knowing how to learn, global perspective, critical thinking, collaboration, self-direction, interpersonal skills, and integrity (Profile of the SC Graduate)
- Preparing students to excel by developing leadership and a passion for life long learning





Sandhills Primary School

Annual School Summary Report to Parents 2017-2018

Goals for 2018-2019

Purpose Statement



Our purpose is to lay the foundation for students to be college, career, and citizenship ready by honoring their diverse needs. We will accomplish this in an environment where risk-taking and interests are honored.

Sandhills Primary: A TransformSC School

Sandhills Primary was chosen as an innovative site for TransformSC, an initiative of The SC Council on Competitiveness. This organization of business leaders is partnering with educators in selected schools across South Carolina who are striving to ensure that students transition successfully from elementary, middle, and high school to graduate and be college, career and citizenship ready. In October 2016, Sandhills Primary classrooms hosted business leaders, legislators, and the State Superintendent of Education to share our teaching practices on a state-wide bus tour of innovation. The faculty and staff of SPS are proud to represent the district in this initiative.

PALS

Promoting: Achievement, Learning, and Success

PALS is our parenting program offered once per month as a way to build community with families and school, and to grow understanding of parenting strategies and school curriculum. PALS provides quality time for families to spend with their children in a learning experience based upon the goal of the session. Each family is given a book to add to their home library.

Montessori Curriculum- School Choice

At present, twenty two teachers are trained, or are currently being trained in the Montessori Method. Montessori is a hands-on approach to individualized learning in a prepared environment where the teacher facilitates and scaffolds individual needs. Students and parents have the choice to stay with their Montessori teacher for two years, thus providing continuity in learning and the opportunity to forge strong relationships.

The Seven Habits of Happy Kids

Our children use the Seven Habits in their everyday lives. This initiative teaches 21st century leadership and life skills to students and creates a culture of student empowerment. The vocabulary of the Seven Habits helps us in our lives in any setting. Our families also study the Seven Habits in monthly PALS workshops and how they can use these habits of mind at home.





21st century After School and Summer Program

In 2016, SPS was awarded a \$500,000 federal grant over four years to host an after school and summer program for sixty students needing extra time and support to be successful students. Our program has seen huge success in our students' academic achievement. We also host family nights four times per year to share community and literacy information with our families.

Instructional Coach

Students and teachers interact with the literacy coach in all curriculum areas with an emphasis on the reading and writing process. The coach shares and models 'best practices' with teachers and students.

Professional Learning Communities

Faculty and staff meet in study groups and collaborative planning teams in our quest to increase our knowledge of how young children learn. We take a scholarly approach to our studies in order to increase student achievement. Our focus this school year has been on the reading and writing process. Our staff is also studying strategies to be a trauma-informed school.

Student Goal-Setting and Student Led Conferences

In April 2017, Sandhills Primary hosted parents for student-led conferences. During student-led conferences, teachers act as facilitators as students review their work and progress with their parents. Often students work from a portfolio filled with assignments they have collected before the conference. Some teachers also provide checklists of items for students to cover during the conference or a rough "script" for them to follow.

In January 2017, students completed a self-evaluation, including a list of strengths and areas on which they needed to improve. During the student-led conferences, they updated their parents and teacher as to where they are in meeting their academic goals. This has been a rewarding experience for children, teachers, and parents. School staff seek to use this as a means to improve home school communication and to provide students an opportunity to learn more effectively.

School Improvement Council

SIC (School Improvement Council) assists in determining the strengths and weaknesses of our school and develops strategies to meet new challenges.

School Priorities for 2018-2019

- Continue to strengthen home-school communication through student led conferences, Learning at the Hands of the Children nights, parent surveys, newsletters, school website, phone calls, use of the internet and PALS.
- Continue to enhance our purposeful Inquiry/Project Based Learning studies.
- Increase through scholarly professional study our understanding of 21st Century Skills and how to support these skills within the primary school setting.
- Continue to participate in TransformSC as we seek to prepare our environment with the goal of preparing students for learning at ever higher levels.

