

## School Organization and Contact

### SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL MEMBERS:

**Dr. Timothy Blackwell – Principal**  
**Shameka Stephney – Assistant Principal**  
**Barbara Tiller – Elected Chair**  
**Courtney Kennedy – Secretary**

### COUNCIL MEMBERS

Caroline Jenkins  
Mahogany Hunter  
Ruth Savinda  
Karla Ramos  
John Tiller  
Diane Gillie

Kenneth Irby  
Clara Cristancho  
Darnell Peterson  
Wilhelmina Mathias  
Orreshia Spencer  
Charlette Legette

### ABOUT THIS REPORT.....

The School Improvement Council of Arden Elementary School has prepared the annual school report for you and the community. The report reviews the progress and growth made last year, reviews last year's test scores, and describes plans for improvement this year. Enclosed you will find an account of the progress we made toward accomplishing targeted goals in 2022-2023, as well as the desired results for student learning that have been made a priority for this school year. If you have any questions about the information summarized here, please contact Dr. Timothy Blackwell, Principal, or Ms. Barbara Tiller, SIC Chair at (803) 735-3400.

## Extra-Curricular Activities

### PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES:

WAES News Show  
Midlands Reading Consortium (MRC)  
AVID Elementary Program (4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup>)  
Comprehensive Remediation Program  
Barron Academy After-School Program  
ESOL Program  
E.L.I.T.E Male Empowerment Group  
Girls of Excellence Empowerment Group  
Arden Elementary Disc Golf Club  
Arden Elementary Fitness Club  
Arden Elementary Advocacy Clubs

### COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS:

Columbia College Education Department  
Richland County Library-North Main Branch  
College Place Community Council  
NOMA Columbia/Sabrina Odom  
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. (Gamma Nu Omega Chapter)  
Harvest Hope Snack Pack Program  
Bethlehem Baptist Church Backpack Program  
Second Calvary Baptist Church Backpack Program  
Saks of Luv Weekend Food Program

### MISSION STATEMENT:

We are Richland One, a leader in transforming lives through education, empowering all students to achieve their potential and dreams.



## Arden Elementary School



### 2023-2024 SIC ANNUAL REPORT TO PARENTS

1300 Ashley Street  
Columbia, South Carolina 29203  
Office (803) 735-3400  
School Hours: 7:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Arden's mission is to serve our students and support our parents with the help of our community members as we all strive to make "Arden a Great Place to Work & Learn." Our school's administration, teachers and staff work collaboratively to improve the overall quality of the learning experiences for all students.

**"One Community...Every Student a Powerful Learner"**

## School Highlights & Awards

### HEALTHIER US SCHOOL CHALLENGE AWARD

2017 Gold Recipient  
 2019 Bronze Recipient  
 2020 Bronze Recipient  
 2024 Healthiest School Award/Superintendent's Award  
 2024 Special Services Unified Champion School Award

### SCHOOL AWARDS & GRANTS

2019-2022 "Average" School Rating  
 Fully Accredited by Cognia and the SCDE  
 Partner School with Columbia College  
 2023-2024 Classified Employee of the Year Finalist  
 2023-2024 Student Art Awards (Various Students)

## School Demographics

School Statistics	
Enrollment: 232	
White: 1	African-American: 154
Hispanic: 64	Two or More Races: 9
Grades Served	Pre-Kindergarten-5 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Free/Reduced Lunch	100%
Special Education	Less than 5%
Academic/Gifted Program (Grades 3-5)	Less than 5%
English Language Learners	28%

## Test Information

### \*Percentage of Students Scoring Meets & Exceeds\*

#### SC Ready ELA

Grade	2022-2023
3 <sup>rd</sup>	50%
4 <sup>th</sup>	24.1%
5 <sup>th</sup>	43.5%

#### SC Ready Math/Science

Grade	2022-2023
3 <sup>rd</sup>	35.7%
4 <sup>th</sup>	13.8%
4 <sup>th</sup> Math	13.8%
4 <sup>th</sup> Science	13.8%
5 <sup>th</sup>	39%

### \*ALL STUDENTS IN GRADES K-5 ARE ADMINISTERED STAR READING AND MATH AS OUR UNIVERSAL SCREENER\*

### TECHNOLOGY

All rooms have .....  
 Updated Smartboards in Classrooms  
 Document cameras and other digital resources  
 One-to-One Initiative Student Laptops (PK – 5<sup>th</sup> Grades)



## 2023-2024 School Goals

- ✓ Increase student achievement/proficiency levels in all academic areas;
- ✓ Ensure best practices and resources in learning and use to enhance their pedagogy;
- ✓ Build positive home/school relations with frequent communication through the use of our school website, social media, and weekly newsletters

## 2023-2024 Visible Learning & AVID Goal

- ✓ To create, maintain, and enhance a school environment that is child-centered, safe, and promotes healthy behaviors (AVID)
- ✓ Implement the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to support our vision for learning at all levels (Visible Learning)



Richland One School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, handicap, sex, age, lineage or national origin in its programs or activities