

## School Organization and Contact

### SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL MEMBERS:

**Dr. Timothy Blackwell – Principal**  
**Shameka Stephney – Assistant Principal**  
**Felicia Glover – Elected Chair**  
**Irene Mack – Elected Vice Chair**  
**Diane Gillie – Secretary**

### COUNCIL MEMBERS

Caroline Jenkins  
Lauren Brooks-Sumpter  
Ruth Savinda  
Andrew Carnes  
Shomari Willis  
Montressa Ryan  
Barbara Tiller

Kenneth Irby  
Clara Cristancho  
Darnell Peterson  
Wilhelmina Mathias  
Linda Ward  
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  
Girls of Excellence Empowerment Group  
Arden Beagles Disc Golf Team  
Arden Beagles Fitness Team  
Arden Beagles Punt/Kick/Pass Team  
Arden Elementary Advocacy Clubs

### COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS:

Columbia College Education Department  
Richland County Library-North Main Branch  
College Place Community Council  
NOMA Columbia/Sabrina Odum  
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. (Gamma Nu Omega Chapter)  
Benedict College Readers

### 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



### 2024-2025 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  
2025 Healthiest School Award/Superintendent’s Award  
2024 Special Services Unified Champion School Award

## SCHOOL AWARDS & GRANTS

2019-2022 “Average” School Rating  
2024 “Average” School Rating (52 points)  
2024-2025 Excellent Student Progress Rating  
Fully Accredited by Cognia/SCDE  
2023-2024 Classified Employee of the Year Finalist  
2024-2025 State Student Art Winner  
2024-2025 National Student Art Winner

# School Demographics

School Statistics	
Enrollment: 222	
White: 1	African-American: 135
Hispanic: 68	Two or More Races: 14
Asian: 4	
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	31% (up from 27%)

# Test Information

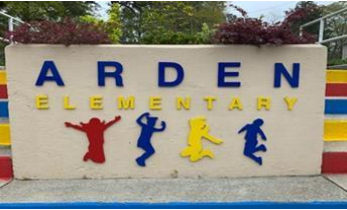
## \*Percentage of Students Scoring Meets & Exceeds\*

SC Ready ELA		SC Ready Math/Science	
Grade	2023-2024	Grade	2023-2024
3 <sup>rd</sup>	35.6%	3 <sup>rd</sup>	42.3%
4 <sup>th</sup>	42.9%	4 <sup>th</sup> Math	35.7%
5 <sup>th</sup>	25%	4 <sup>th</sup> Science	No ratings reported
		5 <sup>th</sup>	32.1%

**\*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)



# 2024-2025 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

## 2024-2025 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