

2014-2015 SIC Members

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL OFFICERS:

Brandon Smith - Chair
Mike Bowman - Vice Chair
Wendy Barker – Secretary

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Parent representatives: Chris Davis, John Leighton, Laura Moise, and Cindy Cameron.

Community representatives: Ginger Dukes, Jim Lane, and Charlie Mather.

Teachers: Lauren Goethe, Daniel Treece, Renata Pearson, Susan Jones, Amanda Suggs, Laura Timmons, April Barber-Brown, Carole Jolly, and Julia Choate.

Ex officio members: Kevin Hasinger, Principal; Felita Green, Assistant Principal; Lynne Trowbridge, Curriculum Resource Teacher; Amy Scott/Virginia Hutchinson, PTO Co-Presidents.

ABOUT THIS REPORT:

The School Improvement Council (SIC) of Satchel Ford Elementary School has prepared this annual report for parents and the community. In this report you will find an account of test scores and academic rankings along with other information about programs, activities, awards, and recognitions for students and teachers. The report will also provide general information about SIC's goals and progress made to achieve improvements.

Extra-Curricular and Community Activities

Community involvement includes: PTO, Business Partners, Brave Arts Boosters, Faculty Follies, Very Important Person Day, Freaky Friday, Career Fairs, PTO Spring Party and Auction, Mentors, United Way, Coat Drive, Harvest Hope Food Drive, and Junior Achievement.

As part of the school's wellness initiatives, Satchel Ford supported the American Cancer Society and March of Dimes, raising over \$18,000 through participation in the Walk for Life, March for Babies, and the Relay for Life.

Student clubs include: Art Clubs, Honor Choir, 1-2-3 Choir, Sensations, Dance Club, Book Clubs, Nook Book Club, Safety Patrol, Recycling Club, Production Crew, Yearbook, Visual Literacy Club, Orchestra, Community Service Club, Girls on the Run, and Greenhouse Club. Students in grades 3-5 and enrolled in Braves Aftercare had the opportunity to audition for the Steel Drum Band.

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



Satchel Ford Elementary School



2014-2015 SIC ANNUAL REPORT TO PARENTS

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Parent Teacher Organization www.sfpto.org

The School Improvement Council would like to express its thanks and appreciation to all of Satchel Ford's teachers, administrators, and staff for all of their hard work during the 2014-2015 school year. We also want to recognize and thank all of the parent volunteers, who are a key part of Satchel Ford's success. Thanks to all, and keep up the good work!

School Highlights & Awards

Highlights and Programs: Advanced Academic Program (AAP), National Elementary Honor Society (4th & 5th grades), Braves Buddies, Braves Assistance, Lunch Buddies, Fuel Up to Play 60, HBO Salad Bar, GLOBALTAP, Spanish, Science Lab, Literacy Lab, SmartBoards, iPads for all teachers, iPad Cart, Columbia College Professional Development School, USC Clinical Experience School, Braves Aftercare, Art Fest, Science Fair Day, Faculty Follies, Boosterthon, Field Day, and Arts in Basic Curriculum (ABC) featuring Visual Art, Dance, Drama, Chorus, and Music.

The Brave Arts Boosters completed the task of updating the photo mural that enhances the front entrance and they also sponsored the ninth annual Faculty Follies. Parents and students attended the show and members of the Columbia arts community served as judges and selected the most “talented” act. All funds raised by Brave Arts are dedicated to supporting and strengthening the arts programs. Current initiatives include a major renovation of the cafeteria’s sound system and video production improvements.

The Satchel Ford PTO completed multiple highly successful fundraising initiatives and provided support for our school’s Leveled Literacy Intervention (LLI) program, the acquisition of math manipulative tools, subscriptions to Study Island and Reading Eggs online software program, as well as many other educational/social initiatives.

Awards: For the 2013-14 school year, Satchel Ford received the SC Palmetto Gold Award for General Performance for the sixth time.

Academic Information

According to the 2014 SC Annual School Report Card, Satchel Ford received an “Excellent” Absolute Rating for the sixth year in a row and a “Good” Growth Rating. The percentage of students who scored “met” or “exemplary” in PASS testing was: 89.1% for English/Language Arts; 90.5% in writing; 81.4% in math; 79.0% in science; and 92.3% in social studies.

The faculty continued to focus on literacy instruction using the works of Lucy Calkins, the founding director of Columbia University’s Teachers College Reading and Writing Project and expanded our mathematics instructional practices through the implementation of Number Talks, Grappling Groups, and the use of a math workshop model.

Since 2004 Satchel Ford has been recognized as an Art in Basic Curriculum School and continues to be awarded this designation through grant-writing efforts. Satchel Ford has received over \$250,000 over the past ten years through grants from the SC Arts Commission and the SC Department of Education’s Distinguished Arts Program.

As part of the arts curriculum, all grade levels participated in performances that incorporated the fine arts taught at the school including visual arts, theatre, dance, and music.

Satchel Ford maintained the goal of 100% of the teachers being designated as Highly Qualified in the appropriate content and level as defined by the No Child Left Behind Act. We have 10 teachers who are National Board Certified.

Goals and Improvements

Satchel Ford’s School Improvement Plan took on several major initiatives during the 2014-2015 academic year. Although many of these were related to facilities and/or grounds management, academics were also a major concern and topic of discussion throughout the school year.

In response to parental concerns regarding the appearance and safety of the gravel visitor’s parking lot near the front entrance of the school, SIC coordinated with Richland One Facility Services to enter into an agreement for future installation of “pavers” in that area. This will reduce the safety concerns of student slips and falls, concerns about damage from tire-spun gravel into other vehicles, and will improve the overall appearance of this area without reducing the moisture draining needs of the community.

The SIC was also able to enter into relationship with several life scout and eagle scout candidates from the Boy Scouts of America, inspiring a program of bench development around many of the older trees on our large playground area. This program is still in the planning stage, but will include the building of wrap-around benching and the addition of soft rubber mulch around high roots and other dangerous spots on our large playground.

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.