

## 2013-2014 SIC Members

### SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL OFFICERS:

**Pete Balthazor - Chair**  
**Steve Bygott - Vice Chair**  
**Michelle Hardy – Secretary**

### COUNCIL MEMBERS:

**Parent representatives:** Mike Bowman, Laddie Howard, Brandon Smith, Starr Thompson, and Eric Zimmerman

**Community representatives:** Ginger Dukes, Jim Lane, and Travis Webster

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

**Ex officio members:** Claudia Brooks, Interim Principal; Shawn Hall, Interim Assistant Principal; Lynne Trowbridge, Curriculum Resource Teacher

### 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 raised over \$17,700 through participation in the Walk for Life 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, Principal's Leadership Council, Bravehearts, Robotics, Production Crew, Yearbook, Visual Literacy Clubs, Girls on the Run, Greenhouse Club, and Fuel Up to Play 60 fitness 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



### 2013 – 2014 SIC ANNUAL REPORT TO PARENTS

5901 Satchel Ford Road  
Columbia, South Carolina 29206  
Office (803) 783-7209  
Fax (803) 783-7589  
[www.satchelford.richlandone.org](http://www.satchelford.richlandone.org)  
Parent Teacher Organization [www.sfpto.org](http://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 2013-2014 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 (4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> 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, Columbia College Professional Development School, USC Clinical Experience School, AC Flora and Dreher High Schools Cadets, Braves Aftercare, Art Fest, Science Fair Day, Faculty Follies, Boosterthon, Field Day, and Arts in Basic Curriculum featuring Art, Dance, Drama, Chorus, and Music.

The Brave Arts Boosters completed the task of converting lively snapshots of student life into the photo mural that enhances the front entrance and they also sponsored the eighth annual Faculty Follies, raising more than \$3,300 to support the arts programs at Satchel Ford. 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. Listed here are just a few of the purchases made possible through funds raised: Arts Integration Conference (all teachers), set of Basel teaching masks (Theatre), and xylophones to complete existing set.

Awards: For the 2012-13 school year, Satchel Ford received the SC Palmetto Gold Award for General Performance for the fifth time.

## Academic Information

According to the 2013 SC Annual School Report Card, Satchel Ford received an “Excellent” Absolute Rating for the fifth year in a row and a “Good” Growth Rating. The percentage of students who scored “met” or “exemplary” in PASS testing was: 88.9% for English/Language Arts; 86.3% in writing; 84.5% in math; 85.5% in science; and 90.6% 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.

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 \$200,000 over the past nine 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 calls on the SIC to conduct a yearly survey aimed at assessing parents’ perceptions of the school’s learning environment, physical environment, and home-school relations.

The survey was distributed in the fall of 2013 and a large number of parents completed the survey. Although the results of the survey were overall very favorable, one area of concern was identified: the safety and appearance of the playground fencing. By working with district representatives, the SIC was able to have new fencing installed in some locations and some of the old fencing was repaired and refurbished. The work also included trimming and cleaning some of the excess trees and brush near the playground. This work was a direct result of the comments and concerns stated by parents in the survey. The SIC will continue to look at ways to improve the playgrounds.

The SIC also fully supported the efforts of the teachers and administrators in conducting the first full-scale Parent University. This program provided a wealth of information to parents about testing, teaching methods, and student safety, among other topics.

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.