

## School Organization and Contacts

### School Improvement Council

Malcolm Pressley	Chair
Markesia Jones	Vice Chair
Carleen Watkins	Secretary

### Council Membership

John Brown	Community Member
Malcolm Pressley	Community Member
Tornetta Jeter	Parent
Kate Hart	Parent
Carleen Watkins	Teacher
Markesia Jones	Teacher
Alvera Butler	Ex-Officio
Robert Carswell	Ex-Officio
Whitney Prowell	Ex-Officio



## Extracurricular Activities

### Clubs and Teams

National Jr. BETA Club  
Student Council  
JKE Chorus  
Recycling Team  
TIED to Success  
Girls with Pearls Mentoring  
USC-JKE Strings Project Consortium  
WJKE Morning News Show

### Special Programs

Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS)  
One to One Computing (K-5)  
Small Group Reading & Math Interventions (K-5)  
Reading Recovery (Grade 1)  
Summer Explorers  
(Summer Enrichment Program)  
21st CCLC After-school Explorers  
(Tutoring and Enrichment Program)  
Little Cubs After-School Enrichment (K-2)  
Breakfast In the Classroom (BIC)

### Family Programs

Quest Zone (Before and After School Care Programs)  
Parent and Grandparent Support Group  
Parent Educator  
Licensed Clinical Social Worker  
Partnership with Columbia Area Mental Health  
Parent Universities  
Report Card Pick-up Nights

## Joseph Keels Elementary



7500 Springcrest Drive  
Columbia, SC 29223  
[www.richland2.org/schools/jke](http://www.richland2.org/schools/jke)  
Twitter: @JosephKeelsCubs

*The faculty and staff of Joseph Keels Elementary School of Entrepreneurial Leadership, in partnership with students, parents, government, business partners, and the community guarantee each student optimum achievement in all areas of learning by providing a challenging and flexible learning program to meet individual needs by incorporating technology, field experiences, and support services to equip each student for life-long learning and responsible citizenship.*

#### **Vision Statement:**

At Joseph Keels Elementary, we have high expectations for organization and preparation and a mindset without limitations.

**Alvera C. Butler, Principal**  
[abutler@richland2.org](mailto:abutler@richland2.org)

Daily School Hours:  
8:00 AM- 2:50 PM  
Monday through Friday

## Highlights and Awards

Joseph Keels Elementary School is housed in the heart of the Springwood Lake community in Northeast Richland County. Our students are provided grade-level specific learning experiences, taught using engaging hands-on methods, where students have the opportunity to learn foundational skills and then apply them to real-life scenarios. Students receive rigor and support to meet the high expectations we have at JKE. The SIC in partnership with the school has worked hard to promote character and positive citizens within the Bearsville Community. Joseph Keels has continued its objective of recognizing students positively with the continued implementation of Honor Roll recognition and many positive support systems designed to enhance student growth. In addition, JKE continues to make providing students with "being-there" experiences a priority in its instructional plan. Students continue to excel academically and socially at JKE.

### Awards & Recognitions

Two-time recipient: Palmetto's Finest School  
Previous recipient: Red Carpet School  
National Beta Club School of Distinction & Merit, ASCD Whole Child Award, 2016 Let's Move Active Schools Recognition

## Student Information

### Ethnicity Distribution:

African American: 84%

White: .4%

Hispanic: 10.4%

Asian: 1.8%

Two or more races: 10.4%

Number of teachers: 47

Number of National Board Certified: 3

## Test Scores

### SC Ready English Language Arts and Mathematics

English Language Arts (Reading and Writing) - Percent Met or Exceeding

School 26.9% (53 / 197)

District 43.2% (2885 / 6680)

State 42.0% (22842 / 54388)

### Mathematics - Percent Met or Exceeding

School 20.0% (39 / 195)

District 33.9% (2372 / 7000)

### Technology for Instruction and Support:

1 Computer Lab

1:1 Chromebook Computing in Grades K-5

150 Literacy iPods for student check out

60 iPads for classrooms

ClearTouch Panel in every classroom

Study Buddies

1 ELM0 (document camera) at each grade level

State of the Art news studio (WJKE)

6 ABii Robots

### Major Grants

ASCD Whole Child Grant Award

21st Century Community Learning Centers Grant

2016 Let's Move Active Schools Grant

*Richland School District Two does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, age, or other protected characteristic in its programs and activities.*

[www.richland2.org](http://www.richland2.org)

## Goals for 2021-2022

- Keels Elementary will implement a variety of instructional and academic initiatives that support teachers and students in becoming an increasingly rigorous and high achieving school.
- Build a positive, safe, respectful and nurturing environment in which our students will learn and live.
- Develop an environment that fosters professional learning communities

## Administrative Team

Alvera C. Butler, Principal  
[abutler@richland2.org](mailto:abutler@richland2.org)

Robert Carswell, Assistant Principal  
[rcarswell@richland2.org](mailto:rcarswell@richland2.org)

Dr. Whitney Prowell, Assistant Principal  
[wprowell@richland2.org](mailto:wprowell@richland2.org)