

2020-2021 O.P. Earle Elementary

“Our mission is to inspire and educate young minds.”

Report to the Parents

Accomplishments

- In 2019 we began implementing a positive behavior intervention system through a multi-tiered system of supports (MTSS).
- Allyson Allen, Lori Lonon, Laura Dickson, and Amanda Thomas were the 2018-2019 recipients of a \$20,000 Mary F. Kessler grant through the Polk County Community Foundation- “Focus on the Arts: A Multicultural Experience” (shared with Landrum Middle). School and will bring artists in residence throughout the school year culminating in “Kessler Cultural Evenings.”
- PE Teacher Laura Dickson and former Assistant Principal Shameka Dawkins were the co-recipients of a Mary Black Initiative Fitness Grant totaling \$86,000.
- OPE received a \$1000 Boeing Fitness Grant.
- In 2018, we were awarded funding through the State Department of Education as an Arts in Basic Curriculum site.
- Joanna Vaughn, 4K teacher, was OPE’s 2020 Teacher of the Year.
- Barbie Zinkovich was OPE’s 2020-2021 Exemplary Reading Teacher of the Year.
- In 2018, Alyson Thornton and Paula Jeter received a \$1600 Junior League grant to enhance instruction.
- The following artists in residence have partnered with OPE- Sweetgrass Baskets, African Drums, Ballet of Spartanburg, Muse Machine, Kinetic Works, Bubble Maker, Metal Sculptor, Gullah Storyteller, Poetry Alive, and Clarinetist.
- OPE is recognized as a Kennedy Center Creative Ticket school.
- OPE received the PSAE 2017 South Carolina School of Excellence in Arts Education Award.
- Art teacher, Emily Glass, received the Promising Young Professional Award from South Carolina Art Education Association (SCAEA) in 2017.
- OPE is recognized as a Project Fit America school.
- After-school programming is offered on-site through the YMCA.
- Extra-curricular activities offered include Foothills Running Club, Honors Chorus, Drama, and Studio Art.
- OPE special needs students receive hands-on work experience by running their own business, Brew Crew.
- Several teachers have received “Donors Choose” grants to enhance instruction in their classrooms, totaling nearly \$3,400.00.
- Dance teacher, Kelliane Floyd, was the 2020 recipient of the Ray Doughty Arts Integration Award.
- Funds from the Laurel Lake Music Foundation help to support OPE’s music program.
- Students are recognized through the Terrific Kids Program sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Spartanburg.
- During the 2020-2021 school year, OPE has partnered with Cliffs Residence Outreach to provide funding for many academic projects.



Major Priorities

OPE teachers and administrators will:

- Practice, implement, and reflect on strategies to ensure the academic success of each child.
- Become Read to Succeed certified.
- Integrate coding, circuitry, and engineering practices within the media lab class.
- Continue implementation of MTSS, which is a multi-tiered system of support for academic and behavioral concerns.
- Implement school-wide infusion of the arts throughout all content areas, funded by ABC.
- Continue to focus on instructional best practices.
- Use data from informal and formal assessments to inform instruction.
- Offer dance class twelve weeks during the school year.
- Provide differentiated exemplary staff development opportunities through Momentum Mondays and Grade Level Meetings.
- Encourage bookmaking in 4k-2nd grades.
- Implement a motivating reading incentive program that will encourage all students to increase their reading and text complexity volume.
- Continue to implement math incentives using Reflex Math for 1st-5th grade students.
- Encourage parents and community members to volunteer through participation in the PTO.
- Work closely with the School Improvement Council.
- Continue to differentiate instruction through Readers, Writers, and Math Workshops.
- Utilize 1:1 technology to enhance students' learning experiences.

