

Principals' Posts

Welcome to O.P. Earle Elementary School! As a staff and school community, we strive for excellence. We take pride in maintaining our facilities so they are clean, comfortable, safe and beautiful.



We constantly refine our educational programs to better meet the individual needs and develop the special gifts of each of our students. We work together to promote understanding and

empathy and to prepare our children to be responsible decision makers and respectful world citizens. We celebrate accomplishments for we believe success leads to more of the same. We are proud to have your child here with us.

Nita H. High, Principal

Student-Centered Education

We just want to welcome you and your family to O.P. Earle Elementary. We have a long standing tradition of academic excellence here at OPE. We are truly blessed with hard working students, supportive parents and community involvement that is truly amazing. As you stroll around the campus you will feel this sense of urgency that educating children is our main focus. We want students to leave here feeling accepted, loved, empowered, and also equipped with the tools necessary to become whatever it is they are called to be. We want to invite you to join us in this learning adventure.



Brian E. Murray, Assistant Principal

ECHO PROJECT

Parents, Grandparents, Guardians, are you looking to de-clutter? Do you want to get rid of some books or magazines, but aren't sure what to do with them?

Bring them to school and exchange your gently read books or magazines for new ones! The ECHO (Everyone reading: Community, Home and OP Earle) Project will be swapping and *giving away* books several times a year at various school functions. Lifelong reading habits start to form at the earliest ages, often by mimicking older members of the family. If children see you reading daily—both for function and for pleasure—they will more likely become avid readers themselves.



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Opey's World



Woof, Woof! I'm OPE's top dog with a really cool blog! Everyone loves keeping up with my adventures. Drop by my blog at <http://highn.edublogs.org/> and follow along with me, my little sister Gates and my human as we explore the world.



O.P. Earle Elementary School

Mrs. Nita H. High, Principal
Mr. Brian Murray, Assistant Principal
864-457-3416
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Dr. Ron Garner, Superintendent
Spartanburg County District One School
SCIRA Exemplary Reading School 2012

Making Tracks: A Lifelong Learning Adventure

Mission Statement

The mission of O.P. Earle Elementary School is to educate students to their fullest potential in a physically and emotionally safe environment whereby we, along with the home and community, encourage students to be responsible, productive, life-long learners.

Beliefs

The Faculty and Staff of O.P. Earle Elementary School Believe...

- A physically and emotionally safe environment is critical to every child's education.
- Although they learn in different ways, all children have the potential for life-long learning.
- In a collaborative effort, educators, families, and community members play vital and unique roles in educating and preparing children to be responsible and productive citizens.
- All children are unique individuals and deserve to be treated with love and respect.

Opportunities at O. P. Earle

- We've Got Character!
- Character Ed. Program
- Muffins with Mom
- Donuts with Dad
- Veterans Day Essay Contest
- Fire Safety Day
- Jr. Beta Club
- Tattletales
- Click Club
- Running Club
- Studio Art
- Goodies with Grandparents
- Pumpkin Decorating Contest
- Gingerbread House Contest
- Soup-er Family Literacy Night
- Project ECHO
- WOPE
- School Website
- Terrific Kids
- Book It! Reading Minutes
- Chorus
- Drill Team (Jr. ROTC)
- Community Arts Evenings
- Dolly Parton 's Imagination Library
- I Love to Read! Month
- P.A.W.S (writing)
- R.I.F.
- Family Breakfast
- Family Thanksgiving Luncheon
- Spelling Bee
- Kiwanis Multiplication Medallions
- March Reading Madness
- Book Fairs
- CPR Training for Friends & Family
- ...and many more!

School Features

- A rigorous academic program.
- Interdisciplinary instruction and thematic units taught across all subject areas.
- Research-based staff development that keeps teachers abreast of the newest and most successful practices in education.
- Standards based curriculum.
- A comprehensive visual and performing arts program that includes chorus, general music, general art, and Studio art.
- Artists in residence for all grade levels and a variety of community arts opportunities for all children.
- A school guidance program that serves students through individual, small group, and classroom guidance lessons.
- Teachers are concerned, caring professionals who utilize a variety of teaching methods to meet the needs of each individual student.
- A comprehensive Physical Education program implementing Project Fit America, Sparks, a school running club, March Madness basketball, and various other opportunities for children to remain physically active.
- Integrated arts program.
- Teachers work in teams to achieve academic and personal success for students.
- Writing integrated into all areas of the curriculum.
- Reading Recovery program for first and second graders who need assistance with reading skills.
- EXCEL classes for students in grades 3rd-5th who have been identified as academically gifted.
- School-wide access to two computer labs and a science lab with wireless access.
- A comprehensive special education program for students with special needs.
- School organizations and activities encourage students, parents, and the community to become engaged in campus life.
- A safe, small-town environment where community service is encouraged.
- An esthetically beautiful building and campus that includes a reading garden.
- A variety of parent workshops conducted throughout the year.
- An active, productive Student Council who participates and promotes service to the community.
- An strong, active parent volunteer program, PTO and School Improvement Council.
- Community and Business involvement and support.
- A Boys & Girls Club, funded by 21st Century Grant, housed on campus offers a variety of activities and homework help for students.
- AmeriCorps student tutor reading.
- Study Island for K-5th grade.
- Pre-Kindergarten Four year old classes.
- Farms to School working garden.
- A variety of parent community events including Family Breakfast, Sampler for the Arts, Family Literacy Night, Community Arts Evenings and Family School Picnic.

Accreditation, Certification, Highly Qualified Teachers, and Paraprofessionals

District One Schools are fully accredited by the SC Department of Education and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). These accreditations reflect the district's adherence to standards in the area of curriculum, instruction, administration, and professional staffing. All of the district's teachers are certified through the SC Department of Education and participate in on-going evaluation and professional development. To comply with the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act enacted on January 8, 2002, District One Schools Spartanburg County has established procedures to ensure that highly qualified instructional staff are employed, and paraprofessionals are supported in becoming highly qualified. Any questions regarding the accreditation of schools or the certification and other qualifications of teachers and paraprofessionals should be directed to the principal, Mrs. Nita High, at 457-3416.

Awards and Recognitions

- 2011-2012 Palmetto Gold Award
- 2010-2011 Palmetto Gold Award
- 2010-2011 Closing the Gap Silver Award
- 2009-2010 Palmetto Silver Award
- 2009-2010 Closing the Gap Silver Award
- 2006-2007 Palmetto Silver Award
- 2004-2005 Palmetto Silver Award
- National Project Fit America Teacher Nominee 2010-2011
- 2011-2012 District Teacher of the Year
- Farms to School Grant recipient
- Polk County Foundation Mary F. Kessler Fund Community Arts Grant 2010-2011
- Healthier US School Challenge Bronze Award 2010-2011
- EIA Grant—Creative Minds, Open Wide 2008-2009
- 2005 SC Art Education Association Elementary Division Art Educator of the Year Award
- 2004-2005 SC Creative Ticket Award for Arts Education
- 2009 Rewards for Excellence Website Honorable Mention - South Carolina National School Public Relations Association
- 2007 & 2011, 2012 Rewards for Excellence Website Winner - South Carolina National School Public Relations Association
- 2002 South Carolina Red Carpet School
- 2000 South Carolina Exemplary Writing and Hall of Fame School
1997-98 1998-99 1999-2000
- Literacy Spot Award
1998
- South Carolina International Reading Association and the International Reading Association Exemplary Reading School
1998-99