



2013-2014 O.P. Earle Elementary

"Our mission is to inspire and educate young minds."

Report to the Parents

Accomplishments

- 2012 Exemplary Reading School of the Year
- 2011 Exemplary Reading Honor School
- Palmetto Gold recipient in 2010, 2011, 2012, and 2013
- Closing the Gap Silver Award winner 2013
- Closing the Gap Gold Award winner in 2012
- School-wide implementation of the OLWEUS Anti-Bullying program
- Valen Egan was selected as the OPE 2013-2014 Teacher of the Year.
- Kim McMillan was selected as the 2012-2013 OPE Reading Teacher of the Year.
- Laura Dickson was selected as the 2011-2012 OPE Teacher of the Year and also Spartanburg County School District One Teacher of the Year
- Laura Dickson was selected as a 2012-2013 SCAPES (South Carolina Association of Physical Education and Sport) teacher of the year. She was also 2010 National All-Star Teacher of the Year by Project Fit America.
- PE teacher, Laura Dickson, was selected to present at the 2013-2014 SCAPES conference
- Outstanding Artists in Residence – Sweetgrass Baskets, Metal Sculpture, African Drums, Ballet of Spartanburg, Muse Machine, Paddle Ball King and the Landrum Quilters.
- Art program recognized as a Kennedy Center Creative Ticket school.
- Former Principal Nita High was recognized as the SCAEA (South Carolina Art Educator Association) Principal of the Year 2011-2012
- Website received the Reward for Excellence from the South Carolina Chapter of the National School Public Relations Association in 2011 and 2012.
- Recipient of a \$20,000 Mary F. Kessler fund grant through the Polk County Community Foundation called Kessler Cultural Evenings, which also supports the school's academic arts education program.
- Recipient of a \$5000 Lowes Tools for Schools 2011-2012 grant to establish an arts/reading patio.
- Project Fit America School
- 2011-2012 US Healthy School Bronze Award recipient
- Continued implementation of a 21st Century grant for 1st- 5th grade students that established a free after-school program and sponsored by the Boys and Girls Club
- Continued extra-curricular activities that include Foothills Running Club, Piano Performers, Honors Chorus, Click Club, Studio Art and Tattletales.
- Several teachers received Donor's Choose grants to enhance instruction in their classrooms
- Third Grade teachers were awarded a 2013-2014 \$1000 Spartanburg Junior League grant
- Teachers presented workshops at local and state level conferences
- Funds from the Laurel Lake Music Foundation supports the music program
- Terrific Kids Program sponsored by Kiwanis Club of Spartanburg
- Two teachers were selected to participate in the 2013 "Hands On Minds On" Summer Institute for SC Teachers at the EdVenture Children's Museum in Columbia, SC
- EXCEL students and Landrum Quilters collaborated to place GeoCache stations around the community.



Major Priorities

OPE teachers and administrators will:

- practice, implement, and reflect on strategies to ensure the academic success of each child
- continue implementation of OLWEUS Anti-bullying program
- continue implementation of the Polk County Community Foundation grant for Kessler Cultural Evenings
- continue infusion of the arts school-wide in all content areas
- continue to focus on best practices when teaching college and career readiness standards
- use data from informal and formal assessments to inform instruction as it relates to college and career readiness standards.
- continue to seek community organizations to display children's art work
- develop community outreach programs through various clubs on campus
- provide exemplary differentiated staff development opportunities through Momentum Mondays, Grade Level meetings and Furman Consortium.
- implement a motivating reading incentive program that will encourage all students to increase their volume of reading and text complexity
- participate in staff development on the integration of "academic vocabulary"
- continue to implement math incentives for 3rd grade students memorizing multiplication tables and 1st grade students memorizing addition facts.
- strong working relationship with PTO
- work closely with School Improvement Council
- focus heavily on the integration of technology in the classroom

