

2018-2019 O.P. Earle Elementary

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

Report to the Parents

Accomplishments

- 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- this grant was shared with Landrum Middle School and will bring artists in residence throughout the school year culminating in “Kessler Cultural Evenings”
- Emily Glass, Alyson Thornton, and Amanda Thomas were 2017-2018 recipients of a \$20,000 Mary F. Kessler fund grant through the Polk County Community Foundation - Children experienced Artists in Residence along with “Kessler Cultural Evenings”
- PE Teacher Laura Dickson and former Assistant Principal Shameka Dawkins were the co-recipients of a Mary Black Initiative Fitness Grant totally \$86,000
- Boeing Fitness Grant \$1000.00
- 2018 was awarded funding through the State Department of Education as an Arts in Basic Curriculum site
- 2012 South Carolina Exemplary Reading School of the Year
- Brittany Harrelson, Alyson Brown, Katy Hardee, and Kelsey Gibson were 2015-2016 recipients of a \$20,000 Mary F. Kessler fund grant through the Polk County Community Foundation, “LAYING A FOUNDATION: DEFINING ARTS INTEGRATION.” This was a grant shared with Landrum Middle School throughout the 2016-2017 school year. The artists will focus on Arts Integration and/or S.T.E.A.M, (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art & Design, and Math
- School-wide implementation of the OLWEUS Anti-Bullying program 2014-2018
- Emily Glass OPE’s 2018-2019 Teacher of the Year
- Emery White was OPE’s 2018-2019 Reading Teacher of the Year
- Alyson Thornton and Paula Jeter received funding from Junior League to enhance instruction totally \$1600 in 2018
- In 2015-2016 PE teacher, Laura Dickson, was selected to serve on the State Panel for the Review and Revision of the South Carolina Academic Standards for Health Education
- Outstanding Artists in Residence through Kessler grants included – Sweetgrass Baskets, African Drums, Ballet of Spartanburg, Muse Machine, Kinetic Works, Bubble Maker, Gullah Storyteller, Poetry Alive
- Art program recognized as a Kennedy Center Creative Ticket school
- OPE received the PSAE 2017 South Carolina School of Excellence in Arts Education Award
- Emily Glass received the Promising Young Professional Award from South Carolina Art Education Association (SCAEA) 2017
- Project Fit America School
- After school programming is offered on site through the YMCA
- Extra-curricular activities that include Foothills Running Club, Piano Performers, Honors Chorus, Drama, Chess and Studio Art



- Several teachers received “Donors Choose” grants to enhance instruction in their classrooms totaling nearly \$2,500.00
- Teachers presented workshops at local and state level conferences
- Funds from the Laurel Lake Music Foundation help to support the music program
- Terrific Kids Program sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Spartanburg
- Awarded First-Tee Program grant for 2014-2015
- Allyson Allen was chosen as a lead arts teacher by the SCMEA (South Carolina Music Educators Association) for a 2014 professional development training workshop through the ABC Project (Arts in Basic Curriculum Project)



Major Priorities

OPE teachers and administrators will:

- practice, implement and reflect on strategies to ensure the academic success of each child
- integration of coding, circuitry, and engineering practices within the media lab
- begin implementation of MTSS, which is a multi tiered system of support for academic and behavioral concerns
- school-wide infusion of the arts throughout all content areas
- a media lab class will be offered for 3rd-5th grade students focusing on the engineering process
- continue to focus on instructional best practices
- use data from informal and formal assessments to inform instruction
- continue to integrate S.T.E.A.M lessons schoolwide
- continue to seek community organizations to display children’s art work
- offer dance class twelve weeks during the school year
- provide differentiated exemplary staff development opportunities through Momentum Mondays, Grade Level Meetings and The Spartanburg Writing Project
- implement a motivating reading incentive program that will encourage all students to increase their volume of reading and text complexity
- continue to implement math incentives for 3rd grade students memorizing multiplication tables and 1st grade students memorizing addition facts
- encourage parent and community volunteers through the PTO
- work closely with School Improvement Council
- continue to differentiate instruction through Readers, Writers and Math Workshops
- continue to integrate technology in all grade levels and every student in grades 3rd-5th will receive a Chromebook and 2nd graders will receive Acer tablets, while 5K and 1st will have access to Acer tablets at a 2:1 ratio.

