

SOUTH CAROLINA SCHOOL TO WATCH



CHAPIN MIDDLE SCHOOL



2016 School Statistics

(Source: PowerSchool, SC Department of Education)

Community: Rural
Enrollment: 871
Grade Levels: 7-8
School Schedule: Traditional

Student Demographics

5%	Hispanic
86%	White
2%	Asian
4%	African American
>1%	American Indian (Native American)
16%	Free/Reduced Lunch
3%	English Learners

SC State Testing Results 2016

ELA	Approaching/Meets/Exceeds--- 94%
Math	Approaching/Meets/Exceeds ---91%
Science	Meets/Exceeds ---93%
Social Studies	Meets/Exceeds---94%

School Characteristics and Replicable Practices

Academic Excellence

- The school has posted student achievement scores that are consistently above the district and state averages. Students are challenged to meet or exceed previous year's scores.
- The curriculum is based on state standards and reflects high levels of participation and development by teachers. Teachers work in collaborative departmental planning to ensure that lessons are on standard and structured similarly.
- Classes begin with a Focus of the Day.
- Technology is available to all students and teachers to enhance lessons and utilize capabilities within the classrooms and instructional program.
- A variety of formative and summative assessment strategies are utilized. Benchmarks are used in math, science, and social studies classes. Project-based learning and simulations are used as well as hands-on strategies to encourage collaboration.
- Instructional time is protected within a sixty-minute block of time.

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- Teachers provide extra assistance and support before and after school and during planning time to assist students. A math tutoring lab is offered daily.
- An academic enrichment class is offered to assist students as well as literacy lab and math matters for students who need additional support and help.
- The leadership team uses classroom mosaic for observations and provides teachers immediate feedback.
- Planning time is organized among grade levels and subject areas.

Developmental Responsiveness

- Handwritten notes are mailed to each student prior to the start of the school year.
- Students are housed on grade-level hallways and areas.
- Students are assigned to academies and counselors.
- An Eagle Expo introduces parents to the school and provides support to families coming to the school.
- The school has a comprehensive guidance plan. Students have easy access to a school counselor. Students complete needs assessments which are used to create academic and social lessons. Students participate in various programs such as Silent Strength, Internet Safety, HUGS, and others.
- The counselors are involved with the weekly Triage meetings to determine needed interventions and support for students.
- Support services including mentors, social workers, psychologist, nurse, and mental health counselors are available to support student needs.
- The Career Development Facilitator works with students on career development tasks.
- Students choose exploratory classes that allow full exposure to other areas outside of the academic areas.
- ELA and Social Studies teachers coordinate novels and unit plans to ensure that standards are covered across various disciplines.
- Fun Academies are offered to allow students to be involved with additional activities during the school day and to experience different tasks and opportunities.
- Students have the opportunity to be heard. These include pizza with the principal, SIC meetings, PBIS, student council, bow-tie club, Girls Empowered to Lead, Next Steps, and other opportunities.
- Families are supported through various activities within the school. These include curriculum night, parent visitation day, Bring Your Parent to Lunch Day, awards ceremonies, parent-teacher conferences, SIC, PTO, and various forms of social media.
- Students serve as greeters and participate in various community service activities and events which are held at the school.

Social Equity

- The school utilizes a co-teaching and inclusion model to support students with learning disabilities.

- All students are provided a device as part of the personalized learning device program. Students utilize the device to access numerous apps and programs.

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- Pacing guides and curricular supports are reviewed regularly. Data is collected and analyzed to determine strategies for supporting student learning.
- Students have access to the Fun Academy to participate in various activities and experiences outside the classroom.
- Classes are leveled for various academic levels.
- Students are all given the opportunity to participate in exploratory classes.
- Some examples of diversity in action include the social studies curriculum, Fun Academy, Mix-It-Up-Day, and Black History Month.
- The school faculty and staff knows the students. Students commented about being called by name by the SRO, counselors, and administrators.
- Social Media and other forms of communication are utilized by the school to share information with parents and the community.
- Rewards for various areas include athletics, academics, behavior, and character. Awards ceremonies are held often.
- The school utilizes a PBIS model to support student behavior and conduct.

Organizational Support

- The school has a strong leadership team.
- The schools works under a model of “Know the Vision, Make a Decision.” The leadership team under the direction of a strong visionary principal is able to support the school and its community.
- Professional Development is offered through LeaD5. Various means of training are offered to staff including Tuesday afternoon and delayed start Wednesdays. Additionally, the school is working on better utilization of google classroom.
- The Leadership Team uses a common book study to connect to the mission and works to develop strategies and ideas to support student learning.
- Teachers attend district, state and national conferences.
- The school works with their feeder schools to develop smooth transitions and programs.
- The literacy lab has been added to support literacy skills development.
- The school supports the district goals by incorporating a science goal to boost science scores.
- The school maintains strong relationships with Newberry College, Columbia College, and USC by hosting interns and preservice teachers.
- School staff is often invited to speak at various events, sit on panels and share successes of the school.
- The parents and community are actively involved in the school. The school has included parents in developing goals and programs including things such as homework and grading policies.