Charleston County School District

Highlights and Accomplishments

2015–2018
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Contents

2015-2016 ............................................................... 3
2016-2017 ............................................................... 4
2017-2018 ............................................................... 10
2015–2016

- Quadray Hughes, West Ashley High School Senior, Gates Millennial Scholar
- Jackson Silverman, Haut Gap Middle 5th Grader, 2016 Prudential Spirit of Community Award recipient
- Mary Huffman, Charles Pinckney Elementary, 2015 National History Teacher of the Year
- Darwin Shorters, St. John’s High School, National Project Lead the Way Computer Science Teacher of the Year

- Academic Magnet Ranked 8th Best High School and Third Best Magnet School in the Nation and #1 High School in SC
- Laing Middle Named Top Ten STEM School in the Nation
- Harbor View Elementary, 2015 National Healthy Schools Bronze Award from Alliance for a Healthier Generation recipient
- North Charleston High School, 2016 GRAMMY Foundation Signature Schools Community Award Winner
- Liberty Hill Academy Music Videos Wins National RESPECT Contest by Overcoming Obstacles
- R.B. Stall High Chosen as 2015-2016 Capturing Kids’ Hearts National Showcase School
- Drayton Hall Elementary and R.B. Stall High, recipients Apple Distinguished Schools Award for 2015-2017
- Memminger Elementary “Boys with a Purpose” Club Featured on The Steve Harvey Show and in People Magazine

CCSD eleventh-grade students outperformed their South Carolina counterparts in all four subject area subtests of the ACT and in the overall composite with a score of 19.4 compared to the state average composite of 18.2, ranking CCSD 7th among South Carolina’s 87 districts. The percent of CCSD students scoring at or above ACT’s college-readiness benchmarks was higher than the statewide average in each of the four subject areas, as well as in terms of students meeting all four benchmarks. In fact, among students who took courses that prepare them for college, defined by ACT as taking four or more years of English and three or more years of Math, Social Studies, and Natural Science, CCSD’s average of 21.5 was very close to the national average of 21.9. Review of eleventh-grade performance for 2015 compared to 2016 showed that African American and Hispanic students made substantial increases.
Strategic Planning
- Year-long focus on community and district participation to develop strategic actions for teaching and learning, improving, supporting learning, managing resources, communicating, and addressing community priorities
- Listening sessions held to gather input

Comprehensive Policy Review
- Schedule of review, revision, and reorganization of policies to increase clarity and efficiency

Cross-Division Planning
- Bi-monthly collaborative meetings of representatives from all divisions and departments (Connections Team) to align and enhance work to increase student achievement and support for principals and teachers

District, School, and Student Dashboards
- Development and pilot of district, school, and student achievement and engagement dashboards; sessions held for principals
- Districtwide implementation in 2017-18

Problem and Project-Based Learning Grant and Implementation
- New Tech (problem and project-based learning) planning and identification of high school pilot site
- Intensive professional development to support implementation
- $1.3M grant awarded to implement and scale New Tech initiative to two feeder pattern sites
AVID College and Career Readiness
- Summer institute and ongoing training in Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID)
- Implementation of AVID at pilot sites

Budget Stability
- Projection of restoring at least $12 million to CCSD’s fund balance, bringing the unreserved balance to 58.75% of the required total
- Addition of 119 teacher positions and expansion of the arts, the gifted and talented program, and supports for students and teachers in the 2017-18 budget

Early College High School
- Partnership with Trident Technical College; planning and recruitment of director and faculty
- Recruitment of rising 9th grade students for Early College High School opening in fall of 2017

Top Talent Schools
- Initiative in 13 high poverty underperforming schools to recruit, support, and retain teachers and school leaders, and to provide additional resources to increase student achievement

Safe, Supportive Learning Environments
- Participation with National Center on Safe Supportive Learning Environments to improve school discipline policies
- Revisions of Student Code of Conduct and implementation of national best practices
- Implementation of PBIS in all elementary and middle schools in 2016-17 and in all high schools in 2017-18 with support and training from the Mid-Atlantic PBIS Network
- Implementation of Multi-Tiered Systems of Support with school teams and district level collaboration for supports (MTSS)
- Capturing Kids’ Hearts training for middle schools
Summer Teacher Residency Program
- Development of pilot Summer Teacher Residency Program to recruit, support, and retain teachers and teacher leaders in high poverty schools
- Implementation of pilot program at Sanders Clyde Elementary with 14 expert educators paired with 14 emerging educators who will teach in Title I schools
- Selection of experienced and emerging educators; recruitment of K-5 students for pilot

Expanded Career and Technology Education Opportunities
- Expanded CTE offerings in District 9 and District 23 schools
- Planning for additional Centers for Advanced Studies to provide equitable access to career and technology courses

Blended Learning Intensive Pilot
- Year-long blended learning pilot to increase student achievement and engagement at three high-poverty underperforming sites
- Intensive professional development focused on adaptive digital content, data analysis, targeted instruction, and student agency
- Partnership in implementation with national expert (Education Elements) in blended learning
- Implementation of year-long digital learning pilots (Achieve 3000 at 35 schools, ALEKS at 32 schools, Lexia at 3 schools, and NWEA MAP Navigator at 21 schools); training and evaluation

Districtwide Adaptive Digital Content for ELA and Math
- Evaluation of digital content districtwide
- Selection of district adaptive digital content for ELA and math through digital content fair
- Districtwide training and coaching support beginning in August 2017 for using adaptive digital content to increase student achievement

Aligned Professional Development
- Alignment of Title II resources to support district goals and provide enhanced learning opportunities for principals and teachers
- Cross-departmental alignment of all professional development and professional development resources with strategic goals
- Development of district professional development website
- Micro-credentialing pilot with Center for Teaching Quality
- Participation in statewide committee for micro-credentials

Improved Services for Exceptional Children
- Development of realignment plan for delivery of services and budgets for exceptional children for 2017-18

School Enhancement Process
- Interdepartmental approach to identifying strategies to increase student achievement and to match school needs with enhanced support

SEL Pilots
- Selection of research-based, social-emotional learning models (Overcoming Obstacles, Restorative Justice, and Second Steps)
- Training and intensive support at identified pilot sites for 2017-18

Literacy Coaches and Phonics Pilots
- Literacy coaches were certified through year-long literacy coaching training (University of Florida’s Lastinger Center) for all schools
- Selection of new phonics curriculum
- Phonics pilots at selected sites for 2017-18

OGAP Training and Math Curriculum Pilots
- Ongoing Assessment Project training for all fourth and fifth grade teachers
- Selection of new math curriculum
- Pilots and intensive support at selected sites
STEM/STEAM Pilots

- Intensive support at identified schools for pilot STEM/STEAM initiatives
- Promotion of STEM Careers through EMAGINE, Sea Perch Charleston, Charleston STEM Festival, First ROBOTICS, STEM VISIONS

High Achievers Pathways to Success

- Development of districtwide plan for High Achievers Pathways to Success designed to increase the number of Junior Scholars, National Merit Finalists, and enrollment in Advanced Placement courses

Talent Development Partnership

- Partnership with the College of Charleston in Javits Talent Development Academy (Angel Oak, Ellington, Jane Edwards, Springfield, and Minnie Hughes)

Kindergarten Intervention Handbook

- Development of Kindergarten Intervention Handbook 2016-17
- Dissemination and training for all kindergarten teachers

Blended Learning Teams

- Creation of Blended Learning Action Team to lead and continue Personalized Learning (PL) work and CCSD PL Council to gather input from stakeholders
- Expansion of Digital Learning Cohorts

Literacy Resources and Support

- Provision of digital content and resources in Year at a Glance documents for K-12 ELA curriculum guides and maps
- Effective Elements of Literacy online PD modules for August 2017 launch
- Implementation of Read to Succeed requirements (courses, required school and district plans, and summer school sessions for struggling readers)

Progress Rubric

- Presentation of initial Acceptable Progress Rubric for schools with poverty bands

Participation in State Learning Network to Increase Student Achievement

- Participation of selected school and district leaders in TransformSC network
- Application, site visit, and selection of Stall High School as first CCSD TransformSC innovation school site

Participation in National Learning Networks to Increase Student Achievement

- Participation of selected school and district leaders in New Tech Network and New Tech Network Annual Conference
- Participation of selected school and district leaders in national Personalized Learning Summit; conference presentation by CCSD team; district recognition for personalized/blended learning achievement
- Participation of selected district leaders in the Assessment for Learning Project through the Center for Innovation in Education and Next Generation Learning Challenges

Transportation Improvements

- Development and implementation of late bus tracking system that includes the impact on instructional time in the district
- Development and implementation of online complaint/issues form to ensure issues are addressed promptly
- Implementation of REMIND push application for text notifications of late buses
- Increased number of drivers and worked with contractor to ensure consistent driver count
- Assessment of late bus issues; development of On-time Wheel of Transportation; improvements in effective routing and analysis of traffic patterns
- Addressing of overcrowding issues
- Implementation of up-to-date bus route system maintained on contractor’s website
Highlights and Accomplishments  |  2015–2018

Capital Sales Tax Program
- Successful completion and opening of the new Chicora and Springfield Elementary Schools
- Renovation of Burke High School culinary arts facility
- Improvements of multiple athletic facilities, including installation of a new track and field at Military Magnet Academy
- Planning and execution of more than $8 million of essential capital maintenance projects
- Development and implementation of the five-year Information Technology replacement and upgrade plan

Effective Facility Use and Improvements
- Reduction of power consumption by more than 10% from the previous year through an aggressive energy management plan
- Development and implementation of a net-zero facilities use plan which has reduced district costs by $250,000 per year
- Disposal of three underutilized campuses totaling 25 acres resulting in an annual cost avoidance of $50,000
- Execution of more than 64 facilities projects worth more than $4 million to small, women, and minority business enterprise firms, including 16 different minority companies
- Completion of upgrades to servers in all schools, allowing more students to test online and providing more storage capacity
- Current response time to more than 80% of internet/computer trouble calls in fewer than 20 seconds

Nutrition Services
- Service of more than $2 million of fresh produce, including 10,000 pounds of local strawberries
- Successful operation of the largest supper program in SC, reaching more than 20 schools and 2,250 students per day
- Successful operation of the largest summer meal program in SC, serving students at more than 130 sites
Highlights and Accomplishments

Career and Technology Successes

- Participation of more than 3,500 students in career exploration field trips
- Participation of more than 700 students in viewing of Hidden Figures and discussions with local STEM professionals
- Attendance of more than 1,000 students at the second annual regional STEM Career Fair
- Participation of more than 100 culinary students in a hospitality career fair hosted by the College of Charleston
- Participation of more than 1,000 students in job shadowing opportunities, including 25 students who were hosted by City of Charleston Mayor John Tecklenburg and other city professionals
- Participation of more than 400 students in internships and youth apprenticeships, including internships at Boeing SC and Lowcountry Food Bank
- Hiring of 23 students as Youth Apprentices for 2017-18
- Participation of 150+ educators in career shadowing externships

Human Resources

- Development of the online Performance Evaluation Instrument for classified staff through Entrack (completion scheduled for 2017-18)
- Filling a total of 446 teaching positions in 2016-17 (275 teaching positions with new hires under contract, 119 teaching positions with LOA teachers, and 52 teaching positions through transfers)
- Providing an awareness of TeacherMatch Educator Performance Inventory (EPI) to principals to use as part of the screening and selection of teacher candidates
- Hosting of a Top Talent Schools interview event in February 2017 with responses from 167 teacher candidates
- Hosting of the Annual Educator Recruitment Event in March 2017 with over 500 teacher candidates registered for the event
Strategic Planning
- Strategic planning action teams and stakeholder engagement
- Strategic plan approval by Board of Trustees

Balanced Budget
- Budget alignment with strategic plan and strategic priorities
- Balanced budget approval by Board of Trustees
- Upgraded district bond rating
- Increased budget for school security and safety

Capital Projects
- Completion of 100% of capital projects on time and within budget

Operations
- 99.2% of buses arriving within 5 minutes of scheduled time
- 99% of fire drills successfully completed
- 100% of non-fire emergency drills successfully completed
- 100% response via CCSD emergency radio
- Design and implementation of new data center

Stakeholder Engagement and Support
- Implementation of Student, Teacher, Principal, Parent, Business, and Classified Staff Cabinets
- Creation of district parent relations office for increased parent support

System Accreditation
- 100% of schools completing process for accreditation through AdvancEd

Leadership Development
- Leadership professional development and monthly meetings for assistant principals
- Principals for Tomorrow program supporting learning opportunities for assistant principals
- 100% of principals and assistant principals completing SC Teaching Standards 4.0 training by mid-September
Teacher Salaries and Recruitment
- Salary increase for all teachers approved by Board of Trustees
- Pay band increases established in high needs schools
- Increase in math teacher salary in identified high-needs schools
- Increase in substitute teacher salary
- Co-teaching model implemented in 2 schools
- Partnership with USC School of Library and Information Science to certify teacher librarians
- Approval of TeachCharleston for alternative certification route for middle school English, math, and science teachers
- Teach Local partnership with College of Charleston for Early College High School students

Summer Teacher Residency Program
- Implementation of second year of Summer Teacher Residency Program to recruit, support, and retain teachers and teacher leaders in high poverty schools
- Increased number of students, master teachers, and novice teachers participating in program

Student Health and Wellness
- 115% growth in TeleMental Health
- Over 300 students and families provided direct support from social workers
- Expanded At-Risk Afterschool Meal Program and Seamless Summer Feeding Program
- Breakfast increase of 3.76%; lunch increase of 8.72%

College Readiness
- Larger number and percentage of students in dual credit courses
- Larger number and percentage of students in International Baccalaureate courses
- Larger number and percentage of students in Advanced Placement courses
- Larger number of Advanced Placement courses offered
Safe, Supportive Learning Environments

- Implementation of Second Step in all kindergarten classrooms in 2018-19
- Completion of Tiered Fidelity Inventory and analysis of data at 100% of elementary, middle, and high schools
- Completion of self-assessment of MTSS in 100% of elementary, middle, and high schools
- Revised Progressive Discipline Plan presented to Board of Trustees
- Beginning implementation of PBIS “8 Effective Practices”
- Increase in number of ESOL students and families supported through district services

Early College High School

- Successful first year with projected enrollment of 215 students in 2018-19
- Grant funding of almost $600,000 over next four years

AVID College and Career Readiness

- Summer institute and ongoing training in Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID)
- Expansion of AVID middle school, high school, and Early College High School sites

Career and Technology Education Opportunities

- Increased number of students who are Career Completers
- Continued implementation of work-based learning experiences with 4,165 students and 383 educators participating
- 28 first-year and 18 second-year Youth Apprentices
- Support for students, parents, educators, business partners, and community organizations by CTE career specialists
- All Perkins Academy Indicators met or exceeded
- Expansion of STEM learning opportunities and summer camp participation in N. Charleston

STEM/STEAM

- Expansion of STEM learning opportunities and summer camp participation in N. Charleston
Highlights and Accomplishments

2015–2018

Problem- and Project-Based Learning Grant and Implementation

- New Tech Network model implemented in grades 9 and 10 at Burke High School
- Continuation of $1.3 M grant
- New Tech Network national Best-in-Network award to Burke High School

Blended Learning and Adaptive Digital Content

- Access to adaptive digital content in English language arts and math for all students
- Districtwide training and coaching support for using adaptive digital content to differentiate instruction and increase student achievement
- Personalized learning training conducted for 17 school teams

Literacy

- Literacy coaches in all schools
- Implementation of phonics in 13 pilot sites

Numeracy

- Ongoing Assessment Project training
- Implementation of new math curriculum in 11 pilot sites
- Participation in STEM focus with coding activities and Texas Instrument training by teachers and students in six schools

Participation in State and National Learning Networks to Increase Student Achievement

- Participation of selected school and district leaders in TransformSC network
- Selection of Stall High School and Wando High School to TransformSC network
- Participation of selected school and district leaders in New Tech Network and New Tech Network Annual Conference
- Participation of selected school and district leaders in national Personalized Learning Summit
- Participation of selected district leaders in the Assessment for Learning Project through the Center for Innovation in Education and Next Generation Learning Challenges
School and Student Achievement

- Buist Academy Named 2017 National Blue Ribbon School and Middle School Division in SeaPerch Competition Winner
- Burke High School Received the 2018 New Tech Network Best in Network Award
- The National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grades Reform Designated C.E. Williams as a School to Watch for 2017-2018
- Jerry Zucker Chosen as Capturing Kids’ Hearts National Showcase School and Recipient of $20,000 J.J. Watt Foundation Grant
- Northwoods Middle Chosen to Receive a $20,000 Project Lead the Way Gateway Grant
- Thomas C. Cario Middle Named a Project Lead the Way Distinguished School
- Camp Road Middle, 1st Place Winner, TTC Quest Competition
- Sam Henshaw, Moultrie Middle 7th Grader, 1st Place in SC National Geographic Bee
- Caleb Smith, School of the Arts Senior, Optimist International Oratorical World Champion
- Jenny Yao, School of the Arts Senior, U.S. Presidential Scholar Recipient
- School of the Arts and Academic Magnet Tied for #1 High School in South Carolina by U.S. News & World Report
- Academic Magnet Chosen to Receive $100,000 Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Grant
- Ajani Brooks, Baptist Hill Middle-High Senior, Legion of Valor Bronze Cross Recipient for Achievement by the U.S. Dept. of Army
- Baptist Hill Middle-Hill Wins Lower State Football Championship
- Daniel Jenkins Selected to Receive the South Carolina Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development’s (ASCD) Whole Child Award
- Laing Middle Chosen to Receive International Technology and Engineering Educators Association Program Excellence Award for 2018

- Dr. Mel Goodwin, Laing Middle STEM Coach, International Technology and Engineering Educators Association Teacher Excellence Award for STEM Recipient
- R.B. Stall Recognized by Southern Regional Education Board for high End-of-Course assessment scores for Advanced Career Aerospace Engineering program
- Wando High School Recognized for National Coach of the Year, State 5A Marching Band Champions, and other state champions including Boys’ and Girls’ Swimming, Track and Field, Boys’ Lacrosse, and Boys’ Soccer who were ranked #1 in the nation by USA Today for the 2nd year in a row
- Charleston Progressive Academy Named Leader in Me Lighthouse School
- Early College High Welcomed inaugural class of students
- Simmons-Pinckney Middle Joined New Tech Network
- Mary Huffman, Carolina Park 5th Grade Social Studies Teacher, 2017 South Carolina Council for Social Studies Outstanding Lesson or Unit: Best Practices in Social Studies Award
- Jennie Moore Elementary, #1 Fundraising School for American Heart Association’s Jump Rope for Heart in SC and the Mid-Atlantic Region & #8 in the Nation
- Irma Moctezuma, Pinehurst Elementary 5th Grader, 1st Place Winner, 2018 SC Department of Education Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program Contest
- West Ashley Middle, 1st Place Winner, Odyssey of the Mind
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Constituent District 9: St. John's
Constituent District 10: St. Andrew's
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Charleston County School District Superintendent
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