

Vision Statement

Theodore Lester Elementary School will, in partnership with the community, inspire in all its students, the desire to learn and succeed. Our school will be a safe learning community that celebrates student achievements and encourages active partnerships with families and the entire community. We will empower students to celebrate and learn from our differences while embracing the challenges and opportunities of the future.

Our students will grow into citizens that are ethical in their dealings with others, effective communicators and problem solvers, capable of examining all sides of an issue to reach a resolution that benefits the community at large.



SIC Members

Officers

Chair: Chandra Smith
Vice Chair: Kireem Liles
Secretary, Margaret Gilder

Community Members

Kinda McInnis
Mary Ward

Parent Members

Melia Evans
Chandra Smith
Jessica Morrison
Jennifer Taylor

Teacher Members

Pauline Dixon
Margaret Gilder
Vanessa Harkless
Kireem Liles
Pamila Smith

Ex-Officio Members

Janette Williams, Principal
Melanie Garand, Assistant Principal

This report is issued by the Lester Elementary School Improvement Council in accordance with South Carolina law to share information on the school's progress in meeting various goals and objectives, the work of the SIC and other accomplishments during the school year.



Theodore Lester Elementary School

Annual School Improvement Council Report to Parents 2020-2021

3501 East Palmetto Street
Florence, SC 29506
(843) 664-8459

<https://www.f1s.org/TheodoreLester>

The mission of Theodore Lester Elementary School, in partnership with the community, is to nurture a culture in which students develop a passion for learning, thrive academically, make safe choices, and grow into positive contributors to their community.

Goals for Year 2020-2021

Goal #1: By 2023-24, the percentage of parents satisfied with school-home relations will increase from 60.8% to 75% as measured by the Parent Opinion Survey on SC School Report Card.

Goal #2: By 2023-24, the percentage of students scoring "Meets or Exceeds" on the SC Ready ELA and Math assessments will increase from 27.3% and 25.5% respectively to 40% each as measured by STAR reading and math scores and SC Report Card scores.

Goal 3: By 2023-24, the percentage of teachers on continuing contract will increase from 62.2% to 87% as measured by the South Carolina School Report Card.

Student Achievement

Based upon 2018 SC Ready/SCPass

SCREADY TEST SCORES			
MATH	2019 % Scoring MEETS or EXCEEDS	2018 % Scoring MEETS or EXCEEDS	+/-
3 RD	45%	44%	1%
4 TH	15%	12%	3%
5 TH	10%	8%	2%
6 TH	19%	33%	-14%
ELA	2019 % Scoring MEETS or EXCEEDS	2018 % Scoring MEETS or EXCEEDS	+/-
3 RD	33%	46%	-13%
4 TH	44%	21%	23%
5 TH	21%	12%	9%
6 TH	26%	27%	-1%
Green	% Score increased from 2018		
Orange	% Score decreased from 2018		

Unique Challenges

Children of poverty
 Highway 76 location vs. community school
 School with ESP, Extra Special People
 Teacher recruitment
 Bullying
 Student Attitudes and Behaviors
 No Child Left Behind
 Parent Involvement & Support
 86% Free and Reduced Lunch
 Disabled Students: 34.7% of Enrollment Total

Student Demographics

General Education 255 Students
 Resource Students 41 Students
 Self-Contained 93 Students
 Orthopedic Self-Contained 1 Students
Total Enrollment 389 Students

Computer-based Programs to Individualize Student Learning

Theodore Lester Elementary students have school and at-home access to the below computer programs designed to individualize instruction and increase student learning:

Google Classroom
 Classworks
 Readworks.org
 Lexia (Reading)
 Dreambox (Math)
 Amira (Reading)
 ABCYa.com
 MyOn (Reading)
 Freckle (Reading & Math)
 Pebble Go (Science & Social Studies)
 Discovery Education
 SC Discuss
 Starfall
 Reading Renaissance
 STAR Reading
 STAR Math

www.florencelibrary.org (tumblebooks)

Points of Panther Pride

1 to 1 Technology for all students including our exceptional students population
 Certified teachers in all classes
 State of the Arts Autism Multi-Sensory Room
 STEM Lab for all grade levels
 SC State University 4H & Youth Development Partnership
 Part-time academic interventionists for additional student support

Grant Recipients

- School to Farm Grant
- Ruiz 4 Kids Mini Grants for Teachers: Jessica Crowson, Rebecca Bradley, Eljielyn Kohler
- School Foundation Grant (\$3000 to fund Hydroponics STEM Project) Jessica Crowson/Makayla Bailey
- All 4 Autism Grant Recipient, Tammy Bevill

Community Partnerships

4H & Youth Development Division of SC State University 1890 Extension
 Bojangles
 East Gate, 2nd Loop, Cashua
 First Baptist Church of Florence
 Food Lion
 KFC
 Walmart
 Zaxby's at Hwy. 327

