

## Palmetto Unified School District

P.O. Box 2178/4444 Broad River Road, Columbia SC 29221

Grades	9–12
Enrollment	2,847
Superintendent	Dr. Randy Reagan 803-896-1583
Board Chair	Mr. Earl Brown 803-896-1568

# THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2011 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

## RATINGS OVER 5-YEAR PERIOD

Year	Absolute Rating	Improvement Rating
2011	Excellent	Good
2010	Excellent	Good
2009	Excellent	Good
2008	Excellent	Good
2007	Excellent	Excellent

## ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS

N/A

Definition: As required by the United States Department of Education, Adequate Yearly Progress specifies that the statewide target is met for "All Students" and for the following subgroups: Racial/Ethnic, Subsidized Meals, Disability, and Limited English Proficiency in the areas of English/Language Arts and Mathematics, as well as meeting the statewide target for "All Students" for attendance or graduation rate.

## DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

- Excellent – School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Good – School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Average – School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Below Average – School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Unsatisfactory – School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision

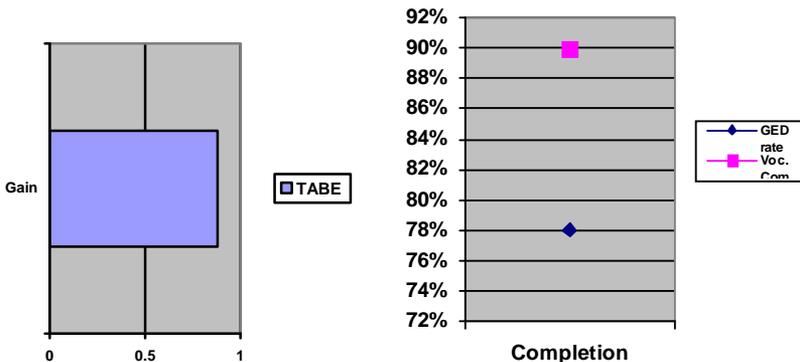
## SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE VISION

By 2020 all students will graduate with the knowledge and skills necessary to compete successfully in the global economy, participate in a democratic society and contribute positively as members of families and communities.

<http://ed.sc.gov>  
<http://www.sceoc.org>

**PERFORMANCE CRITERIA**

<i>CRITERIA</i>	<i>SCORE</i>	<i>RATING</i>
Pretest–Post-test Gains on the TABE	Average gain= .88	5
GED Completion	78%	4
Vocational Program Completers	90%	5



	Number of Students	Total TABE Gain	GED Class	Earned GED	Vocational Students	Vocational Completers
Total District	584	667.6	263	206	298	267

Certified Staff	
Classroom Teachers	32
Vocational Teachers	18
Media Specialist	3
Principals	2
Guidance	3
School Psychologist	1
Vocational Director	1
Superintendent	1

Degrees	Number
Doctorate	2
Masters +30	20
Masters	32
Bachelors +18	4
Bachelors	3

**WORK READINESS CERTIFICATES**

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A–Not Applicable    N/AV–Not Available    N/C–Not Collected    N/R–Not Reported    I/S–Insufficient Sample

**PROFILE OF SCHOOLS (9 EFA , 19 ABE)**

	Our Schools	Change from Last Year
<b>Students (n=2,650)</b>		
Attendance rate	94%	N/A
Students with disabilities other than speech	452	Down from 551
Work Readiness Certificates Awarded	1,756	Down from 1,921
Total academic enrollment	9,938	Up from 9,412
Total high school enrollment	2,847	Down from 2,203
Students Enrolled on 135 <sup>th</sup> Day	951	Down from 957
Total vocational enrollment	4,461	Up from 4,323
GED's Awarded	1,209	Up from 1,089
High school diplomas	1	Same
Completed vocational program	2,769	Up from 2,423
<b>Teachers (n=52)</b>		
Teachers with advanced degrees	88%	Up from 77%
Teachers returning from previous year	N/A	Same
Teacher attendance rate	N/A	Same
Average teacher salary	\$52,206	Up from \$42,401
Professional development days per teacher	10	Same
<b>District</b>		
Superintendent's years at the school	4	Up from 3
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	N/A	Same
Prime instructional time	N/A	Same
Dollars spent per pupil	\$2,669	Up from \$876
SACS accreditation	N/A	Same
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries	88%	Up from 78%
Opportunities in the arts	N/A	Same
Character Development Program	Excellent	Same

**STAFF YEARS OF EXPERIENCE**

Years	Number of Staff
1-5	8
6-10	3
11-15	13
16-20	10
21-25	11
26-30	5
Over 30 Years	11

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A–Not Applicable	N/AV–Not Available	N/C–Not Collected	N/R–Not Reported	I/S–Insufficient Sample
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REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

Palmetto Unified School District (PUSD) is a state wide school district established by legislative mandate in 1981 with the mission of providing academic and vocational programming to adjudicated adults between the ages of 17-21 in ten high schools. The district also operates nineteen adult education programs. Programming includes special education, literacy, GED, SC Diploma, Work Keys and over 50 vocational classes and limited post secondary vocational offerings in collaboration with technical colleges.

PUSD, as a special school district, is held accountable for three measures of performance effectiveness:

- post test gains made on the Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE)
- total number of GED's earned
- total number of students who complete a vocational course

Success in meeting and exceeding these performance measures is evidenced by the district receiving the Palmetto Gold Award for Excellence for eight consecutive years. The District awarded the highest number of GED's (1,209) and vocational credentials (2,769) in its 30 year history. The number of Work Keys certificates awarded was 1,756 which far exceeded the goal of 1,300. Palmetto Unified awarded its first high school diploma through the virtual school program. Several students also received the distinct honor of scoring in the top 5% of GED recipients in the state.

The superintendent, the nine member school board, and the professional staff maintain focus on the Mission of the Palmetto Unified School District, "To improve the academic, vocational, and life-skills of offenders assigned to the South Carolina Department of Corrections so that they are better prepared to successfully re-enter society when released to the community." The mission is accomplished through the three R's: Rigor (high standards and expectations), Relevance (appropriate instruction), and Relationships (a positive climate). A curriculum guide has been developed which identifies rigorous academic standards that are correlated to the TABE, GED, HSAP and Work Keys and appropriately integrated into the curriculum. Through the character development curriculum greater emphasis is being placed on emphasizing, requiring and recognizing good character within our schools to increase pro-social skills development in our students. The goal is create a more positive environment by reducing improper behavior and instilling values and principles that are essential to effective learning and student success.

PUSD's leadership continually revisits the Strategic Plan to make sure that all human and material resources are optimally used to realize its Mission. A major thrust has been to incorporate Work Keys, a job skills preparation, testing, and certification program into the academic and vocational curriculum. Work Keys certification is becoming a standard for employers across the nation to measure the ability level of prospective employees in key areas such as reading, writing, math, listening, and teamwork. The Credentialing Initiative is another avenue that documents work history and vocational competencies so that finding meaningful employment upon release is a viable option.

Through the District's SDE approved technology plan it is envisioned that up-to-date cost efficient computer labs will facilitate teachers individualizing instruction for students.

The staff and teachers continue to focus on quality performance in the midst of challenges and limited resources. The District is developing strategies to attract and keep good teaching professionals.

Developing community partners with business/industry, foundations, religious organizations and service groups will provide human and capital resources to the District in its goal of reaching all students so that they have the skills for successful careers. PUSD staff will seek to actively develop these relationships to complement state and federal support.

Randy Reagan Ed.D  
Superintendent

Maurie Singletary  
SIC Chairperson

## EVALUATIONS BY STUDENTS, TEACHERS, AND PARENTS

	Students	Teachers	Parents
Number of surveys returned	199	0	0
Satisfied with learning environment	69.0	N/R	N/R
Satisfied with social and physical environment	76.1	N/R	N/R
Satisfied with school-home relations	45.7	N/R	N/R