

### **School Achievements**

- 99.7-A Ranking on Federal Accountability
- State ranking of “Excellent” based on performance on standardized testing
- Palmetto Gold Award for achievement
- AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress) for 2013-2014 school year
- Sandi Carson (Art, Teacher of the Year)
- Hovercraft experience highlighted at iImagine Upstate Festival in downtown Greenville
- Panelist at “Women in STEM Careers” at Furman University
- Panelist at “Education Choice” conference by Simpsonville Chamber of Commerce
- Increased grants to expand Innovate program to reach 6<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> grade “alumni”
- Established AJW Mentoring program for at-risk students
- Only public school with float in Christmas Parade
- Certified by Live Well Greenville as a Healthy Living School, includes grant
- 2014 Safe Kids School
- Lego Robotics Team won slot to compete in SC State Championship
- Only public elementary school in state with a school-wide engineering curriculum
- Engineer Partner Program with local organizations to bring engineering to life
- One-for-one technology beginning in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade
- Partnership with Kroc Center (tennis, swimming, dance, soccer, and golf programs)
- Five National Board Certified teachers and highly qualified staff
- Artsonia, digital art portfolio for each student

### **Purpose of the Report**

*“This report is issued by the A.J. Whittenberg Elementary School of Engineering 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.”*

### **What is a School Improvement Council?**

The School Improvement Council (SIC) serves as an advisory committee to the school's principal and faculty. SIC plays a key role in the education of our state's children, bringing together parents, educators, and community stakeholders to work collectively to improve student achievement.

### **SIC MEMBERS**

Melissa V. Lowe, Chairman  
Jason Peterson, Co-Chairman  
Pam McCoy, Secretary  
Nicole Ream, PTA President  
Dr. Megan D. Mitchell-Hoefer, Principal  
Lynn Mann, Program Director  
Kristy Qualls, Administrative Assistant  
Hamilton Parks, Instructional Coach  
Sandi Carson, Teacher of the Year  
Amanda Le Blanc, Librarian  
Mel Church, Community  
Quentin Tompkins, Community  
Kendra Walker, Community  
Sheila Earley, Parent  
Bill Kennedy, Parent  
Pamela Reid, Parent

### **Business and Community Partners**

Fluor \* Hubbell Lighting \* GE Energy \* Michelin  
Greenville Drive \* Lockheed Martin \* 3M  
Jacobs Engineering \* CU-ICAR \* O’Neal, Inc. \*  
ASME – American Society of Mechanical Engineers  
\*SWE – Society of Women Engineers \* Kroc Center  
City of Greenville \* Kiwanis Club \* NAI Earle Furman  
\* St. Peter’s Episcopal Church \* Greenville Zoo  
Brookwood Church \* Bon Secours St. Francis Hospital  
LiveWell Greenville \* Greenville Forward  
Breathe Better \* Junior Achievement \* Earth Fare

## **A.J. Whittenberg Elementary School of Engineering**

### ***SIC Report to the Community/Parents 2014-2015***



**Melissa V. Lowe– SIC Chairman**  
**Jason Peterson - SIC Co-Chairman**  
**Dr. Megan D. Mitchell-Hoefer - Principal**

---

A.J. Whittenberg Elementary  
School of Engineering  
420 Westfield Street  
Greenville 29601  
(864) 452-0500  
Fax: (864) 452-0515



### What are our goals?

- Improvement of car line morning drop off policies and teaming up with Safe Kids
- Implementing the Uniform Donation Program every year
- School safety – Watchdog Program
- Homework / tutoring

### How are we achieving our goals?

Goals are reviewed monthly by the SIC, School Leadership Team, and the Faculty to assess progress toward achieving the established goals and determining continuing strategies needed for successful attainment.



### A Pioneer for the Upstate

- First engineering school in SC
- 88,232 square foot, three-story facility opened in 2010
- Silver Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification
- Downtown Greenville location adjacent to the Swamp Rabbit Trail and Reedy River
- Partner with the Salvation Army Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center (shared campus)
- Green Roof and Solar Panels
- Student-designed playgrounds
- Students create Lego robots, design, and develop products using computers
- Designed to facilitate collaborative learning and the engineering curriculum
- 2 STEM Labs visible from both the interior and exterior of the building due to glass walls
- Robotics curriculum starting at 1<sup>st</sup> grade
- Cutting-edge technology throughout
- All classrooms issued iPads as an instructional resource
- Electronic Keyboard Lab for music & math
- CATCH healthy living program (healthy menus, active lifestyle programs, health education partnerships)
- Organic vegetable garden
- Active PTA and SIC
- Breathe Better Air Program
- Challenge program for Gifted and Talented students
- Extended Day Afterschool and Enrichment
- Parenting Coffee Chats
- Junior FLL Lego Robotics (1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> grades)
- FLL Lego Robotics Teams (4-5th grades)
- Walk to Run Program
- Urban Naturalists Program
- Green Teams (2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grades)

### INNOVATIVE LEARNING

#### A World in Motion

AJ the Robot  
 Book Float Parade  
 Leveled Bookroom and Classroom Library  
 Math Manipulatives  
 Heart Rate Monitors  
 Summer Enrichment Program  
 AJ Responsible Readers  
 Student Designed, Community Built Playgrounds  
 Junior FIRST Lego League Teams (1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> Grades)  
 FLL Competitive Lego League Team (4<sup>th</sup> Grade)  
 Piano Keyboarding Lab  
 Terrific Kids Program with Kiwanis  
 Engineering Broadway Program (1<sup>st</sup> Grade)  
 AJ Day at Flour Field  
 Engineering Process – Problem-based curriculum

## Healthy Food Choices

#### Living Healthy

Healthy Breakfast and Lunch Menus  
 CATCH – Coordinated Approach to Child Health  
 Walk to Run and Hiking Programs  
 Healthy Birthday Club  
 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Tennis Programs (Kroc Center)  
 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Soccer (Kroc Center)  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Swimming Program (Kroc Center)  
 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Dance Program (Kroc Center)  
 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Golf Program (Kroc Center)  
 Organic Community Garden  
 Recycled Greenhouse  
 Live Well Greenville certified Healthy Living School  
 Family Fitness Night  
 Family Fitness Fridays (summer)