

Progress Report to the Community

2008-09



Quick Facts

Students
68,796
(Nation's 51st and State's Largest School District)

Graduation Rate
Improved from 69.6% to 73.3%

Drop-out Rate
Decreased from 4.1% to 3.8%

Percentage of Graduates Pursuing a College Degree
92.3%

2008 Scholarship Total
\$84.9 Million

Award-Winning Schools

13 National Blue Ribbon Schools

18 Palmetto's Finest Schools

33 State Gold and Silver Award Winners (2008-09)

www.greenville.k12.sc.us

High School Assessment Program (HSAP)

81.4% of 10th grade students taking the High School Exit Exam passed both the English/Language Arts and Math sections on their first attempt - up from 75.3% in 2007.

Advanced Placement (AP)

More students are taking Advanced Placement courses and qualifying for college credit (score of 3 or higher).

	2007	2008
# Exams 3-5 (48%)	2,192	(51%) 2,273
# Exams Taken	4,943	4,457



Palmetto Achievement Challenge Tests (PACT)

The PACT testing program measures each student's grade-level knowledge in English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. Scores are Below Basic, Basic, Proficient, and Advanced.

Greenville County Students Scoring Basic or Above

English/Language Arts	78.2%
Math	78.1%
Science	70.6%
Social Studies	74.4%

Report Cards

More than 70% of Greenville County schools (59) received Absolute ratings of Excellent, Good, or Average on their School Report Cards.



Goal 1:

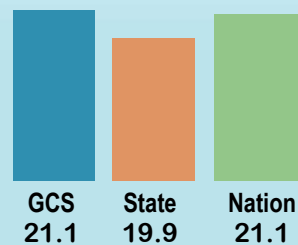
Raise the academic challenge and performance of each student

Greenville County Schools achieved international recognition as a high quality school system when awarded National Accreditation from AdvancED Worldwide, providing a distinguished mark of quality for the school system, its schools, students, teachers, and community.

College Entrance Tests

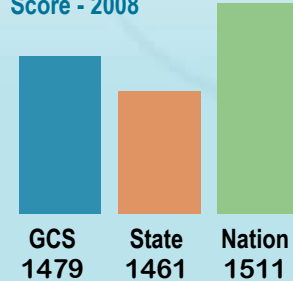
Seniors performed as well as the nation on the American College Test (ACT) with an average score of 21.1, and outperformed their state counterparts by 18 points on the Scholastic Achievement Test (SAT).

Average ACT Score - 2008 Equal to National Average!



*36-Point Scale

Average SAT Score - 2008



Goal 2:

Ensure quality personnel in all positions

Ninety-eight percent of GCS teachers are Highly Qualified content experts.

Excellence in Action

500 National Board Certified Teachers – more than 31 states.

Goal 3:

Provide a school environment supportive of learning

The BEST School Construction Program has been nationally recognized by the Construction Management Association of America (CMAA) as the 2008 National Project Achievement Award recipient.



Long-Range Facilities Plan and Capital Improvement Plan

The BEST (Building Equity Sooner Tomorrow) School Construction Program provides quality school facilities built in a timely manner and at less cost. Sixty-nine of 70 schools and centers have been completed.

The Board has approved a Capital Improvement Plan to build and update schools not included in the BEST Program, and to implement a comprehensive maintenance plan for repairs, equipment replacement, painting, and other needs. School renovation and construction needs are considered each year.

Goal 4:

Effectively manage and further develop necessary financial resources

District administration costs on a percentage basis are 42% less than the state average.

Building Fund Budget

The Building Fund Budget pays for renovation and construction of schools. Most of the revenue is generated by the sale of general obligation bonds. The bonds are paid off through local property tax millage for debt service.

General Fund Budget (2008-09)

The General Fund Budget, commonly referred to as the "School District Budget," pays for day-to-day expenses such as teachers' and other employees' salaries, utilities, and supplies. Expenditures are in seven major areas – classroom instruction, operations and maintenance, instructional support, school administration, auxiliary services, transfers, and district administration.

General Fund Revenue

State	66.26%	\$290,426,188
Local	31.45%	\$137,858,937
Fund Balance	2.29%	\$10,046,997

(Reflects budget cuts through February 24, 2009)

Goal 5:

Improve public understanding and support of public schools

More than 73,000 volunteers donated an estimated 823,000 hours of service last year, an investment of \$16 million.

Essential to the Community's Success

GCS employs 9,138 local residents who will return \$346 million this year back into the economy.



General Fund Expenditures

Instruction	59.40%	\$ 260,226,298
Operations & Maintenance	16.90%	\$73,992,026
School Administration	7.50%	\$33,018,659
Instructional Support	7.40%	\$32,551,636
Auxiliary Services	5.80%	\$25,442,861
Other (Transfers)	2.40%	\$10,650,089
District Administration	0.60%	\$2,450,553
Total	100%	\$438,332,122

(Reflects budget cuts through February 24, 2009)

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