

PLAIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SIC REPORT TO THE PARENTS 2025-2026

THE MISSION OF PLAIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
IS TO PREPARE STUDENTS TO BECOME 21ST
CENTURY LEARNERS AND RESPONSIBLE,
PRODUCTIVE CITIZENS IN THE GLOBAL
MARKETPLACE.

"A SCHOOL FAMILY - POSITIVELY COMMITTED
TO EXCELLENCE!"

SIC MEMBERS

Chair

Rebecca Ballard, Parent

Elected

Allison Lanier, Parent

Jess Moller, Teacher

Kayla Halvorsen, Teacher

Appointed

Josh Wiseman, Community
Member

John Dawson, Community
Member

Ex-Officio

Debbie Mihalic, Principal

Contact the SIC via email:
coramrebecca@gmail.com

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN GOALS

School Climate and Culture

A school's climate and culture are the DNA that establish avenues of success for students. Plain esteems to be a school family, meaning an environment that feels welcoming, safe, and supportive.

- Fostering social and emotional development in students by creating opportunities to raise awareness and compassion to diversity in our school, community, and world
- Organizing opportunities for one-on-one and group enrichment beyond the classroom to enhance academic success
- Promoting a culture of passionate engagement of teachers and staff by supporting an environment of enrichment and appreciation for employees

Parent & Community Involvement

Our school and community thrive when a symbiotic relationship exists. Students and the community are enriched by serving each other.

- Determining the best way to consistently communicate with parents, streamlining quality communication, and determining meaningful ways of communicating to families and the community activities happening at the school, needs, and opportunities, as well as highlighting student achievements and innovative teaching methods being used in the classroom
- Ensuring a welcome and inclusive environment for parent and community volunteers through a building and school family that are inviting and receptive
- Partnering with parents to educate them and share ideas for being more involved in their child's learning
- Developing a characteristic of citizenship within our students and a connection with the community through community engagement and service activities

Health & Safety

Only when children feel safe and secure can they learn.

- Ensuring safety and wellbeing of students entering and exiting school
- Communicating with families the comprehensive safety measures taking place during the school day
- Promoting healthy choices both at school and in the home

SCHOOL STATISTICS

SC School Report Card

- 2024-2025 Overall Rating: 57 Good
- Student Enrollment: 975

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864-335-7700

<https://www.greenville.k12.sc.us/plaine/>

Principal Debbie Mihalic, dmihalic@greenville.k12.sc.us

SIC GOALS

Goal 1 - School Climate and Culture

Plain Elementary continued to prioritize a positive, inclusive school climate aligned to its vision of being a school family: welcoming, safe, and supportive. Throughout the year, the School Improvement Council supported multiple initiatives designed to strengthen students' social-emotional development, expand enrichment opportunities, and recognize and support staff.

Fostering Social and Emotional Development & Awareness of Diversity

Plain Elementary implemented several school-wide initiatives to promote awareness, inclusion, and compassion.

Heritage Day in March was successfully organized as a school-wide event celebrating students' backgrounds and cultures, encouraging family engagement and student pride.

During Black History Month, students participated in an interactive scavenger hunt highlighting influential historical figures, reinforcing cultural awareness in an engaging format.

Additionally, the school planned participation in Sexual Assault and Child Abuse Awareness Month (April), partnering with community resources to provide age-appropriate awareness activities and visual displays to promote student safety and understanding.

To further strengthen inclusion efforts, the SIC researched and secured approval for implementation of the KIND program, a school-wide special education awareness initiative, with full implementation targeted for the 2026–2027 school year.

Expanding Enrichment Opportunities Beyond the Classroom

The mentor program remained a key initiative in supporting students' academic and personal growth. The program was strengthened through revised training, active recruitment of community mentors, and ongoing partnerships with local organizations such as the Chamber of Commerce and Greenville Tech.

SIC GOALS

Goal 1 - School Climate and Culture (continued)

Six active mentors matched with students and met regularly with students to provide individualized support, with continued efforts to expand participation and reach additional students in need.

Promoting Staff Engagement and Appreciation

Plain Elementary continued to foster a culture of appreciation and support for faculty and staff. The Golden Panda Award program recognized outstanding teachers on a monthly basis through parent and community nominations, reinforcing a culture of celebration and recognition.

In addition, the SIC supported ongoing staff appreciation efforts through initiatives such as the “Woot Woot Cart,” which provided treats and small tokens of appreciation throughout the year. Community partnerships and donations were leveraged to sustain these efforts and ensure consistent recognition of staff contributions. All one hundred twenty staff members were recognized through appreciation initiatives.

SIC GOALS

Goal 2 - Parent & Community Involvement

Plain Elementary recognizes that strong partnerships between school, families, and the community are essential to student success. Throughout the 2025–2026 school year, SIC supported initiatives focused on improving communication, increasing volunteer engagement, strengthening family partnerships, and fostering student citizenship.

Strengthening Communication with Families

Plain Elementary implemented consistent and streamlined communication systems to ensure families remain informed and engaged in their child's education.

Administration utilized the Backpack platform to distribute a weekly school newsletter to all families, providing updates on school events, important announcements, and opportunities for involvement. In addition, weekly phone calls were conducted to reinforce key information and ensure accessibility for all families.

At the classroom level, teachers sent weekly emails to families outlining upcoming lessons, academic expectations, and classroom updates. This consistent communication structure provided families with clear insight into instructional practices while also highlighting student learning and school initiatives.

Creating a Welcoming and Inclusive Environment for Volunteers

Plain Elementary continued to foster a welcoming environment for parent and community involvement through events designed to encourage engagement and shared ownership of the school environment.

HOPE Day served as a key initiative, bringing together families, staff, and community members to participate in hands-on campus improvement projects, including school beautification and support of outdoor learning spaces.

SIC GOALS

Goal 2 - Parent & Community Involvement (continued)

Through partnerships with organizations such as the Clemson Extension Master Gardener program, the school expanded these efforts to include the development and enhancement of a school garden and outdoor learning areas.

These efforts provided meaningful opportunities for volunteers to contribute directly to the school while strengthening relationships within the school community.

Partnering with Parents to Support Student Learning

Plain Elementary emphasized ongoing collaboration with families to support student learning and academic success.

Teachers maintained consistent weekly communication with families, providing detailed information about instructional focus, classroom expectations, and ways parents can support learning at home. This proactive approach ensured families were equipped with the tools and knowledge needed to reinforce academic success outside of the classroom.

Building Student Citizenship and Community Connections

Plain Elementary provided meaningful opportunities for students to develop a sense of citizenship and connection to the broader community through service-oriented and community engagement activities.

The annual Veterans Day program served as a cornerstone event, honoring local veterans and engaging students in acts of recognition and appreciation. Through a partnership with Battle Buddies, the school was able to enhance the program by connecting students with veterans and service-related initiatives, providing a deeper, real-world understanding of service and sacrifice.

Students participated in activities such as creating recognition displays, contributing to the Wall of Honor, and engaging in school-wide efforts to celebrate and thank veterans. These experiences helped foster respect, gratitude, and civic awareness among students.

SIC GOALS

Goal 3 - Health and Safety

Plain Elementary remains committed to ensuring that all students learn in a safe, secure, and supportive environment. Throughout the 2025–2026 school year, the SIC supported initiatives focused on student safety, family communication, and promoting healthy choices both at school and at home.

Ensuring Safe Arrival and Dismissal

To support the safety and well-being of students entering and exiting the school, Plain Elementary implemented consistent, visible routines that promote supervision and positive interactions.

Programs such as Welcome Wednesdays and Fist Bump Fridays provided structured opportunities for staff and community members to greet students, creating a safe and welcoming start to the school day. In addition, the school maintained an active safety patrol to assist with monitoring arrival and dismissal procedures and reinforcing safe practices.

Communicating Safety Measures with Families

Plain Elementary prioritized transparent communication with families regarding school safety procedures and protocols.

Administration utilized the Backpack communication system to provide timely updates to families following safety drills, including lockdown, fire, and tornado drills. These communications ensured that families were informed of safety practices and reassured of the school's commitment to student well-being.

SIC GOALS

Goal 3 - Health and Safety (continued)

Promoting Healthy Choices and Student Well-Being

Plain Elementary implemented multiple initiatives to promote healthy choices and student well-being, both within the school and in partnership with families.

The “Too Good for Drugs” program was implemented as a 10-week prevention program for all 5th-grade students, focusing on decision-making, peer pressure resistance, and healthy lifestyle choices, and was successfully completed during the school year.

In addition, the school partnered with community organizations to provide families with valuable safety information and resources. A certified Car Seat Technician was available during a school event to support families with proper car seat installation and safety education.

The school also promoted awareness of Operation Safe Outcomes, a program designed to support individuals with special needs by providing first responders with critical information during emergencies.

To further strengthen safety education, the SIC researched and secured approval for implementation of the “Sound Off with Home Fire Safety” program, which will be implemented during the 2026–2027 school year. Additionally, through its partnership with the Clemson Extension Master Gardener program, Plain Elementary integrated outdoor learning and garden-based activities that promote healthy habits, environmental awareness, and student well-being.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Plain Elementary continues to take pride in fostering a strong sense of community, collaboration, and shared ownership among students, families, and staff. Throughout the 2025–2026 school year, the school celebrated meaningful accomplishments and expanded opportunities for family and community engagement.

Family engagement remained a priority, with events such as Heritage Day, HOPE Day, the school carnival, and the Veterans Day program providing opportunities for families to connect with the school and actively participate in student experiences. These events strengthened relationships and reinforced Plain Elementary’s commitment to being a true “school family.”

In addition to SIC involvement, families are encouraged to engage with the school through the PTA, volunteer opportunities, and participation in school-wide events and initiatives. Plain Elementary values the voice and involvement of families as essential partners in student success.

The SIC continues to play an active role in supporting school improvement efforts through collaboration with administration, staff, and community members. As the school looks ahead to the 2026–2027 school year, the SIC will continue to build on current initiatives, expand community partnerships, and support programs that enhance student learning, safety, and well-being.

The SIC would like to thank the students, families, teachers, staff, and community partners who have contributed their time, energy, and support throughout the year. The continued success of Plain Elementary is a direct result of this collective commitment. As we move forward, we remain dedicated to strengthening our school community and providing the best possible environment for all students to learn and grow.