



Florence 1
Schools
Students first



TAKING EDUCATION IN FLORENCE TO NEW HEIGHTS,
ONE STUDENT AT A TIME.

SCAN ME



F1S.ORG





Florence 1 in 2028
 Onevision. **OneVoice.** OneFuture.

TAKING EDUCATION IN **FLORENCE** TO NEW HEIGHTS, **ONE** STUDENT AT A TIME.

A Strategic Plan for Building One of the Nation's Premier School Districts

Guided by **five** key objectives, our roadmap will transform **Florence 1 Schools** into a highly competitive, nationally recognized, leading school district.

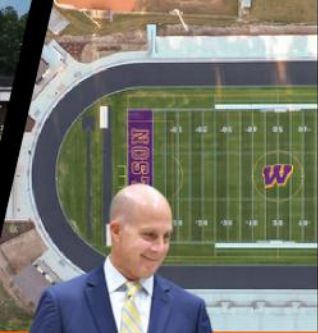
<p>1</p> <p>STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT</p> <p>Increase the Academic Achievement of All Students through Effective Instruction, a Challenging and Engaging Curriculum and Aligned Assessments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase SC READY Achievements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➔ Increase All Students Reading to a 3rd Grade Level to 75% ➔ Increase Math Achievement for Grades 3 - 8 to 60% ➔ Increase ELA Achievement for Grades 3 - 8 to 70% • Increase EOC's A's/B's - to 50% • Graduation Rate 95% • Increase Early Childhood Enrollment by 50% • Increase Course/ Program Offerings in Secondary Schools • Increase Enrollment in Higher Level Classes to 30% 	<p>2</p> <p>FACILITIES</p> <p>Safe and Secure Environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begin Construction of Poynor School of Innovation • Complete New North Vista Elementary • Remove All Mobile Units for Students • Create a 5-year Maintenance Plan for 2024-2029 • Develop Plan of Expansion of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Timmonsville Education Center, ◦ New Savannah Grove Elementary, ◦ Aquatics Center • Increase Safety and Security Measures Throughout the District 	<p>3</p> <p>RECRUITMENT & RETENTION OF STAFF</p> <p>Focus on a professional, dedicated, and quality workforce in support of student success.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retention Rate at 90% • Wellness Survey at 4.0 on Welbee Scale in the Areas of Change, Demands, and Manager Support • Develop Various Programs, Benefits, and Incentives to Retain All Staff • Create a Comprehensive Employee Assistance Program (EAP) • Competitive Salaries Comparable to Public and Private Sector 	<p>4</p> <p>FINANCE</p> <p>Ensure the District is Fiscally and Operationally Sound.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audits with No Material Findings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Annual Audit, ◦ Procurement Audit • State Risk Assessment Remains 12 or Below • Implement a Balanced Budget while Supporting Academic Excellence and Expanding Resources for Students and Staff. • Increase Fiscal Awareness Among All Stakeholders through Training and Communication 	<p>5</p> <p>PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT</p> <p>Professional Learning is the Cornerstone of the Growth and Development of our Faculty and Staff. We're Committed to Continuous Improvement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All PreK-3 Training in Orton-Gillingham • Increase Mentoring Stipend to \$2,500 • All Staff Attend 24-Hours of Professional Development Annually • Create TeachFlorence1 - Alternative Pathway to Educator Certification Program • National Board Certification (NBC) Cohort
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Download on the App Store | GET IT ON Google Play





TAKING EDUCATION
IN FLORENCE TO
NEW HEIGHTS, ONE
STUDENT AT A TIME

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT >



FROM THE DESK OF DR. RICHARD O'MALLEY >

HELLO NEIGHBOR,

There is so much to celebrate about the unprecedented progress of Florence 1 Schools with more of our students achieving their goals in the classroom. Our commitment to excellence has never been stronger or more focused. Over the past (5) years, Florence 1 Schools has had its most successful period, a culmination of over 100 years of service to the Florence Community. There has never been so much sustained excellence in academics, athletics, and the arts; it is truly a great time to be a part of Florence 1 Schools. Our work is far from over, and we will achieve greater success by working hand in hand.

The 2023-2024 school year will be an exhilarating time for all of us as we embark on new district and school goals. Our goals include new curricula, technology initiatives, new academic programs, facility upgrades, and a commitment to increased student achievement, all within an optimal and safe learning environment for all students. We know the important role that parents and guardians play in student achievement, so this year I will ask you again to rededicate yourselves to increasing your involvement in our schools.

I am enthusiastic about the possibilities that lie ahead for our school district. Every school year holds innumerable opportunities for each of us to grow. It is only by working together and striving toward a common goal that those opportunities may become a reality. Our common goal is the well-being and education of every child!

Sincerely,

Richard O'Malley, Ed. D
Superintendent, Florence 1 Schools



Report Cards

ELEMENTARY

Briggs	Excellent	A+
Delmae Heights	Excellent	A+
Lucy T. Davis	Excellent	A+
Royall	Excellent	A+
Henry Timrod	Good	A
McLaurin	Good	A
Savannah Grove	Good	A
Brockington	Average	B
Carver	Average	B
Dewey L. Carter	Average	B
Greenwood	Average	B
North Vista	Average	B
Theodore Lester	Average	B
Wallace-Gregg	Average	B

Wow!

MIDDLE

John W. Moore	Excellent	A+
Southside	Average	B
Williams	Average	B
Henry L. Sneed	Below Average	C+

Wow!

HIGH

South Florence	Good	A
West Florence	Good	A
Wilson	Average	B

Wow!

SC Ready Performance Change

Grades	Math	ELA
3rd	8.4 ↑	8.7 ↑
4th	11.8 ↑	6.2 ↑
5th	3.5 ↑	5.7 ↑
6th	1.7 ↑	6.3 ↑
7th	0.1 ↑	3.2 ↑
8th	4.9 ↑	7.8 ↑
District	5.1 ↑	6.2 ↑

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT CONT'D >

For the first time in Florence 1 Schools, all of our elementary schools received an "Excellent," "Good," or "Average," rating on S.C. State Report Card. Four out of 14 elementary schools received an "Excellent," rating, five elementary schools were rated "Good", and the remaining seven were rated "Average." Overall, nine elementary schools received an increased rating from the 2021-2022 school year. Royall Elementary School scored among the top 5 elementary schools in the state. Five of the seven secondary schools in the district were rated either, "Good" or "Average" and John W. Moore Middle School was rated, "Excellent." Florence 1 Schools' goal is to become the top-performing district in South Carolina and we are well on our way.

GRADUATION

The district has the 4th **HIGHEST GRADUATION RATE** in South Carolina at **93%**.

This is our 3rd straight year with over a 91% graduation rate.

South Florence High School's graduation rate is in the top 3% of all traditional high schools!



TIMMONSVILLE COHORT GRAD RATE

2021-2022

48.5%

2022-2023

100%

FACILITIES AND MAINTENANCE UPGRADES >

Over the last several years, Florence 1 Schools has undergone a transformation. Millions of dollars have been spent renovating existing schools, building new schools, and transforming or constructing new athletic facilities across the district. Improved facilities are creating innovative collaborative spaces, inviting classrooms, media centers that inspire a love for learning, and of course, athletic areas for champions. Renovations have taken place inside and outside our buildings, with modern windows, painting, and beautiful new landscaping. This has created a wonderful, safe learning and extracurricular environment that our students and staff take pride in daily.

\$ 25 MILLION SPENT

\$4.5 MILLION
HVAC & ELECTRICAL



\$2 MILLION
ROOFING



\$1 MILLION
CAFETERIA EQUIPMENT



\$4 MILLION
RESTROOMS



\$1.7 MILLION
PAINTING



\$680,000
NEW SCHOOL BUSES



\$3 MILLION
PAVING, FENCING, & LANDSCAPING



\$1.2 MILLION
FLOORING



\$500,000
CEILING TILES



\$2.5 MILLION
WINDOWS/DOORS



\$1 MILLION
LIGHTING



\$400,000
WATER FOUNTAINS



THEODORE LESTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

THE FARM AT FLORENCE 1 >

FARM.FIS.ORG

The Farm at Florence 1 is a beautiful 7,500-square-foot building on 9 acres of land and is a true gift to our community and our state. In fact, no other school system in South Carolina offers an experience quite like The Farm. Learning experiences are designed with grade-specific, innovative learning in mind, for students from pre-kindergarten through adult education, as well as our community. The possibilities are endless, and as the seasons change, so will the opportunities for learning.

So far this school year, students have explored sunflower fields to learn how pollinators make flowers, fruits, and vegetables grow. They have interacted with and observed baby chickens that were hatched at The Farm. They have also enjoyed hayrides to explore a neighboring farm, Stirrup Hope, to see ducks, horses, and donkeys up close. They have participated in mindfulness activities, using their senses to immerse themselves in nature and practice social and emotional lifeskills. Meanwhile, students from the district's three high schools and Advantage Academy are learning about turf management, greenhouses, and irrigation systems; the first high school students to visit even worked together to install irrigation for The Farm's raised garden beds.

"THE FARM AT FLORENCE 1 PROVIDES - HAPPINESS, FREEDOM, AND JOY; YOU WILL LEAVE HERE TRANSFORMED."

Jeff Murrie, Farm to School Coordinator



OVER
15
PARTNERSHIPS

"—
The Florence County Sheriff's Office has a strong and positive working relationship with Florence 1 Schools that is focused on school security and the safety of the students, faculty and staff. We will continue to build upon this relationship with our goal of protecting our precious children. **"**

T.J. Joye
Florence County Sheriff

SECURITY >

The safety of our students and staff is a top priority for Florence 1 Schools. Over the last several years, large investments have been made to increase the security of all of our campuses.

Starting in the 2023-2024 school year, Florence 1 Schools has contracted with a private security firm to place full-time armed security guards on all elementary school campuses. Middle schools and high school campuses continue to be secured by officers from the Florence County Sheriff's Department.

The grade reconfiguration within our elementary and middle schools has eliminated the need for the 180 mobile units that were on our campuses, putting thousands of students back in the safety of a brick and mortar school building.

The district has also updated security checks at the middle schools and high schools, replacing walkthrough metal detectors with 23 Evolv Express systems that allow for not only a quicker screening when students enter schools in the morning, but also more precise detection of items of concern. Increased security at athletic events also ensures that the students, staff and community members feel safe while enjoying district sporting events.



Through comprehensive online security programming, Florence 1 is able to monitor for:

- Violence/threats searched or viewed in internet browsers
- Explicit content viewed in managed browsers
- Content that is sent/created from a non-monitored browser
- Explicit videos/pictures that are shared

With 24/7 monitoring, administrators receive alerts when monitored content is found, helping to keep students safe while using devices and the internet.

FIS.ORG/TECHNOLOGY

STEM

Over the last five years, Florence 1 Schools has introduced our students to the many exciting areas of STEM. From using virtual reality goggles to visit other planets to building BMX bikes from the ground up, you never know what you'll find students learning in classrooms throughout Florence 1 Schools. With the instruction and guidance of our dedicated educators, students have become more invested in their education, experiencing lightbulb moments in the classroom as they connect their textbooks to real-world problems and experiences.

STARLAB

STEM courses help students to explore and find out what interests them, while also preparing them to be college and career-ready. From introductory lessons in our elementary schools to more advanced courses in our high schools, we look forward to seeing our programs grow and expand. There is so much more to come as we explore STEM in Florence 1 Schools.

STEM Highlights



Over a MILLION DOLLARS has been spent over the last several years on STEM programming across our district. With that money we have been able to offer:

- A state-of-the-art STEM bus available to all students
- Drone classes at all grade levels
- Virtual reality goggles that can be used in STEM courses as well as other courses like English Literature
- Robotics kits
- Robotics Teams
- 3D printers and 3D pens
- ZSpace 3D Computers
- STEM Magnet Schools
- Biomedical Science courses
- Video Game Design classes
- Drone license testing center
- Elementary STEM Labs
- Flight simulators
- Cybersecurity & Computer Programming
- Drone Coding classes
- 6 Cognia Certified STEM schools
- STAR Lab (mobile planetarium)
- ABii tutoring robots



MEET ABII

ARTS



3 ARTS MAGNET SCHOOLS

Brockington Elementary - Southside Middle School - South Florence High School

The arts have truly come alive in Florence 1 with new programs, renovated classrooms, equipment, and instruments. Improvements can be seen at elementary, middle, and high schools across the district.

Visual arts programs have received a variety of teacher-requested supplies, as well as essential equipment like large format photo printers for digital art programs, and digital cameras for photography classes. Students have been able to learn from acclaimed sculptors, potters, and painters during Artists in Residence sessions and have been able to visit museums and galleries during field trips to see a variety of art styles and mediums.

Students in performing arts programs are benefitting from new sound systems and stage risers, enhancing the safety and professionalism of performances. All three high school auditoriums now have new lighting systems. A new honors to dual-enrollment piano course sequence was created at South Florence for exceptional pianists.

Spectacular custom trucks or trailers have been purchased to transport equipment for all three high school marching bands and students have new distinctly designed uniforms. The bands are shining with quality new instruments and audio technology. FIS is also replacing aging band director towers at all three high schools.

Music programs are growing rapidly at feeder middle and elementary schools. To support performing groups, as well as classroom music, high-quality items such as world percussion, pianos, guitars, and essential supplies have been purchased.

Funding for professional clinicians and support for All-State and competition fees has helped many of our students gain access to extraordinary experiences, and record numbers of our visual and performing arts students are receiving prestigious awards and recognitions.



Notable Arts Accomplishments for 22-23

All National Musician



Chorus selected to perform at the ACDA Conference



20 All-State Musicians

20

3 bands rated Superior with Distinction from SC Band Directors Association

3

52 Region Honor Band & Orchestra Students

52

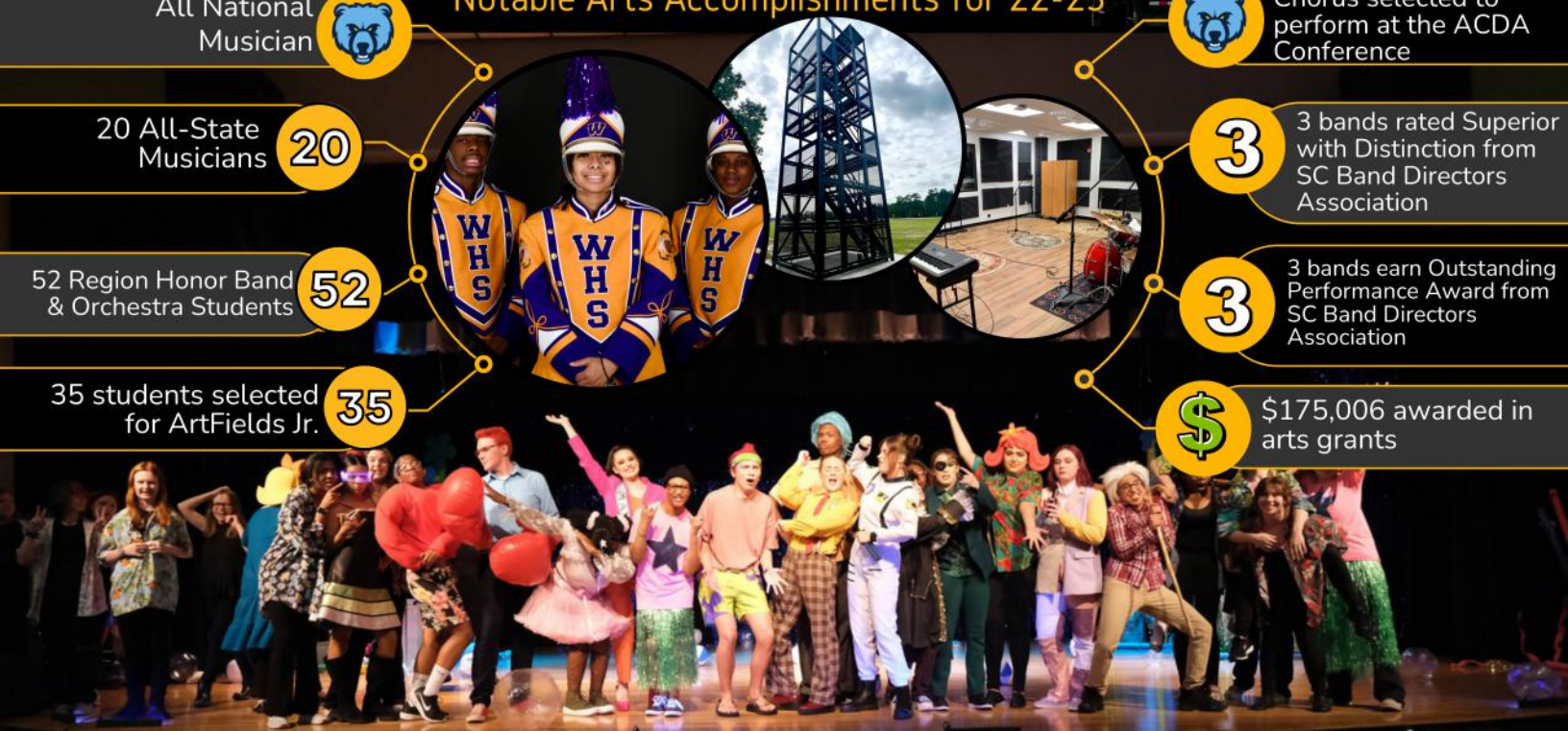
3 bands earn Outstanding Performance Award from SC Band Directors Association

3

35 students selected for ArtFields Jr.

35

\$175,006 awarded in arts grants



OVER \$500,000 IN ART EXPENDITURES THIS YEAR

Spongebob the Musical at South Florence



FIS.ORG/FINEARTS

Advantage Academy

At Advantage Academy, Florence 1 high school students have the opportunity to explore a variety of careers, getting hands-on experience, the certification required to start working in their field of choice, and earn dual credit all before they even graduate from high school.



Some of the newest programs include:

- Aviation
- HVAC
- Electrical Line Worker
- Cosmetology
- Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA)
- Cybersecurity
- Horticulture



45
CAREER CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

58
BUSINESS PARTNERSHIPS

Through our partners and advisors, Florence 1 takes pride in creating courses that best serve students as they prepare to exit school and begin their careers or seek higher education. They also provide insight into equipment, certifications and professional development to increase the rigor of our programs.

OVER
\$950,000
SPENT
ON ADVANTAGE
ACADEMY PROGRAMS
& EQUIPMENT ALONE



SCAN
ME



WITH YOUR CAMERA



ADVANTAGEACADEMY.FIS.ORG

Deliciously Fresh, **FREE** & Healthy Food!

Starting in the 2023-2024 school year, all Florence 1 Schools students eat breakfast and lunch for free.

Our culinary services partner, Chartwells, is made up of a network of passionate individuals, most of whom are Florence 1 graduates, who take pride and joy in serving our students nutritious and delicious meals.

GLOBAL EATS

Students experience culinary flavors from around the world.



MOOD BOOST

Students connect what they eat with how they feel.



DISCOVERY KITCHEN

Students discover new foods.



Student Favorites on the Menu

Elementary Schools

- Hamburger
- Steak & Gravy with a Whole Grain Breadstick
- Mashed Potatoes
- Green Beans
- Mixed Fruit
- Milk

Middle Schools

- Mozzarella Cheese Sticks with Marinara Sauce
- Corn on the Cob
- Ranch Wedges
- Diced Melon
- Juice
- Milk

High Schools

- Boneless Buffalo Wings
- Sliced Peaches/ Green Grapes
- Spiral Fries
- Wild Green Salad
- Juice

Most Popular

- ★ Cheesy Grits
- ★ Pizza

PARENTS DO NOT NEED TO FILL OUT A MEAL APPLICATION FOR THEIR CHILDREN TO EAT FOR FREE.



FIS.ORG/CULINARYSERVICES

SCHOOL OF INNOVATION >

A new school will be coming to Florence 1 Schools, with a focus on healthcare and providing targeted learning for students who have an interest in working in the medical field. The School of Innovation in Healthcare (SIH) will be housed in the historic Poynor Building, which will be renovated thanks to a **\$10 million dollar grant** from the Florence County Legislative Delegation.

Poynor, which opened in 1908, is a 58,600-square-foot building. Once renovated there will be a new building layout with 18 instructional areas, 2 conference areas, an auditorium, a medical instruction room and administrative offices. Building systems such as electrical, plumbing, and technology will be updated.

Renovation of the building's exterior includes total roof and window replacement. Enhancements of the building's property will include hardscaping, landscaping, and the installation of perimeter fencing. **The School of Innovation in Healthcare will be run by Florence 1 Schools and its partner entities: McLeod Health, MUSC Florence and HopeHealth.** The curriculum will be driven by the medical partners, who will help identify and address the most vital needs within the healthcare industry through the instruction.



TF TeachFlorence1

TeachFlorence1 is an alternative teaching pathway to South Carolina teacher certification for motivated, professional, and thoughtful individuals who are committed to improving the lives of children. This three-year program provides training and coursework through a cohort model through Clemson University to provide ongoing support to candidates pursuing South Carolina licensure. Candidates start their first year as the teacher of record in the classroom and earn a salary while receiving teacher training with a one-on-one coach.



Eligibility Requirements

1. Bachelor's degree or higher from a regionally accredited college or university with a minimum of 18 hours in the content area;
2. Transcripts with an overall GPA of 2.5.*
3. A passing score on the required Praxis exam.

Application Process

1. Submit a TeachFlorence1 application on F1S.ORG and wait to receive a letter of evaluation,
2. Take and pass the Praxis Speciality Area Content Area Exam,
3. Register and submit South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) Application for Educator Certification
4. Apply for positions at F1S.ORG

Contact

For questions or more information contact:
Courtney Clayton, Ph. D.
Executive Director of Teaching and Learning
CClayton@fsd1.org

Reimagine
THE POSSIBILITIES



*Read more on f1s.org/teachflorence1



ATHLETICS

As hard as Florence 1 students work in the classroom, they work equally as hard in their respective athletic disciplines. Students have embraced new sports, like wrestling and men's volleyball, and have excelled in region and state-level competitions. We congratulate our student-athletes on all of their accomplishments during the 2022-2023 school year.

2022-2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS >

- SCHSL Scholar Athletes (GPA 3.5 or higher)--327
- S.C. 4A State Champions--Football
- S.C. Strength and Conditioning Individual State Champions--4
- S.C. Track State Champions--2
- S.C. Women's Wrestling State Champion--1
- S.C. 4A Runner Up--Softball, Track
- S.C. Track State Runner-Up--1
- S.C. 4A Lower State Champion--Football, Softball
- S.C. Wrestling State Runner Up--2
- Quigley Cup (Overall Region Championship)--WF
- Every sport made playoffs for the 2nd season in a row--WF
- Lower State Championship Appearances--13
- State Championship Appearances--12
- All-State Athletes--35
- All-Region Athletes--216
- State Player of the Year--1
- Baseball Select Team athletes--1
- Shrine Bowl MVP--1
- Region Players of the Year--15
- Elite All-Star--2
- Senior All-Star--19
- Collegiate Athletes--66
- SCACA Coach of the Year--1
- Region VI AAAA Coach of the Year--11

REGION VI AAAA CHAMPIONS



- Football
- Basketball
- Women's Basketball
- Wrestling
- Women's Track
- Women's Swimming
- Cross Country
- Softball
- Track



OUR SCHOOLS, PROGRAMS, AND HIGHLIGHTS

Advantage Academy

- Aviation Program - students can earn a private pilot license
- Dual credit classes
- Work-based learning opportunities
- Students prepared to earn Industry Certifications

Alfred Rush

- Service Learning Projects
- Return to Learn Program
- Graduate Florence Academy
- Life skills course for middle school students

Briggs

- Farm to School Program
- Leader in Me School

Brockington

- Arts Magnet School (Recording Studio, Digital Arts Lab, Dance Studio)
- HopeHealth School-Based Health Center

Carver

- STEM Magnet School
- Palmetto's Finest Finalist

Child Development Centers – Woods Road and RN Beck

- High Scope Curriculum and the Montessori Early Childhood Curriculum
- STAR (Strategies for Teaching through Autism Research) Curriculum for Exceptional Education

Delmae

- Language Immersion Program
- First Reliance Bank - Delmatian Bank Branch where students learn financial literacy

Dewey L. Carter

- Project Lead the Way School
- Beta Club School of Merit

Greenwood

- Greenwood All Pro Dads
- Family Education Nights: STEM Night, Literacy Night, Black History Month Program

Lester

- Montessori Program

Lucy T. Davis

- Makerspace
- Gardening / STEM Related Arts opportunities

McLaurin

- Montessori Program

Moore

- Palmetto's Finest Winner
- Language Immersion Program
- Boys & Girls Soccer-Conference Champions

North Vista

- MUSC Clinical Art Therapy partner school
- Tiger in Me Student Leaders

Royall

- Renaissance National Honor School
- Advanced STEM Certified

Savannah Grove

- STEM curriculum
- Grits for Grandparents

Sneed

- Sneed Band - Superior Rating at Concert Performance Assessment
- Baseball - Magic City Regional Champions
- 2022 & 2023 - National Beta Club School of Distinction

South Florence

- Florence One Center for the Arts (F1CA)
- 4A State Football Championship
- 4A Boys State Strength and Conditioning State Champions
- Technology Student Association - 1st place in state **Web Design Competition**

Southside

- Arts Magnet Middle School
- ABC (Arts in Basic Curriculum) certified school
- PLTW (Project Lead the Way) school

Timrod

- 21st Century Learning Center - Afterschool Academic Support
- Drama Club

Wallace Gregg

- ABii Artificial Intelligence Robotic
- McLeod Telehealth
- Wellstars Nutrition Education

West Florence

- WF Band, Superior with Distinction Honors
- STEM Magnet for Engineering, Biomedical Science, Computer Programming
- AP Capstone Diploma Program
- Sharper Knights and Dapper Dames (Male & Female Mentor Programs)

Williams

- MYP
- Academic Challenge Team Regional Champions
- 4 Beta Convention state-level winners

Wilson

- International Baccalaureate Program (IB)
- 4A Basketball State Champions
- Barbering Certification
- Engineering Class won 1st Place in an International Otis Elevator Contest (won \$25,000)

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE STAFF OF THE YEAR!

MOORE MIDDLE SCHOOL



APRIL LEROY

PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

ROYALL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



MARCI GATEWOOD

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

MOORE MIDDLE SCHOOL



DR. HALEY TAYLOR

TEACHER OF THE YEAR

SOUTH FLORENCE HIGH SCHOOL



JAMES DUPREE

SUPPORT STAFF OF THE YEAR



About Florence 1 Schools



16,300
Students



927
Classified Staff



1,452
Certified Staff
Including Administrators



Leadership

School Board of Trustees

FIS.ORG/MEETTHEBOARD



Mr. Barry Townsend
District 1



Mr. John Galloway
District 2



Rev. E.J. McIver
District 3



Dr. Gloria Bracey
District 4



Mrs. Kimrey-Ann Haughn
Secretary, District 5



Mrs. Trisha Caulder
Vice Chair, District 6



Mr. S. Stewart
Chairman, District 7



Pastor Bryan Chapman
District 8



Mr. Davy Gregg
District 9

Cabinet



Dr. Richard O'Malley
Superintendent
romalley@fsd1.org

Michelle Wynn
Assistant Superintendent
Pre-K - 5th
michelle.mcbride@fsd1.org

Gregory Hall
Assistant Superintendent
6th - 12th
ghall@fsd1.org

Brian Denny
Assistant Superintendent
Exceptional Education
bdenny@fsd1.org

Kyle Jones
Deputy Superintendent
kylejones@fsd1.org

Laura Showe
Chief Financial Officer
lshowe@fsd1.org

Larry Reynolds
Director of Maintenance
lreynolds@fsd1.org

Lisa Justice
Director of Adult Education
ljustice@fsd1.org

Nathaniel Marshall
Chief Personnel Officer
nathaniel.marshall@fsd1.org

Ashley Watson
Executive Director of
Marketing & Talent
awatson@fsd1.org