

Brooklyn Springs Elementary

Beavers

Our demographics

School principal: Beth Blum **Began at school:** 2018 **In district:** 2008 **In education:** 1988
Grades served: PreK – 5 **Enrollment:** 473 **Economic status:** 98% free & reduced lunch
Diversity: 24% White, 52% African-American, 20% Hispanic, 4% Other
Number of teachers: 32 **Classified:** 14 **Administrators:** 2 **Counselor:** 1 **Media specialist:** 1
Other: Literacy Coach, Parent Coordinator, Nurse, Psychologist, Speech, Math Coach, Technology Coach, ESOL
Teachers with advanced degrees: 34.1% **Teacher attendance:** 93.2% **Student attendance:** 94.5%

Our mission

The mission of the faculty and staff at Brooklyn Springs Elementary is to enable all students to achieve to their fullest potential and to develop as life-long learners in a culturally diverse society.

Our facilities

Date main building was built: 1962 **Date of renovations:** 1993, 1998, 2001, 2009
Square feet: 74,986 **Number of computers:** 280 **Number of classrooms:** 49
Specialty areas: 2 Computer Labs, Professional Development room, iPad lab

Our school programs

- **The Leader in Me** – *The Leader in Me* is Franklin Covey’s whole school transformation process. It teaches 21st century leadership and life skills to students and creates a culture of student empowerment based on the idea that every child can be a leader.
- **Portable technology labs** – Technology opportunities are provided to students in grades PreK-5 to increase student engagement and achievement as we prepare students to be College & Career Ready.
- **Lucy Calkins’ Unit of Study for Reading** – Lucy Calkins’ consists of instructional units as a component of a balanced literacy program.
- **Lucy Calkins’ Unit of Study for Writing** – Lucy Calkins’ consists of instructional units as a component of a balanced literacy program.
- **Fountas & Pinnell Leveled Literacy Intervention** – Intensive, small group instruction provided in the area of reading.

Our co-curriculum, clubs, athletics

- **BSE Art Club** – Fifth-grade students work in a fun and relaxed environment where they have an opportunity to play a role in choosing the art projects being completed.
- **BSE Chorus** – Students in grades 3-5 who love to sing or have a desire to be better singers participate in the BSE chorus. Rehearsal is held weekly and students perform during school and community events.
- **Girls on the Run** – A character education for girls in grades 3-5 that focuses on building self-esteem and inspires girls to be joyful, healthy and confident using a fun, experience-based curriculum which creatively integrates running.
- **Let Me Run** – A running group that inspires boys in grades 4-5 through the power of running to be courageous enough to be themselves, to build healthy relationships, and to live an active lifestyle!
- **Computer Science Club** – Learning about computer science is important for today's 21st century students. This year, our school launched a Computer Science club with fourth and fifth graders. The curriculum was provided through Google's CS First program. Students explored and learned the basics of coding using Scratch software. Each week, these students volunteered to meet and participate in a focused computer science lesson along with hands-on learning opportunities using Bloxels, Botley the Coding Robot, and Lego WeDo. The final component was student voice with Flipgrid video reflections to document the learning process of each individual.
- **BSE Step Team** – Students will participate in a type of dance that uses footsteps and hand claps to produce complex rhythms and sounds. Students will also develop leadership skills, learn to work as a team, promote physical activity and build character.
- **iLead** – Leadership Development program to inspire fifth graders to actively approach leadership opportunities by modeling behaviors learned in monthly discussion groups.
- **Red Ribbon Week** – Drug prevention program that encourages students to live a healthy and drug-free lifestyle.
- **Swimming/Water Safety** – Fourth-grade students are provided water safety instructions through a grant-funded program.

Our parents/parent support programs

- **PTO** – The PTO supports the school through fundraisers and by recruiting parent volunteers to support the school in a variety of ways.
- **SIC** – The School Improvement Council supports the school in many school and community based activities throughout the school year. These include family reading and math nights, and the annual fall festival.

- **Volunteers** – Volunteers serve as class tutors and chaperone class field trips.
- **Teacher appreciation activities** – PTO provides breakfast and lunch for faculty and staff in May for Teacher Appreciation Week.
- **Partnership with the faith-based community** – Members serve as class tutors and provide support for school-wide events and teacher appreciation.
- **Partnership with Adult Education**

Our school strengths

- **Parent Coordinator** – Our parent coordinator plans, schedules, and promotes programs that benefit academic success of students. The parent coordinator also collaborates with community agencies to provide services for students and their families.
- **Professional Learning Communities/Professional Development** – Teachers meet weekly with the instructional team to deepen their understanding of research-based practices that support learning based student data.
- **Instructional Coaches** – Literacy Coach, Math Coach, and Technology Coach work collaboratively with teachers to integrate research-based instructional methods into their classroom.

Our honors & awards

- **Palmetto Silver Award** – Recognition for academic performance of historically underachieving groups on the Palmetto Achievement Challenge Tests (PACT) for 2004-05, 2010-11 and 2013-14.
- **Grants** – A number of staff members have received grants from multiple organizations to implement programs and/or provide supplemental materials to enrich the curriculum and activities in their classrooms.
- **Lancaster Board of Trustees Awards** – The school and teachers recognized for various accomplishments.
- **AdvancEd Accreditation**
- **American Reading Company Honor School:** 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13, and 2013-14