

Indian Land Elementary

Warriors

Our demographics

School principal: Sarah Deason **Began at school:** 2019 **In district:** 1996 **In education:** 1996
Grades served: K5 – 5 **Enrollment:** 1,060 **Economic status:** 16.2% free & reduced lunch
Diversity: 79.2% White, 10.6% African-American, 1.6% Hispanic, 8.6% Other
Number of teachers: 59 **Classified:** 25 **Administrators:** 4 **Counselors:** 3 **Media specialist:** 1
Other: Nurse, Elementary Science Specialist, Speech, ESOL, Psychologist, Math/Technology Coach, Reading Coach
Teachers with advanced degrees: 60% **Teacher attendance:** 95.8% **Student attendance:** 95.5%

Our mission

The mission of Indian Land Elementary, in partnership with the students, parents and community, is to develop responsible and productive lifelong learners by providing a challenging curriculum in a safe and supportive environment.

Our facilities

Date main building was built: 1998 **Date of renovations:** 2010
Square feet: 120,608 **Number of computers:** 178 **Number of classrooms:** 70
Specialty areas: 1 science lab, 3 computer labs, 65 Smartboards, gym, and 14 mobiles, 1:1 with Chromebooks in grades 3-5

Our school programs

- **Science Enrichment Course** – Students in grades 3-5 participate in a weekly science enrichment course that extends science instruction into a lab-based environment.
- **Uniform Dress Code** – All students have a uniform dress code.
- **Elementary Honor Choir** – The choir is open to Grade 5 students with strong musical interest. The choir rehearses after school and participates in the district’s Honor Choir.
- **iLead** – This is our Leadership development program. Selected fifth-graders embark on a journey to cultivate and develop the necessary traits to become a leader and develop essential character. Community members visit our school to greet students, promote character development and set a positive example of involvement and leadership.
- **Buddy Reading Program** – This program helps build students’ reading fluency and confidence. It enables our students to serve as mentors to those in other classes and helps build friendships through their common love of reading.

- **Read & Ride** – Space is designated for students to read while riding stationary bikes to enhance literacy excitement and physical activity.
- **Student Council** – Fifth-grade students elect representatives for their homerooms to promote and participate in various service projects throughout the year. These projects include the Backpack Project, Thanksgiving canned food drive, and helping as needed in other service activities.
- **Drama Club** – The Drama Club is open to fifth-grade students who express an interest in learning all aspects of the theatrical production of a play, which includes auditions, stage management and acting. Rehearsals take place after school.
- **Spirit Days** – Each month on Spirit Day, students can wear any Indian Land shirt to promote school spirit.
- **The “Warrior Way”** – This is a school-wide behavior management plan utilized to promote, maintain and track student behavior. An emphasis is placed on “doing the right thing because it is the right thing to do.” All teachers implement the same color code system K-5 for consistency.
- **Morning News Program** – Before school each day, selected fifth graders record an informative morning news show for the school. The recording is also available on the school’s website.

After school programs

- **Fit Kids**
- **Girls on the Run**
- **Honor Choir**
- **Drama Club**
- **Let Me Run**
- **Ballroom Dancing**

Our parents/parent support programs

- **Parent/Teacher Organization (PTO)**
- **School Improvement Council (SIC)**
- **School Parent/Community Member Volunteers**
- **Booknics**
- **Weekly Parent Newsletter**
- **A variety of Warrior events**

Our school strengths

- **Diverse academic and enrichment programs** – Programs include visual and performing arts as well as academics. In addition to art, music, physical education, and computer, students participate in a hands-on science lab. Gifted/talented programs are available for students who excel academically. After-school programs include a homework center and chorus.
- **Strong community and parent involvement, including a strong communication program** – One of the major goals of Indian Land Elementary is to encourage involvement from stakeholders in the school. One of the major components of this initiative is through our PTO. This group works to match classrooms with parent volunteers, provides funding for programs and school enhancement projects, and focuses on helping get parents and community members into the school. Several initiatives promote connection and communication, including regularly updated school personnel web pages, updated school calendars, newsletters about important projects and activities, a regularly updated social media presence and a variety of other items aimed at helping parent and community members feel a part of the school. Members of the Sun City community work closely with ILE to provide additional volunteers and to support our students and teachers.
- **Small learning communities** – Indian Land Elementary creates small learning communities within a large school; each grade level maintains its own programs, projects and processes while still functioning as a part of a larger school. Teachers in individual grade levels participate in weekly team meetings where curriculum, instruction and managerial topics are discussed. These meetings allow for very consistent instructional practices in different classrooms. Each grade level focuses on standards-driven instruction matched with interdisciplinary and STEAM approaches to deliver the best possible instruction to students. Teachers also meet regularly with administrators to discuss ways in which instruction has been individualized in the classroom and to share faculty and individual student concerns. Using this approach allows individual grade levels to promote student achievement, good personal worth and self-concept, and a connectedness to the overall mission and success of the school.

Our honors & awards

- Teachers have been recipients of multiple J. Marion Sims Foundation grants for a variety of classroom projects and programs.
- Our school has a Carolina Fence Garden that is established as a National Wildlife area.
- Three teachers were recognized with Stewart Law’s Teacher Appreciation Awards in 2018 and 2019.
- ILE is host to teacher candidates from Winthrop University, Grand Canyon University, Western Governor’s University, Liberty University, Wilmington University and the University of South Carolina.
- Three National Board Certified educators teach at Indian Land Elementary.