

KERSHAW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Kershaw Elementary is helping all students develop the world-class skills and life and career characteristics of the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate through the collaborative efforts of teachers, support staff, students, families and community members. All stakeholders are committed to creating a student-centered, nurturing learning environment that recognizes the varying learning styles of our diverse population.

Building *World Class Knowledge* is an on-going effort for both the adults and students of KES. Teachers continued to participate in targeted professional development focused on balanced literacy, math inquiry, comprehension and processes through the workshop model, the authentic integration of technology into the classroom, and the creation of student-centered engaging strategies. For our students, we have incorporated 1:1 technology in grades 4K through five, with all grades having access to our computer lab and wi-fi, expanding their learning experiences to escape rooms, virtual reality, virtual tours, technological pen pals, differentiated learning, mystery hangouts with classrooms across the nation and family/community-oriented engineering projects.

Honing *World Class Skills* is fundamental to the teamwork, communication and creativity promoted at KES. The literacy leadership team, common planning times, STEAM/FLEX schedule days, professional learning community collaboration and schoolwide procedures, coupled with consistent high expectations, have reinforced our commitment to working together effectively. This expectation is now extending to our students through small-group instruction, student individual accountability data notebooks, the integration of technology and the arts, and a move towards becoming a STEAM school. KES continues a partnership with Heath Springs Elementary and the Town of Kershaw.

Enhancing Life and Career Characteristics is vital to fostering well-rounded citizens. KES has implemented the “7 Habits of Happy Kids” and the iLead Leadership Program as the foundation for building positive character traits that include interpersonal, intrapersonal and problem-solving skills. In addition, KES has hosted Parenting Partners, a monthly opportunity for families to engage in positive dialogue with and about their children. KES created a community mentoring program for struggling students through local churches and KARE of Kershaw. Our students participate in the community’s “Share the Table,” a food conservation program that prevents waste at meals.

In the 2019-20 school year, KES served 530 students in prekindergarten through grade 5. Our school had a student to teacher ratio of 22:1 for core subjects, and approximately 67.7 percent of our faculty members had advanced degrees. 100% of our students have access to 1:1 devices.

Kershaw Elementary is committed to a culture of excellence that engages students in rigorous, real-world experiences and provides challenging opportunities that allow our children to make choices that motivate and enhance their learning. Kershaw Elementary is on the move!