

Our Vision: We envision a school district where meaningful collaboration results in a place where we: encourage dreaming, imagine possibilities, kindle hope, inspire excellence, and ensure success. This is our vision. This is why we are here.

# Outlook



## Accountability is here! School report cards to be mailed in November

### A letter from the Superintendent

In early November, all of our schools in the Darlington County School District will for the first time receive a report card for our performance.



Dr. Knight

In addition to receiving a rating for our performance and our improvement rate, the report cards will provide a whole host of valuation information that gives our community a glimpse of our programs, the services that we offer, and the support that we receive to operate them.

For some people, report cards can cause apprehension and anxiety, while others who have

*continued on page two*

For the past three years, educators have recognized the importance of South Carolina's new education accountability laws. This fall, parents and community members will see it also.

In 1998, the SC Legislature passed a law that mandated several changes in public education. One of the provisions of this law was a system to grade schools and districts on student achievement as measured by the Palmetto Achievement Challenge Test. This test is given to students in grades 3-8 each May.

The report cards will be mailed to parents on November 15, 2001. Reports will also be made available in schools and school district offices, and on the internet.

"The report cards provide us with a great opportunity to talk about what is working in our schools," said Dr. Allen McCutchen, chairman of the Darlington County Board of Education. "We will use this information as a tool to help us measure and improve student achievement."

Each school and district will receive one of five possible



**SC's Performance Goal:**  
"By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the five fastest improving systems in the country."

ratings: *excellent, good, average, below average, and unsatisfactory.*

Those schools that receive a rating of below average or unsatisfactory will be eligible for assistance from the SC Department of Education.

The purposes of the report cards are to inform parents and the community about the overall

**Each school and the district will receive one of five possible ratings for three performance indicators--**

- performance,
- improvement, and
- overall school grade.

academic performance of schools and school districts, to identify strengths and weaknesses, to recognize high-performing schools and districts, and

to provide assistance to low-performing schools.

*continued on page two*

## Superintendent

continued from page one

excelled will welcome them. In either case, it is important to remember that report cards not only let us know how we are doing, they can also tell us where we might need improvement so that we can begin to address those areas more closely. While they are titled school and district report cards, they reflect the efforts of both our schools and community. All of us share a responsibility in the success of our schools.

We look forward to the release of our report cards. Once they are issued, I encourage you to study all of the information on the report cards and use it as an opportunity to reach out and connect with teachers, parents, and students in a discussion that will help to improve educational opportunities for all students in Darlington County.

Sincerely,  
Rainey H. Knight  
Superintendent

# School accountability

continued from page one

In addition to the ratings, school and district report cards provide an array of other factors such as school funding, teacher and student attendance, student/teacher ratios, parental involvement, etc.

All of these factors have an impact on a school's ability to affect student learning.

"It is important to remember that every school, no matter what rating is received, can be improved," Dr. McCutchen said. "All of us in the Darlington County School District, including school board members, administrators, teachers, and support staff, are committed to using the report cards to improve education in Darlington County."

"All of us... are committed to using the report cards to improve education in Darlington County."

—Dr. Allen McCutchen

The report cards are part of the state's education reform law, the 1998

Education

Accountability Act.

The act includes setting standards for what students need to know at each grade level, assessing how well students are learning those standards, and

reporting the results to the public through school and district report cards.

### Did you know?

On the report cards, each school will be compared to others across the state and *to other schools that are similar*. By comparing similar schools, it is hoped that parents and educators will get a clearer picture of how a school is performing.

## Board sets four goals

Community groups to help develop strategies for improving education in Darlington Co.

The Darlington County Board of Education has established a set of four goals to assist it in improving education in Darlington County.

The purpose of these goals is to ensure that the students in the district would experience academic success. Dr. Rainey Knight, Superintendent, said "These goals were developed by the board members to demonstrate their commitment to children. Over the next several months, we will be working very hard to make these goals a reality."

The goals were developed as part of a board retreat in cooperation with the SC School Boards Association and are as follows:

- Resources are provided to ensure that all schools in Darlington County achieve a minimum rating of satisfactory on the annual report card.
- To ensure that employment and recruitment maintain the highest quality personnel in order to promote and achieve education excellence.

- Policies and procedures are adopted and enforced to enable teachers and students to work in a safe and orderly environment.

- To improve facilities to meet current standards and provide for future growth in order to accommodate the needs of all students.

Committees that include members of the board, district, parents, and community members are being established to review these goals and give input on strategies to accomplish these goals. The groups will begin meeting in August. Work on the goals is scheduled to be completed by November.

"I think that it is important to note that while these are board goals, it will take community support and involvement to make them a reality. We invite all members of the community to help us to improve education in Darlington County," Knight said.

The Darlington County School District is a unitary school district and does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, national origin, gender, or handicap in the admission to, treatment in, or employment in its programs and activities. Concerns should be expressed to the following:

### Employment

Gayle Sawyer  
Director of Personnel  
398-5002

### Title IX

Willie Boyd  
Assistant Superintendent  
398-5200

### Section 504

Mary Scott  
Director of Special Services  
398-5100



Questions about the information presented in this newsletter may be directed to:

Office of  
Communications Services  
121 North Main Street  
Darlington, SC 29532

Additional questions may be directed to:  
Office of the Superintendent  
Post Office Box 1117  
Darlington, SC 29540

Special thanks to the readers for this issue: Dr. Rainey Knight, Dr. Flora Hopkins, Maureen Thomas, Ouida Edens, and Gail Funderburk.

Visit us on the web at  
[www.darlington.k12.sc.us](http://www.darlington.k12.sc.us).  
(Netscape 4 or  
Explorer 5 recommended)

# New principals take reins in '01-'02

## Seven new principals assume leadership duties at district schools

Seven new principals greeted children when the doors swung open on the 2001-2002 school year. Although new to their jobs, the principals have a wealth of experience in serving the children.

New principal assignments for 2001-02 are as follows:

- Brunson-Dargan Elementary School - Lynn Jackson
- Cain Elementary School - Wanda Odom
- Darlington Junior High School - Pearl Jeffords
- Lamar Elementary - Garry Flowers
- Spaulding Junior High School - Jeanette Lunn
- Thornwell School for the Arts- P.J. Odom
- West Hartsville Elementary School - Mary Graham

Dr. Rainey Knight, Superintendent, said, "We are extremely excited that these seven principals have been added to our administrative team. Many of them have made numerous contributions to the district in other roles and we are confident that they will continue to do so as principals."

### Brunson-Dargan Elementary School

Lynn Jackson is the new principal at Brunson-Dargan Elementary School.

Jackson comes to Darlington County after serving as an assistant principal in the Fairfield County schools. A native of Newberry, he holds a bachelor's degree from Benedict College and a master's degree from Clemson University.

He began his teaching career as a science and math instructor in Newberry County.

He moved into administration in 1998 by taking an assistant principal's post at Fairfield Middle School.

Jackson has worked as a science consultant for the SC Department of Education, where he designed science questions for the middle school PACT (Palmetto Achievement Challenge



Lynn Jackson

Test).

### Cain Elementary School

Wanda Odom takes over the principal's chair at Cain Elementary School

Odom actually began her career in the Darlington County School District as a teacher assistant at St. John's Elementary School in 1978. Two years later, she decided to return to Francis Marion and earned her bachelor's degree. She also holds a master's degree from Francis Marion and a master plus thirty certificate from Winthrop University.

In 1982, Odom began teaching at Spring Elementary. She later spent several years at Brunson-Dargan Elementary and one year teaching at Hartsville ALERT before becoming coordinating teacher at Pate. She was one of the first participants in the district's principal intern program to encourage and train teachers in becoming administrators.

### Darlington Junior High School

Pearl Jeffords is the new principal at Darlington Junior High School. It's a short move down the block for Jeffords following her tenure as

admissions coordinator and (later) assistant principal at Mayo High School for Math, Science and Technology.

Jeffords holds a bachelor's degree from Coker College and a master's degree from Francis Marion University. She is presently enrolled in the secondary administration master's program at the University of South Carolina

Skilled in sign language, Jeffords actually began her career as a teaching assistant and interpreter for the deaf. Her first teaching assignment came as an instructor for the deaf at St. John's High School. She later served exceptional education students as an LD resource teacher at St. John's and at Lamar High School. She was



Wanda Odom



Pearl Jeffords

coordinating teacher at LHS before taking the admissions coordinator position at Mayo in 1997.

### Lamar Elementary School

Garry Flowers moves to the principal's position at Lamar Elementary from the assistant principal post at Darlington Junior High School.

He holds a bachelor's degree from the Francis Marion University and a master's degree from the University of South Carolina.

Flowers has spent almost all of his entire professional career with the Darlington County School District. He began as a teacher at Spring Elementary in Darlington and later at Brunson-Dargan Junior High School.

He moved into administration by taking an assistant principal position in Mullins School District Two in 1994 but returned to Darlington as assistant principal at DJHS in 1997.



Garry Flowers

### Spaulding Junior High School

Jeanette Lunn is the second former Darlington Junior High assistant principal who moves into the principal's chair this year as she assumes the responsibilities of principal at Spaulding Junior High School, a school she actually graduated from (when it was Spaulding High School).

Lunn holds a bachelor's degree from North Carolina A&T University in Greensboro and a master's degree from the University of District of Columbia. She also holds a master's plus thirty certificate from the University of South Carolina.

The new principal began teaching at Wallace High School in Wallace, SC and taught for several years in the schools of Washington, DC. She returned to South Carolina to teach at Hartsville High School and was an assistant principal at both Brunson-Dargan



Jeanette Lunn

Junior High School and later Darlington Junior High School.

### Thornwell School for the Arts

P.J. Odom is the new principal for the newly renamed Thornwell School for the Arts.

A native of Sumter, Odom comes to Thornwell from the Fairfield County schools. She was an assistant principal at Fairfield

Elementary School for six years.

She has a bachelor's degree from Columbia College and a master's degree from the University of South Carolina. She also holds a master's plus thirty certificate from USC.

Odom began her career in education as a teacher in the Columbia area. She taught in Richland School District Two for seventeen years before taking her first administrative position at Fairfield Elementary.

### West Hartsville Elementary School

Mary Graham is the new principal at West Hartsville Elementary School.

Graham moves just a little farther down the road to West Hartsville after serving as an assistant principal at Hartsville Junior High School for two years.

She holds a bachelor's degree from South Carolina State University and a master's degree from Winthrop University.

The new principal began her teaching career as a health and physical education teacher in the Georgetown County schools. After spending time at North High School and South Florence High School, she came to the district as an exceptional education teacher at B.A. Gary Middle School. She also worked at Brunson-Dargan and at St. John's before moving into administration in 1999.



P.J. Odom



Mary Graham

# The learning didn't stop

## Special programs, staff development keep district bus

Some people probably still think that once the students leave on the last day of the school year, that most of the business of the Darlington County School District grinds to a halt.

**Boy, are they ever wrong!**

As any school district employee (who works during the summer) can tell you, June and July can—in some ways—be much busier than the regular school year.

The Darlington County School District provides a wealth of special activities for students during the summer months. Teachers and other instructional staff take advantage of the time to improve themselves as educators.

The Darlington County School District annually offers a number of summer programs for students. Two of these programs—ARTSUMMER and the Darlington Summer Academic Program—offer special enrichment opportunities above what is taught in the regular curriculum.

ARTSUMMER is a three-week program for artistically talented middle school students. It began in 1989 and has grown from two faculty members and thirty-four students to eleven faculty and eighty five students. Classes are held at Hartsville's Coker College.

Carolyn Richey, who coordinates both programs at the district level, said "ARTSUMMER is designed to provide recognition and enrichment for exceptionally creative drama, writing, dance, music, and visual arts students. The program allows young artists to improve their skills while studying with real practicing artists.

The Darlington Summer Academic Program (or DSAP for short) offers similar opportunities for the academically gifted student. Richey said, "DSAP challenges the academically talented student. It provides special activities in math, science and technology. Both ARTSUMMER and DSAP allow students to have unique experiences that are above what is found in the regular



*St. John's Elementary School teacher Cathy Hilburn was one of the instructors for this summer's professional development lab for teachers. Approximately 30 teachers and 55 students gave up part of their summer to improve their skills.*

curriculum."

The district also provides summer school activities for both junior and senior high school students. This year, summer school was held at Spaulding Junior High School in Lamar. Summer school provides an excellent opportunity for students to "catch up" or to get extra assistance in academic areas in which they may need improvement.

### **Professional Development Lab**

The summer months allow for special programs to be provided for teachers, as well as students. Third grade teachers (and a few others) spent time in

## When bad weather looms, listen to find out about school delays and closings

Closing of schools in Darlington County for dangerous weather conditions is a decision made by school officials. School officials carefully monitor weather forecasts and check road conditions to determine if students can safely attend school.

The safety and health of approximately 11,000 students in the school district is the primary determining factor to open or close district schools.

When a decision is made to close schools because of bad weather or threat of bad weather, school officials will:

- Make a decision by 5:30 a.m. with a decision affecting all schools.
- Call the local radio and television stations to alert the public.

Bad weather or the threat of bad weather may make it necessary for early dismissal of students. Students will be under adult supervision until the school buses leave for home or they are picked up by their parents.

Buses will run their regular routes.

If you believe schools may be closed or students dismissed early because of bad weather, you should:

- Please do not call any school official or school. Your cooperation is needed for phone lines to be open.
- Listen to your local radio and television stations.

# On May 24

## sy during summer months

the classroom during the district's professional development lab for teachers.

About 30 teachers and 55 students participated in the program that was offered at Cain Elementary in Darlington and Washington Street Elementary in Hartsville. Elementary coordinator Terry Martin said, "This program focuses on improving math skills and our Goals 2000 objectives. Teachers received valuable staff development opportunities while some third grade students got an extra boost to better prepare them for the school year."

The program received high marks from participants. Denise Matthews of Pate Elementary School said, "I learned a great deal. Everything was well organized and I received a lot of practical information that I have brought back to use in my classroom. I liked the fact that there were lots of hands-on activities and the children were actively involved."

Martin said that the professional development lab will continue into the fall to reinforce and expand upon the concepts presented during the summer. She particularly thanked instructors Cathy Hilburn, Betty Thompson, Shannon Frazier, and Julie Mahn for the efforts and professionalism that they brought to the development session.

### Working on the Work

The summer provided an opportunity for continuation of the district's "Working on the Work" initiative.

Working on the Work is not a program—it is a change in the way educators think about and organize schools.

The premise of Working on the Work is very simple: the nature and quality of work for students has to change—to become more engaging, challenging, and satisfying while ensuring that students learn what is expected by schools, parents, and communities. In order to provide more engaging work the role of the teacher has to change—to become an inventor of quality work for students, and a leader who gets students to do the work.

Working on the Work is a joint effort between the district and the Center for Leadership in School Reform, based in Louisville, Kentucky. The district has been working with the Center in providing development training for teachers and administrators for two years.

According to Director of Support Services Dr. Ronna Askins, teachers have embraced Working on the Work. "We completed our third training cycle and now have over 300 teachers trained in WOW. In addition, we conducted a special session to train some of our teachers to be WOW facilitators. We now have 28 individuals trained as facilitators who will help us to support and implement the WOW initiatives at the school level."

Askins added that it is the district's goal to have all teachers trained in Working on the Work by September 2002.

### Project TEACH

Project TEACH (Taking Early Action Can Help) is an induction program that has been developed by the Darlington County School District to ensure the success of all first year teachers. The program is designed to provide yearlong support and workshops for new teachers in the district. In August just before the start of the new school year, new Darlington County teachers came together for four days of training and staff development in Hartsville.

An important part of Project TEACH is its mentoring program. Each first year teacher is paired with a mentor who provides guidance and support. Through its mentoring program and ongoing training throughout the year, Project TEACH provides the skills and support necessary to help new teachers through that important first year. Statistics show that twelve percent of all new teachers will leave the profession after the first year. Project TEACH wants to make that stat irrelevant in Darlington County.

## School addresses & telephone numbers

School	Grade	Principal	Address	Phone
Brockington Elementary Magnet for Science & Technology	4-6	Fran Knotts	413 Brockington Rd Darlington, SC 29532	398-5095
Brunson-Dargan Elementary	4-6	Lynn Jackson	400 Wells St Darlington, SC 29532	398-5080
Cain Elementary	K-3	Wanda Odom	607 First St Darlington, SC 29532	398-5020
Carolina Elementary	1-6	Donna Barrett	719 W. Carolina Ave Hartsville, SC 29550	383-3112
Darlington High	9-12	David Thompson	525 Spring St Darlington, SC 29532	398-5140
Darlington Jr. High	7-8	Pearl Jeffords	100 Magnolia St Darlington, SC 29532	398-5088
Hartsville High	9-12	Dr. Kaye McElveen	701 Lewellyn Ave Hartsville, SC 29550	383-3130
Hartsville Jr. High	7-8	James Thomas	437 W Carolina Ave Hartsville, SC 29550	383-3121
Lamar Elementary	K-3	Garry Flowers	214 N. Darlington Ave Lamar, SC 29069	326-5366
Lamar High	9-12	Andrea Hicks	216 N. Darlington Ave Lamar, SC 29069	326-5543
Mayo High/MST	9-12	Arlene Johnson	405 Chestnut St Darlington, SC 29532	398-5050
North Hartsville Elementary	1-6	Beth Blum	110 School Dr Hartsville, SC 29550	383-3115
Pate Elementary	K-3	Linda Graham	1010 Indian Branch Rd Darlington, SC 29532	398-5070
Rosenwald/ St. David's Elementary	K-6	Dr. Donald Myers	508 Church St Society Hill, SC 29593	378-4011
Sonovista School	7-12	Zenobia Edwards	401 Society Ave Hartsville, SC 29550	383-3118
Southside Early Childhood Center	K	Patricia Thomas	1615 Blanding Dr Hartsville, SC 29550	383-3105
Spaulding Elementary	4-6	Jeff Long	204 E. Pearl St Lamar, SC 29069	326-5347
Spaulding Jr. High	7-8	Jeanette Lunn	400 S Main St Lamar, SC 29069	326-5335
St. John's Elementary	4K-6	Jean Taylor	140 Park St Darlington, SC 29532	398-5130
Thornwell School for the Arts	1-6	P.J. Odom	604 E Home Ave Hartsville, SC 29550	383-3127
Washington St. Elementary	1-3	Dr. Kay Howell	325 Washington St Hartsville, SC 29550	383-3141
W. Hartsville Elementary	4-6	Mary Graham	214 Clyde Rd Hartsville, SC 29550	383-3144

# people, places, and things

## 2001 graduates earn \$4 million in scholarships

How can you put a price tag on a high school diploma? How about \$4 million?

Last year's graduates at Darlington County's four high schools—Darlington, Hartsville, Lamar, and Mayo—earned \$4,195,268.00 in scholarships to colleges and universities across the United States

"This is a tremendous accomplishment for our graduates," said Superintendent Dr. Rainey Knight. "Our graduates will be attending some of the top colleges and universities in this nation. We are very pleased that the young people of Darlington County have been rewarded so well for their academic efforts."

The scholarships range from small local awards to full scholarships at major universities. While many graduates prefer to remain close to home at local colleges like Coker and Francis Marion, many others will be traveling to other parts of the United States. "I think these numbers prove that our graduates can compete with any in the nation," Knight said.

2001 scholarship recipients: Allen Abernethy, Ben Able, Chip Alexander, Lisa Alexander, Lasandra Allen, Adrian Anderson, Chris Atkinson, Sharon Bacchus, Jennifer Bailey, Summer Baker, Carrie Beasley, Angela Beckman, Ashley Benjamin, Miriam Black, Lisa Black, Joel Blackwell, Travis Blackwell, Kayla Blackwell, Antonio Brodie, Hogan Brown, Henry Brown, Lauren Brown, Amanda Brunson, Molesey Brunson, Natalie Brunson, Monique Buck, Erin Buffkin, Brittany Bunch, Kerstin Byrd, William Byrd, Kaytina Byrd, Lee Cagle, Leslie Carrieri, Donald Carson, Sara Causey, James Charles, Travis Chavis, Ashley Church, Nathan Cline, Michael Collins, Tia Copeland, Monique DaBreu, Keith Dambaugh, Quentin Davis, Emmanuel Davis, Roshard Dawson,

Hanna DeBruhl, Kelly Decker, JD Diven, Anya Douglas, Kelly Douglass, Tyler Drinkard, Jacoby DuBose, Latoya DuBose, Carrie Dunton, Jess Easterling, Justin Easterling, Paul Edinger, Marquita Edwards, Amy Felkel, William Fleming, Marcus Fox, Daniel Frink, Elizabeth Fulford, Lindsay Gafford, Sarah Gainey, Justin Gainey, Rachel Gainey, Earyarda Gallishaw, Margaret Garner, Tecodie Gattison, Casey Gibbs, Holly Gibson, Cathy Goyeneche, Araleigh Grant, Jermaine Grayson, Traci Green, Elizabeth Green, Natalie Green, Tiesha Grier, Kacy Gunter, Fern Gupton, Tracey Hall, Jarvis Hamlin, Byron Hamlin, Casey Hancock, Freddie Harris, Patrice Harris, Henry Harrison, Ashley Hawkins, Matthew Haynie, Mary Hays, Sharonda Hickman, Derrick Higgins, Glenn Hill, Bo Hill, Brezzi Hill, Tiffany Hines, Lindsay Hodge, Torrance Holmes, Johnathan Howell, Candice Howle, Jessica Howle, Caitlin Hudson, Chase Iseman, Brandon Jackson, Branda Jackson, Byron Jackson, Katrina Jackson, Ronnie James, William James, Kristin Jeffords, Shulaza Jeffrey, Adealia Johnson, Jessica Joint, Erin Jones, Asia Kelley, Mario Kelsey, Kendra Ketter, Jennifer King, Rodney Kinsaul, Erin Kirkley, Jonathan Krein, Rusty Lee, Terry Lloyd, Demetrice Mack, Ronica Mack, Kamesha Marche, Vickie Martin, Shellie McAlister, Lex McArthur, Josh McDowell, Jacob McElveen, Julie McKellar, Carrie McLaughlin, Courtney McMillian, Cherly Mihalovits, Rhett Mitchell, Jennifer Money, Kimberly Moon, Carla Moore, Niki Moore, Hillary Morris, Sheena Moses, Amber Myers, Sharon Nettles, Alison Nichols, Jason Norris, James Odom, Miranda Odom, Doug Outlaw, Tiffany Paige, Brook Parnell, Laura Parrish, Jerlonda Parrott, Ronnie Pascal, Tejal Patel, Nicholas Pearson, Dane Pekins, Ricardo Peterson, Julie Piotrowski, Pamela Preston, Rondell Prince, Daniel Pritchard, Inga Puffer, Patrice Pugh, Katie Reaves, Jason Regan, Kawayla Richardson, Rukuiya Richardson, Brandy Robinson, Felicia Robinson, Jackie Robinson, Latreva Robinson, Natalie Robinson, Samantha Robinson, Lynda Rocha, Donna Rogers, Chrystal Ross, Nakia Rushdan, Caroline Saleeby, Latrina Samuel, Antwan Sawyer, Chris Scott, Kim Sellards, Elizabeth Sellars, Lashon Shuler, Kenard Simon, Blake Smith, Clay Smith, Lena Smith, Shnatta Smith, Matthew Stegall, Jet Stoner, Jessica Strawn, Heather Suggs, Billy Suski, Matthew Tarlton, Fran Taylor, Coty Thibodeau, Macienda Thomas, Maceo Tisdale, Usman Tohid, Tiffany Toney, Matthew Townsend, Justin Truett, Susan Turner, Heather Tyler, Justin Wallace, Nicolette Walters, Jason Watford, Elizabeth Watford, Terie Watkins, Amber Watson, Benjamin Weatherford, Jennifer Weatherford, Thad White, Brian Whitehead, Travis Wiggins, Lindsey Wilkes, Ronnie Williams, Wade Williamson, Charles Wilson, Charley Windham, David Wingard, Angel Wingo, Nada Wisniewski, Danny Yancey, Ronnie Zimmerman

## Teacher's grant project featured on SDE website

A Brockington Elementary Magnet School teacher's grant-winning project is featured on the State Department of Education's website.

Lynette Blackmon's "Buddies, Books, and Bags" is featured on the SDE's [EIA Program Showcase](#). The showcase highlights 30 of the more than 400 teacher grant applications that were funded in 1999-2000.

The objective of "Buddies, Books, and Bags" is to increase students' motivation and abilities in reading, and to help resistant readers overcome reading deficiencies and enhance their enjoyment of reading.

The 30 programs highlighted in the showcase were judged in five areas with

particular emphasis on content and alignment to the state curriculum standards. Feedback from teachers concerning the results of their grants in improving student achievement was also a key factor considered.

The EIA teacher grant program was developed to improve classroom practices and procedures. "We receive almost 1,000 applications a year for this popular program," said State Superintendent of Education Inez Tenenbaum. "Since we are only able to fund a portion of those, the showcase is a way of sharing these good ideas statewide. This will provide teachers with additional successful approaches to instruction that support the curriculum standards."

## Ruppert hired as recruiter

Kim Ruppert is the district's new coordinator for teacher evaluation and recruitment.



Kim Ruppert

A former English teacher at Mayo, Ruppert will oversee the district's process for evaluating teachers and will help to recruit teachers to the district. "With every district in the state facing teacher shortages, we are working harder than ever to recruit teachers," said Personnel Director Gayle Sawyer. "Kim has hit the ground running in our recruitment efforts and we are very excited about having her lead this effort."

## Watson works with magnet schools

Laura Watson is the district's new coordinator for innovative programs. She moves to the district staff after serving as principal at West Hartsville Elementary School.



Laura Watson

Superintendent Dr. Rainey Knight said, "With the addition of two elementary magnets this year, plus the continuing program at Mayo, we needed someone to coordinate these efforts at the district. Mrs. Watson brings a wealth of experience to this position. We are excited to have her in this role."

## Fleming named elem. coordinator

Jenny Fleming is the district's new elementary education coordinator.

She moves to the post after spending 22 years as a teacher at St. John's Elementary and has taught at several other district elementary schools.



Jenny Fleming

As elementary education coordinator, Fleming will be working very closely with principals in improving curriculum. Superintendent Dr. Rainey Knight said, "Jenny has a tremendous amount of classroom experience. We are excited about the insights she will bring to this position."

## McJunkin heads up adult education efforts

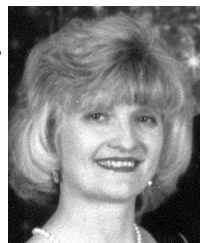
Portia McJunkin is the district's new director of adult education.

McJunkin moves into the position after spending one year as the office's literacy facilitator. Prior to moving into administration, she taught English at Mayo and Lamar High schools.

McJunkin said, "While our principle function is adult education, the community should be aware of the other services we provide. We offer a number of community interest courses and provide English as a second language instruction for individuals from a number of different

nationalities.."

For more information on the district's adult and community education offerings, call 398-5210.



Portia McJunkin

# DARLINGTON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

## July 2001

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

## August

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

## September

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

## October

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

## November

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

## December

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

**Legend:**

- Schools/Offices Closed
- Staff Development
- Schools Closed
- 180 Student Attendance Days

**July 4**  
July 26  
July 30-Aug. 2

July 30 & 31  
  
July 30-Aug. 2  
Aug. 6-7  
Aug. 7

Aug. 8  
**Aug. 9**  
**Sept. 3**  
Sept. 17  
Sept. 17

Oct. 11 & 12  
**Oct. 12**

Oct. 19  
Oct. 23-25  
Oct. 23

Oct. 29-31  
Nov. 15

**Nov. 21-23**  
Dec. 19 & 20

**Dec. 20**  
Dec. 21  
**Dec. 24-Jan. 4**

**Dec. 24-Jan. 4**  
Jan. 15

**Jan. 21**  
Feb. 18  
Feb. 18

March 8

**March 12 & 13**  
**March 13**

March 21  
**March 25-29**

**March 27-29**  
**March 31**

April 15-19  
  
April 22-25

April 23  
April 26

April 29-May 3  
May 6-10

May 20 & 21  
May 21-23  
May 22 & 23

**May 23**  
May 24  
May 24  
**May 27**

**JULY 4TH HOLIDAY**  
Finance Dept. Inservice for Secretaries  
Student Registration-Senior High  
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
Student Registration-Junior High  
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
First Year Teacher Orientation  
School Staff Development  
Elementary Registration  
9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. & 1:00-3:00 p.m.  
District Staff Development

**1st Day for Students**  
**LABOR DAY HOLIDAY**  
1st Interim Report  
Parent/Teacher Conferences  
1:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Fall 1 Exams  
**End of First 45 Days (45th Day)**  
Early Dismissal - 1:30 p.m.

District Staff Development/Pig Pickin'  
Exit Exam  
1st Report Card  
Exit Exam Make-Up Days

2nd Interim Report  
**THANKSGIVING HOLIDAYS**

Fall 2 Exams  
**End of Second 45 Days (90th Day)**  
Staff Development Day

**WINTER BREAK**  
(for students and 190 day employees)  
**WINTER BREAK (12 month emp.)**

2nd Report Card  
**MARTIN LUTHER KING BIRTHDAY**  
3rd Interim Report  
Parent/Teacher Conferences  
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. (1st Make-Up Day)

Staff Development Day  
(2nd Make-Up Day)  
Spring 1 Exams

**End of Third 45 Days (135th Day)**  
Early Dismissal - 1:30 p.m.

3rd Report Card  
**SPRING BREAK**  
(for students & 190 day employees)  
(March 25 & 26 3rd & 4th Make-Up Days)

**SPRING BREAK (12 month emp.)**  
**EASTER SUNDAY**

Terra Nova/Exit Exam  
District-wide Testing  
Terra Nova/Exit Exam  
District-wide Make-Up Testing

4th Interim Report  
Staff Development Day  
(5th Make-Up Day)

PACT Testing  
PACT Make-Up Testing  
Spring 2 Exams (Seniors)  
Short Days (no lunch served)  
Spring 2 Exams (Grades 9, 10, 11)

**End of Fourth 45 Days (180th Day)**  
Staff Development Day  
High School Graduation  
**MEMORIAL DAY**

## January 2002

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

## February

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

## March

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

## April

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

## May

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

## June

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

**Note:**  
Test dates are subject to change.

Make-up days are not in chronological order.

Approved 11/27/00

# 2001-2002 School District Calendar

# Did you know?????

Darlington County School District's 2001 graduates earned over \$4 million in scholarships to colleges and universities.

Hartsville High School's Pat Hewitt is the 2001 National Physical Educator of the Year.

The district now has three magnet schools. In addition to Mayo, Brockington Elementary and Thornwell Elementary became magnet schools this year.

The board of education balanced the 2001-02 budget without a tax increase.

The district received a \$200,000 technology grant in the spring of 2001.

All schools are accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

## District Telephone Directory

Adult Education .....	398-5210
Accounts Payable .....	398-5200
Attendance .....	398-5015 (Darl) 383-3101 (Harts)
Board Policy .....	398-5200
Communications .....	398-5033
Compensatory/Remedial Education .....	398-5100
Computers .....	398-5100
Curriculum & Instruction .....	398-5100
Elementary Education Program .....	398-5100
Employee Benefits .....	398-5219
Exceptional Education Program .....	398-5100
Financial Information .....	398-5200
Food Services .....	398-5215
Gifted/ALERT Programs .....	398-5100
Handicapped Services .....	398-5100
Health Services/Nurses .....	398-5015 (Darl) 383-3103 (Harts) 326-7262 (Lamar)
Homebound .....	398-5200
Homeschool .....	398-5100
Operations and Maintenance .....	398-5009
Personnel .....	398-5002
Psychological Services .....	398-5100
Secondary Education Program .....	398-5100
Social Workers .....	398-5015 (Darl) 383-3104 (Harts) 326-1549 (Lamar)
Speech Therapy .....	398-5100
Staff Development .....	398-5100
Textbook Adoption .....	398-5100
Title I .....	398-5100
Transportation/Buses .....	398-5029
Vocational/STW/Tech Prep .....	398-5100
Warehouse .....	383-3170



Office of Communications Services  
211 North Main Street  
Darlington, South Carolina 29532

Non-Profit  
Organization  
US Postage  
PAID  
Darlington, SC  
Permit No. 121

## Postal Patron

Dr. Rainey H. Knight, Superintendent

Darlington County Board of Education  
Dr. Allen McCutchen, Chairman  
Harmon Baldwin  
Patricia Barker  
Dr. Thelma Dawson  
Charles Govan  
Tommy Jeffords  
Warren Jeffords  
Jamie Morphis

Charlton Cain, Editor  
Public Information Coordinator

[www.darlington.k12.sc.us](http://www.darlington.k12.sc.us)

In the Darlington County School District, we believe...

- All employees must be dedicated to the success of each child.
- All decisions must be made in the best interest of students.
- All students can learn more than they are presently learning and at a higher level.
- The purpose of schools is to invent high quality work that engages students.
- All employees must be provided the training, support, and resources to continuously improve.
- We must employ community resources to ensure students' success.