



## Quick Facts about the Kershaw County School District

*Nestled in the heart of the Palmetto State, the Kershaw County School District is home to more than 10,300 students and over 1,300 employees. All of our 20 schools are accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and the South Carolina Department of Education.*

### **Strong leadership**

The Kershaw County Board of School Trustees provides solid leadership in preparing our students to be productive citizens in a global society. Our district has 10 instructional goals based on state requirements and the federal No Child Left Behind Act. A strategic plan guides district decision-making.

### **Focus on academic achievement**

Student learning is at the center of everything in our schools. Many of our schools regularly earn recognition for having test scores in the top ten school districts in the state. North Central High's SAT composite average is 26 points above the national average. Our graduating seniors earn over \$7.3 million in college scholarships.

### **Technology as a valuable resource**

The school district offers a full range of academic programs and extracurricular activities. All 20 schools are wireless and connected by a high-speed wide area network. Students and staff have full-time Internet access in classrooms, libraries and computer labs, including distance learning opportunities. Kershaw County was the first school district in South Carolina to providing individual wireless laptops to all high school students and teachers through an \$8 million i-CAN initiative.

### **Facilities equalization**

The Board of Trustees has made a commitment to equalizing school buildings across the district so that regardless of where children live in Kershaw County, they have equal opportunities and facilities. A \$102.2 million school construction program is almost completed, equalizing facilities across the district. The eight projects in this first phase include two new middle schools; new athletic and wellness facilities at all three high schools; a new elementary school and two elementary renovation projects.

### **Awards and honors**

As a district with outstanding employees, our accomplishments are impressive:

- Home to a 2009 Milken Family Foundation National Educator (*Robert Ondere, Lugoff-Elgin High*)
- Home to the 2007-08 South Carolina Teacher of the Year (*Ann Marie Taylor*)
- Three Blue Ribbon Lighthouse Schools (*ATEC, Doby's Mill Elementary and Lugoff Elementary*)
- Palmetto's Finest elementary school (*Doby's Mill Elementary*)
- Palmetto's Finest middle school (*Lugoff-Elgin Middle*)
- The first SC middle school to win a national "School to Watch" award (*Lugoff-Elgin Middle*)

- Palmetto Gold and Silver school winners (*ATEC, Camden High, Lugoff-Elgin High, Lugoff-Elgin Middle and North Central High*)
- Closing the Achievement Gap school recognition (*North Central High*)
- Fourteen Red Carpet School recipients (*ATEC, Baron DeKalb Elementary, Bethune Elementary, Blaney Elementary, Camden Elementary, Camden High, Doby's Mill Elementary, Jackson School, Leslie M. Stover School, Lugoff-Elgin High, Mt. Pisgah Elementary, North Central Middle, Pine Tree Hill Elementary and Wateree Elementary*)
- Palmetto Pillar Technology Award
- 2007 Distance Education Learning Center (DELIC) of the Year
- Former National Business Teacher of the Year
- Two former South Carolina Teachers of the Year

### **Outstanding workforce**

More than 77 percent of Kershaw County's 800 teachers have advanced degrees, and 17 percent are National Board certified. Our teachers have an average of 14 years' of experience.

### **Want to learn more?**

We'd love to talk with you about our schools.

For more information, contact:  
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