



## **SIC Spotlight**

Fairfield Elementary SIC - Fairfield County School District  
Ms. Erica Russell, SIC Chair; Dr. Tammy F. Martin, Principal

This year, in accordance with the district's vision, the stakeholders of Fairfield Elementary School are working toward a common vision – Academic Excellence! The Fairfield Elementary School Improvement Council is working diligently to ensure that the school's motto of "Charting the Course to Leadership: Every Child, Every Chance, Every Day," is exemplified. With the support of the SIC, several initiatives have been implemented to increase students' academic achievement and leadership capabilities.

Fairfield Elementary is in the second phase of implementing the Highly Effective Teaching model, which promotes the use of Life-Skills and Life-Long Guidelines to provide students with an invaluable character education curriculum aiding them to become successful students now and productive citizens later in their adult lives. Focus on the learning environment and brain research has reduced the number of discipline referrals for minor infractions.

Along with the Highly Effective Teaching model, a male mentoring program has been established with the support of the Council for boys in grades 3-6. Mentors help their students to develop problem-solving strategies, learn effective study techniques, and gain valuable leadership traits. Several academic-based intervention programs have also been created to supplement instruction in Math and English Language Arts. These interventions all help students master their grade-level content-standards and achieve academic success – goals of the Fairfield Elementary, its SIC, and the greater school community.

The Fairfield Elementary SIC has worked diligently over the past two years to pilot the implementation of student uniforms and provide parents options in moving toward a mandatory uniform program, knowing how such efforts can positively impact the student learning environment. For the 2012-13, the Council has identified two additional important areas of focus: 1) spreading the good news of the school with the community through the school's website and business partners; and 2) helping parents become a greater part of the home-school connection through special programs like the school's "Books and Breakfast" initiative.

By continuously monitoring activities and outcomes, the Fairfield Elementary SIC strives to assess effectiveness in achieving the school's shared vision of academic excellence. The Council is extremely proud of the initiatives and programs that have been established to move the school from "ordinary to extraordinary."

For additional information about the Fairfield Elementary SIC's efforts, contact Dr. Martin at (803) 635-5594.

Does your SIC have a story it would like to share with other Councils across the state? Email your story to “SIC Spotlight” at [sic@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:sic@mailbox.sc.edu) and we may include it in an upcoming issue of “Council News” or on our website, <http://sic.sc.gov>.