

Fast Facts About School District Five

- Nearly 92 percent of the Classes of 2008 pursued post-secondary educations.
- The Classes of 2008 earned more than \$30 million in scholarship offers.
- More than 70 percent of the district's teachers and administrators hold master's degrees or higher.
- A total of 291 teachers in the district have earned certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.
- More than 40 percent of District Five students are involved in fine arts classes.
- Approximately 25 percent of students are involved in the Gifted and Talented Program.

PACT Results Higher Than State Averages

For the 10th year in a row, District Five averages on the Palmetto Achievement Challenge Test (PACT) were higher than state averages. PACT was administered to third through eighth-graders throughout the state last spring.

PACT tests are aligned with South Carolina Curriculum Standards and assess student achievement in English/language arts, mathematics, science and social studies. PACT results are categorized as Advanced, Proficient, Basic and Below Basic.

PACT has been administered statewide since 1999, but will be replaced in 2009 by a new standardized testing system – the Palmetto Assessment of State Standards, or PASS – that will feature more detailed information on individual students and a faster turnaround on score reporting.

Percentage of Students that Met Standards on PACT

	<u>District 5</u>	<u>State</u>
English/Language Arts	86	77
Mathematics	87	76
Science	79	65
Social Studies	84	72

Irmo High Science Team Competed for National Title

The Irmo High Science Team traveled to Alaska to compete in the National Ocean Sciences Bowl (NOSB).

NOSB is an annual academic competition for high school students that promotes science literacy, enriches science teaching, and increases interest, understanding, and stewardship of the oceans.

Irmo team members won an all-expense paid trip to Seward, Alaska to compete for the national title.



Team members included: Ben Cousins, Parag Raychoudhury, Madison Peach, J.T.Helms, and Taylor Tsuboi. The team is coached by Stephen Orr.



Dutch Fork High Dazzlers Perform at National Championship

The Dutch Fork High School Dazzlers participated in the half time performance at the BCS National Championship football game in Miami, FL on January 8, 2009. The team is coached by Kellianne Pate.

Graduates Have 12 Years of Perfect Attendance

Three members of Irmo High's Class of 2008 earned 12 years of perfect attendance -- Sabrina Buster, Angelina Drumheller and Kyle Tomczak. Irmo High is the only school in the Midlands to have even one student graduate with 12 years of perfect attendance. Only five schools in the state had more than two students earn this honor.

Strategic Plan Reviewed in 2008

Per state law, Lexington-Richland Five reviewed its strategic plan in the spring of 2009. The following is a list of strategies developed by the strategic planning committee. More detailed information on the strategic plan can be found on the [district website](#).

Strategy 1 — We will tailor the educational experience to meet the unique needs and aspirations of each student.

Strategy 2—We will eliminate the achievement gap among students.

Strategy 3 — We will promote active involvement of families and communities in the education of all children.

Strategy 4 — We will ensure biological, psychological and social health and safety for all students.

Strategy 5 — We will instill, through precept and practice, principles of citizenship in all students.

Strategy 6 — We will ensure effective capacity of staff to achieve the mission and objective of the district.

Strategy 7 — We will foster a culture of inclusiveness throughout the community.

Strategy 8 — We will ensure that all students have a successful transition to careers and/or post-secondary education.

SAT Scores Remain at Top of State

The 2008 average composite SAT score for Lexington-Richland Five students was 1,537 — 76 points higher than the state average of 1,461, and 26 points higher than the national average of 1,511. The SAT is used by most colleges and universities as one indicator when making college admission and placement decisions.

Dutch Fork High ranked 13th in the state among South Carolina high schools that tested more than 10 students on the SAT. The average composite score from the school was 1,574 — 113 points higher than the state average.

Eighty-one percent of Chapin High seniors took the SAT at least once. Their composite score was 70 points higher than the state average —1,531. Irmo High's composite score of 1,505 was also higher than the state average.

District Welcomes New Board Members

In November, voters elected three individuals to serve on the school board. Robert Gantt was elected to his third term to represent the Richland County portion of the district. Beth Burn and Jan Hammond were elected to represent the Lexington County portion. Both Burn and

Hammond have served on the school board before.

Also in November, voters approved a bond referendum in the amount of \$243.6 million. Fifty-eight percent of District Five residents voted in favor of the referendum.

General Fund Information



- In District Five, budgets are designed for general fund, building, food services, debt services, Educational Improvement Act, federal grants and student activities.
- General Fund revenues pay expenses such as teachers' salaries, support services, classroom materials, operating expenses and administrative expenses.
- Millage for school operations was increased from 203.5 during the 2007-08 school year to 212.5 for the current school year. Debt service millage did not change and stayed at 49 mills.
- The annual per pupil expenditure rate in District Five is \$9,157, based on the South Carolina Department of Education's IN\$ITE Report for fiscal year 2006-07. This is \$580 more per pupil than the state average of \$8,577.
- District Five schools are cost-effective. Although the district spends less per pupil than the national average, student achievement is consistently higher than the national average.
- For the fifth year in a row, the district won the Association of School Business Officials International's (ASBO) Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting Award. The award is the highest recognition for school district financial operations and recognizes high-quality Comprehensive Annual Financial Reports for the 2007 fiscal year.



Chapin High NJROTC Named Best in State

Chapin High was crowned the 2008 state Naval Junior ROTC champion in 2008. This is the ninth time in 10 years the Chapin High NJROTC has earned this honor.

The NJROTC cadets were instructed by Col. Richard Slack and Col. Charles Cook.

Students Named National Merit Scholars

Two Chapin High students were named finalists in the National Merit Scholarship Program. Laura H. Bootle and Brian J. Manikowski were among only 158 students in South Carolina public high schools to be named finalists in the 53rd annual National Merit Scholarship Program.

General Fund Distribution: 2008-09

<u>Area</u>	<u>Dollars</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
Classroom Instruction	\$89,307,154	60.95
Operations/Maintenance/Transportation	\$25,134,731	17.15
Pupil Support	\$17,837,309	12.17
School Administration	\$10,734,628	7.33
District Administration	\$ 2,147,516	1.47
Transfers	\$ 1,356,912	0.93
TOTAL	\$146,518,250	100.00

Revenues

	<u>Dollars</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
State	\$ 95,194,745	64.97
Local Property Taxes	\$ 45,455,560	31.02
Misc. Sources	\$ 5,867,945	4.00
TOTAL	\$146,518,250	100.00



SkillsUSA Students Honored by Sheriff Metts

Phil Tanner and SkillsUSA students were presented the Sheriff's Award by Sheriff James R. Metts. Tanner and his students raised more than \$10,000 for the Lexington County Sheriff's Foundation.

For nine consecutive years, Tanner and his SkillsUSA students have also purchased gifts and food during the Christmas holiday season for needy children and their families who are registered with the Operation Santa program.

Dutch Fork High Recognized Nationally

In 2008, Dutch Fork High was named one of the top 1,000 high schools in the United States by *Newsweek* magazine for the fifth year in a row.

Exit Exam Scores Remain High

Nearly 95 percent of Lexington-Richland Five students who took the High School Assessment Program (HSAP), or high school exit exam, met state standards. In addition, more than 90 percent (90.7) of high school sophomores and others taking the test passed both the language arts and mathematics sections of HSAP on the first attempt. This exceeded the state average of 80.8 percent by nearly 10 points.

HSAP serves as both a state-mandated exit exam required for a South Carolina high school diploma and a federally mandated testing program to measure high school progress.

Public school students must pass both the English Language Arts and mathematics sections of the High School Assessment Program to meet the state's exit examination requirement for a diploma.

Message from the Superintendent

Herbert M. Berg, Ed.D.

As superintendent of Lexington-Richland Five, I want to thank you for your continued support of our great school district. Since I began as your superintendent in August 2008, many exciting things have happened in our district. Please take a moment to read through this annual report to see a sampling of the great things that took place throughout the district in 2008.

One of the most significant events of 2008 was the successful passage of our bond referendum, which will allow us to make much-needed renovations to seven schools and construct a new elementary school, high school, career and technical education center and middle school. Design work has already been approved for both Leaphart Elementary and Chapin Elementary and those projects are expected to begin soon. The work on designs for Irmo Elementary, Seven Oaks Elementary and the three high schools is in progress. These projects are necessary to

bring our facilities up-to-date and make sure that all students and teachers are in quality learning environments.

Bond referendums, budget cuts, and the general state of the economy have all been issues we, and other school districts, have faced this year. In the midst of all of this, I am proud that our teachers and staff have remained focused on students in the classroom. I want to thank each of them for their professionalism and dedication as they work to meet the educational needs of our students.

Excellent schools benefit us all. They attract businesses that create new jobs. They help increase our property values, and they improve the quality of life in our community. Thank you for your commitment to ensuring that our schools remain the best in the state.

