



Deerfield Elementary School

LEXINGTON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE

638 Longs Pond Road • Lexington, SC 29073 • 803-821-5500

Principal: Stephanie G. Taylor

Assistant Principals: Samantha Trotter and Brandon Schirmer

Grades Served: 4K–5

Student Enrollment: 835

School Motto: Success Every Day for Every Child Through Leadership and Learning

Our school is an Immersion School. Immersion students receive their math and science instruction in the language of the Immersion program. In the past, Deerfield has been a German Immersion school. For the 2023–24 school year, Spanish Immersion will begin for our incoming Immersion Kindergarten group. So, each year moving forward as we phase Spanish in, German Immersion will phase out (but it continues through 12th Grade for students in that program). We are proud to help students towards earning their Seal of Biliteracy in high school — opening up many opportunities for these students.

Empower each child to design the future.

Deerfield Elementary is a pilot proficiency-based learning system that focuses on customized learning and student leadership.

The mission of Deerfield Elementary School is to create a caring community that develops life-long, successful leaders and learners.

All students, regardless of circumstances, advance on time, prepared to graduate and ready to enter college, the military or industry with certification.

At Deerfield Elementary we live by our motto and celebrate “Success Every Day for Every Child Through Leadership and Learning” as we empower all students to take risks that yield success in their efforts. Our staff has been perfecting implementation of using the workshop model across grade levels and subject areas (reading, writing, and math). Through instruction in this model, teachers can meet with small groups of students daily or confer with them individually to support specific learning needs to ensure students are meeting personal growth goals. Celebrations involving all stakeholders occur school wide. During student led conferences students are able to articulate what they are working on academically and share their growth in that particular area. We also use Progress Driven Feedback to communicate with parents specific information around each grade level standard.

Teaching and learning develop power skills in all students.

Historically speaking, Deerfield Elementary has been a Leader in Me School and was named a Lighthouse School in 2020. Students and staff have a well-grounded foundation in developing the whole child. Power skills are woven into many facets of our day-to-day happenings with intentionality. Students start their day participating in a Morning Meeting across all classrooms for 20 minutes. Our staff collaborated to create a structured calendar to plan/pace out the various power skills to use as part of our students’ character development across settings. These opportunities provide a time for some direct teaching of life skills that support accountability and cooperation while building a strong sense of belonging. Each classroom and student space is also equipped with a “Reset and Return Basket” (funded by Title I funds) that provides a variety of options for students to use for a short break to help regulate their emotions. Our school counselors model how to use the items and how to process those big feelings in order to remain calm to avoid missing class time.

Our schools are service-oriented centers of learning, committed to family and community partnerships.

As things have returned to “normal” post-pandemic, Deerfield will continue to implement strategies to improve family engagement, community involvement, and customer service. Building and maintaining strong relationships between home and school is a school wide focus. We partner with our PTO to host monthly events for families in efforts of providing multiple opportunities for participation beyond the school day. Families will be invited to attend Meet the Teacher Night, student-led conferences with parents/teachers, dine out nights, BINGO nights, Game Nights, and more!

Some of our Title I funds are used to help secure our Parent Liaison position. Our Parent Liaison is able to support our families by connecting them with resources in the school and for the home. Our parent resource center houses many items available for families to use at home to support continued learning. Our Tiny Trailblazers (3- and 4-year-olds that participate from our attendance area) meet weekly for fourteen weeks in our parent resource center where various staff members facilitate different engagement activities. We will also use Title I funds to purchase school supplies for all students for the 2023-2024 school year, have a full-time math coach, and an additional interventionist to support student learning.

Every adult will be equipped with the skills and resources necessary to advocate for and ensure the success of all students.

Deerfield Elementary will continue to provide opportunities to ensure every adult is equipped with the skills and resources necessary to advocate and ensure the success of all students. Our Literacy and Math coach will collaborate with staff throughout the year to yield high quality professional learning opportunities that impact student achievement. The professional learning experiences will be centered around school-wide goals targeting specific strategies to use during small group instruction that will strengthen the use of using formative assessments to identify specific student needs and progress. Deerfield Elementary will also have a Data Based Instruction team that will meet weekly to analyze student data to ensure the instruction students are receiving is yielding appropriate academic growth for students.