



# Carolina Springs Elementary School

LEXINGTON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE

6340 Platt Springs Road • Lexington, SC 29073 • 803-821-5100

**Principal:** Todd C. Brown

**Assistant Principals:** Brandan Craig and Dr. Brooke Scott

**Grades Served:** 4K–5

**Student Enrollment:** 856

## *Empower each child to design the future.*

The mission of Carolina Springs Elementary School is to create a challenging and supportive learning environment that encourages high expectations for success through 21st century learning opportunities. Our school promotes a safe and caring environment where staff, parents and community are actively involved in providing educational experiences that ensure our students are prepared to excel in an ever changing world.

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

At CSES we believe “all means all,” and teachers work diligently to meet the needs of each student who enters our doors. Teachers are able to provide effective instruction to students in the face to face setting and were purposeful in their planning as they also were able to give students who were quarantined throughout the year instruction virtually. As a district we transitioned to being a 1:1 student device district, and students and teachers quickly learned how to use devices at school and at home. The devices were a part of the way teachers met the individual needs of students along with working in small groups through the workshop model in ELA and Math. Teachers continued to receive professional learning in all subject areas, and being new to the Title I arena this year, CSES benefited from the work from staff developers from Teachers College and the expertise provided in the areas of reading and writing. The ten days of hands-on learning with the staff developers were impactful for our students and staff.

### **Teaching and learning develop power skills in all students.**

The Responsive Classroom approach provided much needed social-emotional support to students and staff after the disruptions to the last two school years. As a school, each certified teacher and teacher assistant was provided with the extensive four day training with Responsive Classroom. Every classroom teacher began their day with a morning meeting and ended their day with a closing circle. These student centered activities create strong bonds among classmates and the classroom teacher. Staff members also participated in social- emotional activities during meetings as we attempted different ways to social distance, but overcame some barriers to continue the strong family ties that make our school such a caring learning community.

We celebrate students monthly who demonstrate our Husky Habits (Power Skills) with a special lunch and recognition from their teachers and peers.

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

As a new Title I school, CSES has had the opportunity to create a new Parent Liaison position to build deeper relationships with parents and the overall community. We have developed a community closet for resources- clothes, food, personal items to help those students and families in need. Our counselors work diligently to build close relationships with students to also advocate for student needs.

Even though the regulations with the pandemic excluded CSES from allowing parents or volunteers into the school building for most of the school year, CSES students raised close to a record total during our Boosterthon fundraiser. This annual week-long event provided our students and staff some “normalcy” as the students participated in their first Fun Run in a few years. This event was a highlight for many students and staff for the year. We were very fortunate to also host our annual Variety Show featuring over 20 student acts displaying their talents on our stage and in front of a live audience.

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

This year CSES developed an important partnership with Teachers College to continue to develop skills in teaching the Units of Study in ELA. Teachers also participated in professional learning in the Ready Math curriculum including ways to use math data to better guide whole and small group instruction. All staff have participated in the four day initial training with Responsive Classroom to develop meaningful relationships and use a common language with students.

CSES developed a mentor program with the Varsity softball program at WKHS and continues to promote community mentors for students.