

Williston-Elko School District 29

"Where Excellence is the Standard"



Williston-Elko School District 29 Winning for Scholars

1 School District, 1 School Board,
3 Funeral Homes, and 33 Bicycles

=

A System Turn-Around and Academic
Success!





WHO ARE WE?

Who Are We?

- Located in Barnwell County.

Table 1: Overall Demographic Data*

- Poverty index of 77%.

- 3,300 residents; 53% African American, 43% Caucasian, and 4% Other.

- Median household income in Williston is \$22,420.

- 826 students: 51% male, 49% female, 58% African American, 37% Caucasian, and 5% Other.

	Number of Students	Percentage of Students
All		
All Students	848	100%
Gender		
Female	418	49%
Male	430	51%
Subgroup		
Asian or Pacific Islander (AP)	3	0%
Black	494	58%
Hispanic	20	2%
American Indian/Alaska Native (AI)	5	1%
White	326	38%
Poverty	645	76%
Disabled	107	13%
Gifted	84	10%





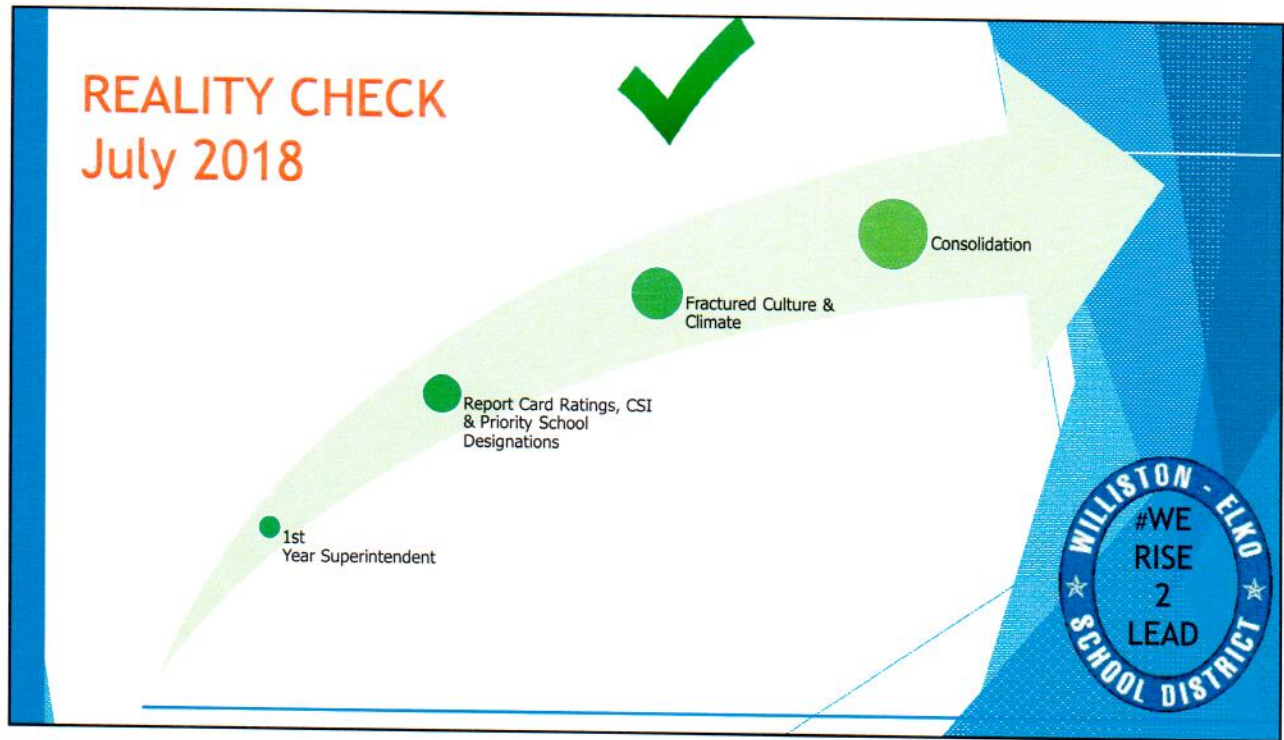
ALL ABOARD!

School Board, District Office,
and School Staff



WE are ALL Aboard for our SCHOLARS!





District Office Trust Factor(s)



We are **not** a team because we work together,
we are a team because we **RESPECT** each other!



Fractured Climate & Culture

Trust! As I mentioned, we have been spoiled in the past by leaders who were in the trenches with us and willing to do whatever it takes to be successful. **Now we have leaders who won't even answer your emails** and have said, out loud and repeatedly, "That's not my job". It's just so sad, and incredibly demoralizing.

2. Recruitment/Retention - it's a struggle everywhere, but here's the truth: in other times when it was hard to find teachers, WE didn't struggle because no one wanted to leave a place where people were valued and treated like professionals but also like family.

3. Transparency - **the current pattern of the district office is to give our principals 40 different memos and directives a week to be relayed to the individual schools. Principals can't answer the 400 follow up questions (through no fault of their own - think of all they are dealing with), but when you go straight to the top, the only answer you get is "ask your principal". IF you get an answer, it's enough to make you want to quit.**



"Don't get it right,
get it started"
~Stephen Ventura





Report Card Ratings: The Starting Point Year One 2018



- ▶ Elementary: 28/Unsatisfactory
- ▶ Middle: 26/Unsatisfactory
- ▶ High: 57/Average
- ▶ Kelly Edwards Elementary: CSI
- ▶ Williston-Elko Middle: Priority



Active Listening



Initial Survey



Focus Meetings with
Various Individuals



Community
&
School Visibility

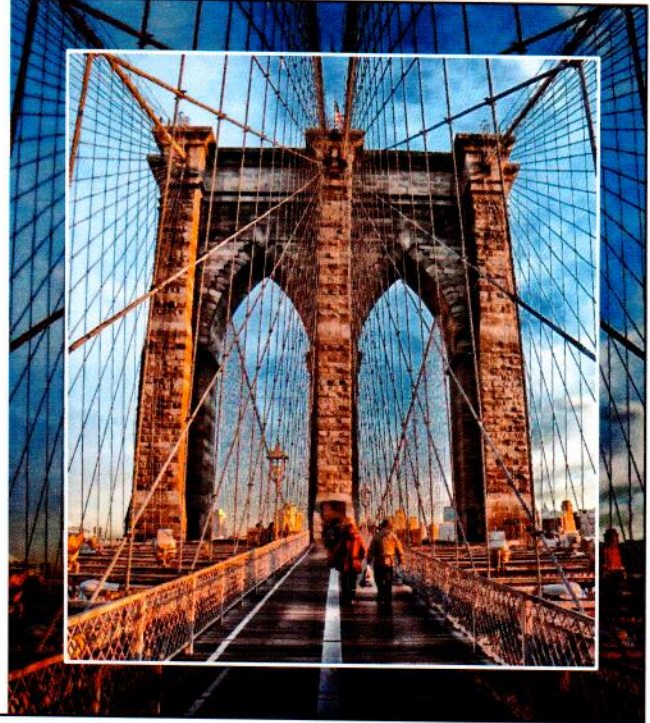


Data Analysis



SAFETY FIRST

Safety Team
 Safety Plan
 Enhanced safety at athletic events
 Wrote grant for SRO
 Safety bags
 Restructured ISS
 Placed SRO on site at schools
 Reunification Site
 Bullying Hotline
Next Steps:
 Suicide Prevention training with DHEC



1st Year Superintendent Goals

#WeLEAD



SETTING GOALS IS
 THE FIRST STEP IN
 TURNING THE INVISIBLE
 INTO THE VISIBLE.
 -TONY ROBBINS



Transparency of Superintendent's Goals



- ▶ Goal 1: Safety & Security
- ▶ Goal 2: Academic Excellence
- ▶ Goal 3: Fiscal Responsibility
- ▶ Goal 4: Communication
- ▶ Goal 5: Transform Williston School District 29
- ▶ #WeLEAD

*Newsletters, Advisory Councils, Board Meetings, Social Media, Beginning/Middle/End of year correspondence



ESTABLISHED PROCESSES AND PROCEDURES



Safety Plan



District Handbook



Substitute Training



Volunteer/Mentor Handbook



Power School Monitoring



Special Education Documentation



Job Description Updates



IMPROVED COMMUNICATION

- ▶ Weekly Board Updates
- ▶ Weekly DO Updates
- ▶ District Newsletter (staff and community)
- ▶ Department Newsletters
- ▶ Monthly District Roundtable
- ▶ Advisory Councils
- ▶ Policy and Pizza Committee
- ▶ Communications Committee
- ▶ Superintendent's ListServ
- ▶ Community visibility
- ▶ Child Find Brochures
- ▶ Social Media Connections (FB, Twitter, Webpage)
- ▶ Partnerships (DIG, First Steps, DHEC, AXIS 1, Dept. of Mental Health)

Next Steps: Overhaul Website


Superintendent and Board Communication is a MUST!



Navigating Proviso 1.88 (Consolidation)

- ▶ Food Services Director for (3) districts
- ▶ Human Resources Director for (2) districts; as needed
- ▶ Power School Liaison
- ▶ Career Center for (3) districts
- ▶ Wrote Grant/Cyber-Security



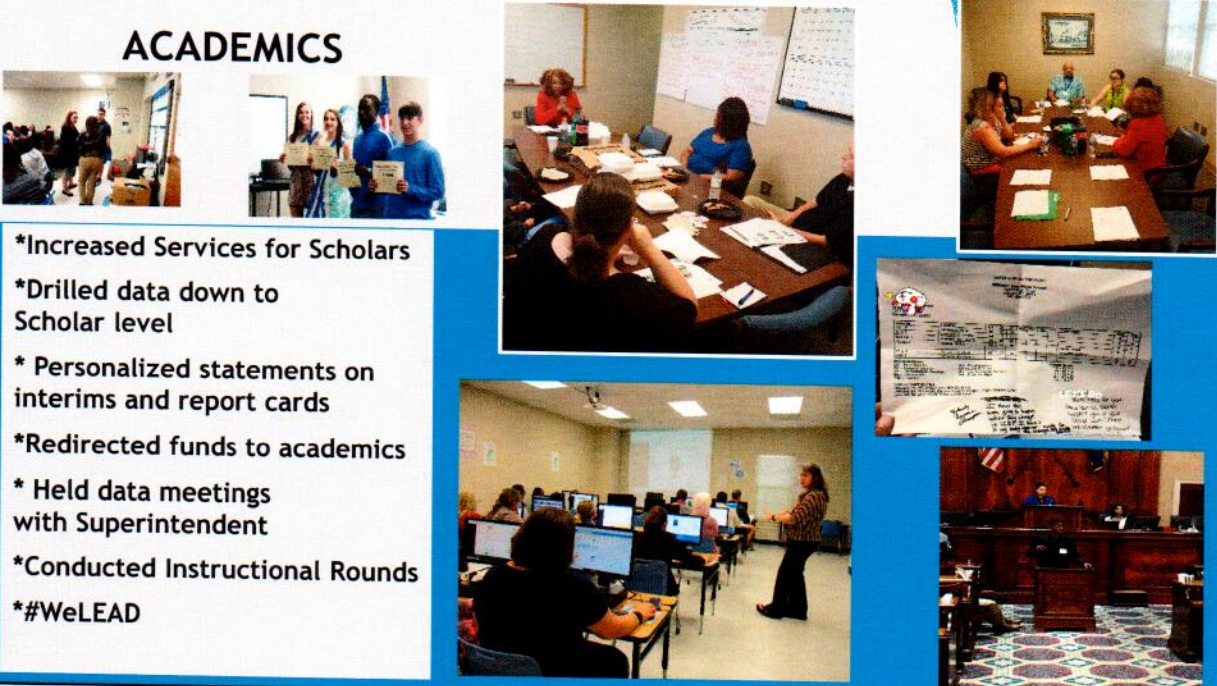


Academics,
Community, &
Teamwork

Education is
All a Matter
Of
Building Bridges
-Ralph Emerson

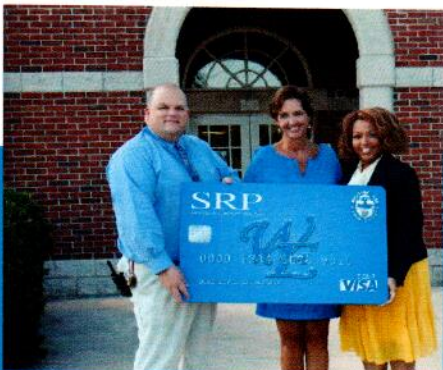
WILLISTON - ELKO
SCHOOL DISTRICT
#WE
RISE
2
LEAD

ACADEMICS



- *Increased Services for Scholars
- *Drilled data down to Scholar level
- * Personalized statements on interims and report cards
- *Redirected funds to academics
- * Held data meetings with Superintendent
- *Conducted Instructional Rounds
- *#WeLEAD

COMMUNITY

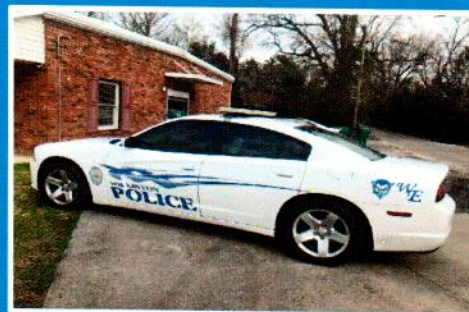


- *Reading Buddies
- *BEC
- *DIG
- *Save the Children
- *SRP
- *Superintendent's Advisory Council Meetings
- *Rotary
- *AXIS 1
- *Mental Health
- *WSD29 Alumni

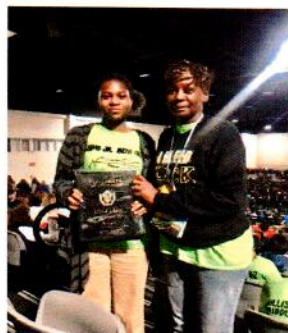


TEAMWORK

- *Community Coalition/ Back to School Bash
- *Superintendent Advisory Councils
- *Parent University
- *W.A.T.C.H. Dogs
- *Williston Police Department
- *Barnwell County Sheriff Department
- *Night of the Stars
- *Mayor's Character Club Luncheon



CELEBRATIONS



CELEBRATIONS:

- Monthly Character Education Student
- Cafeteria Workers Appreciation Day
- WE-R.I.S.E. & WE-T.E.A.C.H.
- Rotary Student of the Month
- Athletic Signing Day
- Athletic Director- State Recognition
- Student Art Work- Attorney's Office
- Night of the Stars
- Summer Reading Camp





Celebrations



Report Card Ratings: The Next Level

2018-2019 Ratings Revealed

Elementary: 39/Below Average

Middle: 53/Good

High: 69/ Excellent





INSTRUCTIONAL FOCUS

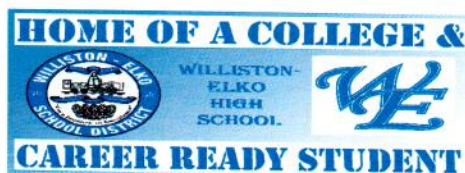
New for 2020

- ▶ Scholars Academy
- ▶ STEM Lab
- ▶ Early College
- ▶ Increased Art offerings
- ▶ #WeRISE2LEAD



New for 2021

- ▶ Carolina CAP partnership with USC; Inaugural District
- ▶ AVID
- ▶ Denmark Technical College



Questions

