Mission

Spartanburg School District 7 shares the Mission, Vision and Values Statement — "To inspire and equip students for meaningful lives of leadership and service as world citizens. We accomplish this by providing innovative, demanding learning experiences at every grade level. Our motto is - Tradition. Excellence. Innovation. In these efforts and, in all ways, the District strives for unmatched excellence in academics, athletics, activities, and the arts."

Our District

District 7 is governed by a Board of Trustees comprised of nine elected community leaders. We serve approximately 7300 students in one early learning center, seven elementary schools, three middle schools and one high school. We share a technology center with District 3 and a countywide special needs school with all county school districts. Each district elementary school has a unique focus and school choice is offered.

Board of Trustees
The school district is governed by a diverse nine-member board of trustees averaging over 12 years in experience. In a recent District Accreditation report by AdvancED, the district received the highest rating (Highly Functional) by the quality assurance review team in the area of Governance and Leadership.
The board of trustees meets the first Tuesday of each month at the District administration building at 610 Dupre Drive. Meetings begin at 6:00 pm. Those wishing to make public comments during the meeting are asked to sign up during the day of the meeting at the District Office.

Mr. Vernon Beatty
Ms. Meg Clayton
Mr. Rick Gray
Mr. Andy Hayes
Mr. Sanders Lee
Mr. Clay Mahaffey
Mr. Jeff Mason
Mr. Kenneth Myers
Ms. Sharon Porter

Mr. Jeff Stevens serves as the Superintendent in Spartanburg County School District Seven. The superintendent is responsible for the oversight of all aspects of the school district – Instruction, Personnel, Student Services, Finance, Operations, and Planning. The office also develops and executes strategic initiatives and tactics to elevate student achievement.

Our district is helping all students develop the world class skills and life and career characteristics of the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate by..."

- Providing educational and experiential opportunities that
- heighten student engagement
- promote creativity and collaboration
- advance anywhere, anytime learning through 1:1 technology
- ensure students are college and career ready

Moving beyond the mastery of subject material to focus on the whole child. In addition to the niche learning models that support our academic efforts, students are engaged in the arts, athletics and a wide range of extra curricular activities. District 7 partners with national, regional and local organizations that provide expanded opportunities, programs and resources to enrich the quality of life for our students and their families. District 7 provides teaching and learning environments that inspire and equip students for meaningful lives of leadership and service as world citizens. In a day and age when our children are being prepared for an increasingly competitive economy and encouraged to explore their
As Spartanburg School District Seven ushers in a new era this year with the opening of our new Spartanburg High School, we celebrate the collective impact of a community who believes in our mission, vision and core values — and who invests in the success of our students. District Seven is fortunate to benefit from partnerships across our broader Spartanburg community as well as from a world-class faculty and staff. Our collective commitment to equity in education and to addressing the needs of the whole child is evidenced by our outcomes as well as our national accolades and distinctions.

District Seven is propelled by an unwavering dedication to fulfilling our mission to inspire and equip students for meaningful lives of leadership and service as world citizens. Our mission is emphasized in all that we do, and we share a common vision to prepare our graduates as creative, critical thinkers, collaborators, effective communicators and ethical citizens. Our core values of tradition, excellence, innovation, hope, engagement, well-being, and relationships speak to the unique way Spartanburg School District 7 approaches our mission and vision. Our students, teachers and staff, our families, community partners and stakeholders have all been invested in charting this direction, and we live out these ideals inside and outside of the classroom every day.

As we strive to ensure each student is college and career ready, our secondary school programs provide a clear snapshot of our progress. The district’s graduation rate has improved significantly over the past nine years and is well above the state and national average, and our SAT average is among the highest in Spartanburg County. Approximately 70% of our graduates continue their education at a higher education institution or in the military. Ensuring our students are ready for the world of postsecondary education begins early. District Seven’s 1:1 technology initiative to close the digital learning gap and improve learning for all students placed us among 114 of the most forward-leaning school districts in the country who comprise the League of Innovative Schools. We are proud to be a member of this flagship network of districts who share a commitment to pioneering innovative learning strategies and collaborating with researchers to drive improvement.

Spartanburg High School’s rigorous Advanced Placement program ranks among the best in the state, with a record number 140 Advanced Placement Scholars identified this year and AP exam passage rates that far exceed the national average. Spartanburg High School is also proud to consistently lead the county in its number of National Merit Semifinalists, the highest academic honor available to secondary students.

Equally important to high achievement is our focus on creating access for all students. Each school across District Seven does this in a way that best fits with their school community. Whether they have achieved excellence as an AVID School of Distinction, earned certification as a Capturing Kids Hearts school, become an International Baccalaureate School, opened a Montessori program, adopted an arts-infusion approach, or found their niche as a Leader in Me Lighthouse School, they all share the common goal of helping each student overcome obstacles in order to reach his or her full potential. Results are seen not only in our graduation and college matriculation rates, but also in our student cohorts who have simultaneously earned their high school diploma and an associate’s degree through the Viking Early College and the Spartanburg County Early College High School. Both of these programs put the completion of a bachelor’s degree much more within reach for students who are often times the first in their family to attend college. Additionally, numerous students earned dual college credit and industry certifications at Spartanburg High School, Daniel Morgan Technology Center, and the Scholars Academy.

With these consistently positive student outcomes, U.S. News & World Report ranked Spartanburg High School among the top 12% in the nation in their “America’s Best High School’s” list; and the Jay Matthews Challenge Index (formerly published by The Washington Post) has one again recognized Spartanburg High School as one of our nation’s most challenging high schools.

Several important partnerships support and strengthen District Seven’s efforts to move students beyond the mastery of subject material. Organizations like the Spartanburg Academic Movement (SAM), the Northside Initiative, the Highland Group, the City of Spartanburg, One Spartanburg, and Compassionate Schools enable us to fully invest in bettering the quality of life for students, their families and the broader community. This past year, we broadened our public-private partnerships with the opening of The Franklin School, a world-class early learning center located in the high-need area of our District’s Northside, with the goal of equipping children from birth to 5 years of age to enter kindergarten ready to learn. The
Franklin School joins District Seven’s other public-private partnership school, Meeting Street Academy, as evidence of the innovative approach to education within our community.

Looking to the future, our capital projects continue to change the landscape of District Seven. The District opened the new Drayton Mills Elementary School in August 2018 and the new Spartanburg High School in Fall 2019. Over this past summer, we renovated our former high school facility to house McCracken Middle School, which opened in the Fall of 2020. In our work to be a leading district in the Southeast, we are demonstrating our abiding commitment to give students a competitive edge through exceptional instruction, world-class learning environments, and a technology-rich learning environment. We are excited about the gains taking place in District Seven and dedicated to a school system that readies every child for the world beyond school.

Jeff Stevens, Superintendent

Data
Located primarily in the city of Spartanburg, District 7 enrolls approximately 7,350 students each year and is staffed by a team of 1,300 professionals. You’ll find 13 schools in the District, including eight elementary schools, two middle schools and our flagship Spartanburg High School. While statistics like these may be helpful, we think it’s far more meaningful to define our demographics by scaling down the numbers.

In other words, if you imagine the District to be a village of 100 children – this is what we would look like:

**Our Village of 100**

- 54 African-American
- 30 Caucasian
- 8 Hispanic
- 3 Asian
- 5 Other
- 93 are present for school on a given day
- 22 in the gifted program
- 32 enrolled in Advanced Placement
- 13 have a disability
- 70 live in poverty (individual schools range from 38% – 95% poverty)
- 85 will graduate in 4 years with a diploma
- 70 will attend college or enter the military within a year of graduating

**Faculty Demographics**
Total District Staff 1,300  
Certified Teaching Staff 663  
Teachers with Advanced Degrees 64%  
Average Teacher Salary $55,950  
Pupil/Teacher Ratio Core Subjects 12.1 to 1  
National Board-Certified Teachers 106  
Attendance Rate 94.4%  
Retention Rate 89.1%

**Financial Data**
General Fund 2019-2020  
Revenue $75,750,000  
Expenditures $75,081,057
Schools

**Jesse Boyd Elementary (5K-5)** Jonathan Duvall, Principal

Jesse Boyd is an International Baccalaureate (IB) School authorized to offer the Primary Years Program (PYP), which combines global significance, a concept driven curriculum, and guided inquiry instruction. IB schools prepare students to become active, caring, lifelong learners who demonstrate respect for themselves and others and have the capacity to participate in the world around them. Through the IB Learner Profile and the PYP Attitudes, Jesse Boyd focuses on the development of the whole child as an inquirer, both within and beyond the classroom.

1505 Fernwood Glendale Road | Spartanburg, SC 29307 | 864.594.4430 | jbe.spartanburg7.org

**Drayton Mills Elementary (5K-5)** Thomas Webster, Principal

Drayton Mills Elementary School (DMES) is located near historic Drayton Mills. DMES offers our community a state-of-the-art facility that includes the tools and approaches needed to start students on the path to fulfilling our district’s vision of graduates who are “creative, critical thinkers, collaborators, effective communicators, and ethical citizens.” With its opening in the 2018, DMES joined the students of former Chapman Elementary and Houston Elementary. DMES adopted Responsive Classroom from Chapman and used Houston’s Problem Based Learning as an inspiration for their own Project Based Learning (PBL) approach. Being a PBL school, many features of DMES were derived through student projects. DMES’s 128,000 square foot facility includes a makerspace equipped with a variety of coding and robotics resources. Additionally, the makerspace contains materials to foster the “tinkering” that builds critical STEM interest and skills – from K'NEX, LEGOs, Lincoln Logs, and Tinker Toys to 3D printers. The school hosts a production lab that includes a green screen, a news desk, an interview space, and audio-visual equipment to allow students to create public products that can be broadcast to the school’s multiple interactive screens. Classroom neighborhoods center on “inquiry hubs,” high-tech collaborative spaces that accommodate special projects or multi-class groups, and each classroom includes an ActivPanel. In addition to two playgrounds, the exterior of the school includes an athletic field and a courtyard.

1500 Skylyn Drive | Spartanburg, SC 29307 | 864.596.7949 | dmes.spartanburg7.org

**Cleveland Academy of Leadership (4K-5)** Marquise Clark, Principal

The Cleveland Academy operates on an extended calendar, beginning three weeks before other schools in the District. The heart of the school’s curriculum is based on the Leader in Me model, which weaves the concepts outlined in the book The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People into every aspect of teaching and learning. Students and their families are immersed in these habits on a daily basis, instilling leadership skills both in school and at home. The Cleveland school uniform is a point of pride for our students and further advances the culture of leadership and community. Of the 2,000 schools around the world using the Leader in Me model, Cleveland was recently named a “Lighthouse School,” a distinction awarded to fewer than 150 Leader in Me schools in the nation. The neighborhood surrounding Cleveland has recently become the focus of an exciting revitalization initiative in Spartanburg, making Cleveland a new gateway to rich educational opportunities.

151 Franklin Street | Spartanburg, SC 29303 | 864.594.4444 | cleveland.spartanburg7.org

**Pine Street Elementary (5K-5)** Dennis Regnier, Principal

Pine Street School opened its doors to students for the first time in 1929. Today, 87 years later, Pine Street is included on the National Register of Historic Places. With a rich academic and historical heritage and a dedicated focus on the arts, Pine Street offers a unique environment for elementary school students. Pine Street is proud to be a recipient of The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts National Schools of Distinction in Arts Education Award. This prestigious honor recognizes the creative learning environment at Pine Street and the arts-infused focus that promotes outstanding student achievement. Pine Street offers a rigorous academic curriculum enhanced by instruction in drawing and painting, graphic design, ballet, jazz, creative movement, music, steel and African drumming, dramatic interpretation, creative writing, and puppetry. Arts-infused learning fosters confidence and dedication in all students. Named an Arts in Basic Curriculum (ABC) Site, by The South Carolina Arts Commission, Pine Street is a model for other schools in the state.

500 South Pine Street | Spartanburg, SC 29302 | 864.594.4470 | pinestreet.spartanburg7.org
Mary H. Wright Elementary (5K-5) Tammy Jordan, Principal

Mary H. Wright Elementary focuses on improving student achievement and character education through a strong early literacy program in a technology-rich environment. iPads are part of everyday learning through the 1:1 technology initiative designed to engage students and integrate technology into project-based learning. With the recent addition of a state-of-the-art STEM station, students are encouraged to explore new and emerging technology in a gathering space that supports critical and creative thinking. Mary H. Wright is also the first school in the state to receive Common Sense School Certification, which teaches young people that safe, responsible digital citizenship is an important component of a good education. This year, Mary H. Wright has entered the candidacy phase to become an International Baccalaureate (IB) School, implementing the Primary Years Program (PYP). The PYP draws on worldwide research to create a relevant, engaging, challenging, and significant educational framework for all children.

457 South Church Street | Spartanburg, SC 29306 | 864.594.4477 | marywright.spartanburg7.org

Meeting Street Academy (PK-4) Kyndran Hilton, Principal

Located in the heart of the city, Meeting Street Academy Spartanburg (MSAS) provides high quality early childhood and elementary education to students from 3K to 5th grade. With two certified teachers in each classroom, Meeting Street emphasizes, in equal parts, strong academic performance and character development to create intelligent, compassionate, and resilient citizens of our community. In addition to high-curricular standards, students adhere to a code of conduct, shaped through the “Responsive Classroom” philosophy focusing on the nourishment of inner self-esteem, accountability and motivation. Students are encouraged to embrace 9 essential Path to Success traits: self-control, curiosity, citizenship, gratitude, optimism, integrity, empathy and grit. Collectively, these traits help prepare our children for college and career. By establishing strong partnerships with parents and families, MSAS ensures that students are surrounded by opportunities to learn and create with high standards and even higher expectations.

201 E Broad Street Suite 110 | Spartanburg, SC 29306 | 864.253.1800 | www.meetingstreetacademy.com

E. P. Todd School (3K-8) Victoria Bradley, Principal

E.P. Todd School has fully implemented a K3-8 grade configuration model, and is the District’s first and only K3-8 school. E.P. Todd is also home to the county’s first public Montessori program for pre-K to grade 5 students. Montessori classes are an option for parents seeking an alternative early education choice for their children. The Montessori method focuses on the unique needs of each child, incorporating four basic objectives: coordination, concentration, order, and independence. E.P. Todd also offers the traditional elementary school configuration. The District believes these opportunities offer parents the choice to completely customize their child’s educational experience.

150 Old Canaan Road | Spartanburg, SC 29302 | 864.594.4475 | todd.spartanburg7.org

Carver Middle (6-8) Nicole Thompson, Principal

Carver represents a long and distinguished history of excellence in education and is one of the county’s first secondary wall-to-wall STEM (Science Technology Engineering Math) schools. In addition, Carver is the first AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) National Demonstration Site in the county – less than 2% of the 4500 plus AVID schools worldwide hold this honor. AVID is the gold standard model for creating a college going culture for middle and high school students. The program is structured to expose students to a curriculum rich in creativity, critical thinking, communication and collaboration. In 2016, Carver was recognized by AdvancED and Learning Forward as the first Learning School in the worldwide AdvancED and Learning Forward Networks – a designation that underscores the commitment of the faculty and staff to their own professional learning. With the combination of a rigorous STEM curriculum, research-based embedded college and career strategies and a faculty who constantly strive to improve practice, Carver’s future is as rich as its past.

467 South Church Street | Spartanburg, SC 29306 | 864.594.4435 | carver.spartanburg7.org
McCracken Middle (6-8) Margaret Peach, Principal

In 2015, McCracken Middle School earned the prestigious designation as a National School to Watch. This honor is awarded to schools that are academically excellent, developmentally responsive and socially equitable. McCracken seeks to meet the needs of all students by providing a rigorous program of study with a focus on creating critical thinkers prepared to meet the demands of a challenging high school and college curriculum. The foundation of learning is supported by the integration of math, science, social studies, and literature through the cultivation of reading, higher-order thinking, and writing skills combined with field studies. Parent involvement is a strong cornerstone for McCracken’s success and is a longstanding part of the school’s culture.

300 Webber Road | Spartanburg, SC 29307 | 864.594.4457 | mccracken.spartanburg7.org

Spartanburg High School (9-12) Vance Jones, Principal

As the first school in the nation to win the prestigious Blue Ribbon School Award four times, Spartanburg High School (SHS) is the flagship school in District 7. Honored by U.S. News and World Report and The Washington Post as one of the top high schools in the country, Spartanburg High has a proud record of excellence in academics, as well as the arts, athletics and extracurricular activities. The cumulative effect of all that we do in District 7 is reflected by the success of our students at SHS where: the 2019 class earned $22 million in scholarships and over 85% of our graduates were admitted to a two or four-year college. Housed under the umbrella of the high school is The Freshman Academy – an innovative learning community designed to assist ninth graders with the transition to high school. In 2019, District 7 opened the doors to the campus of the new SHS, located prominently on the Eastside of Spartanburg. The new facility provides flexible spaces most conducive to 21st century teaching and learning and designed to support the District’s progressive 1:1 technology initiative. For the first time in District’s history, the new high school includes a fine arts wing with a 1000-seat performing arts center and a comprehensive athletic complex that includes a 7500-seat athletic stadium.

500 Dupre Drive | Spartanburg, SC 29307 | 864.594.4410 | shs.spartanburg7.org

Early Learning Center (PK-4) Charlene Doctor, Director

Meeting the highest standards for our youngest learners, The Early Learning Center at Park Hills is a NAEYC accredited school for children ages, birth to four years old. NAEYC, which stands for that National Association of Education for Young Children, is the gold standard in accreditation and fully reflects the District’s commitment to early childhood development. The program at the Early Learning Center is designed to enhance children’s physical, social, emotional, and intellectual development by offering comprehensive services including; parent education, home visits, medical care, and social services. A wellness center through ReGenesis Health Care is offered at the center. Services include family medicine, pediatrics, immunizations, community-based health education, dental screenings, exams and mental health referrals.

301 Crescent Avenue | Spartanburg, SC 29306 | 864.594.4465 | parkhills.spartanburg7.org

Myles W. Whitlock Flexible Learning Center Jada Kidd-Robinson, Director

The Whitlock Flexible Learning Center houses the Spartanburg County Alternative Program (SCAP), SCAP is a county school designed to enable students to continue on their pursuit of class recovery and remediation. SCAP utilizes best practices, techniques, and labs to accommodate middle and high school students. Academically advanced students have the added opportunity to take high school courses that are more suited to their individual ability, to prepare for High School Assessment Program (HSAP) remediation and SAT preparation courses. SCAP also offers a Character Education and Community Service program in order to enrich students’ knowledge of civic matters.

364 Successful Way | Spartanburg, SC 29303 | 864.594.4482 | whitlock.spartanburg7.org
McCarthy Teszler School  Rene Ford, Principal

The McCarthy Teszler School for special needs students serves children and young adults from all seven school districts in Spartanburg County. For disabled or multi-handicapped students, ages 3-21, McCarthy Teszler Elementary offers a wide array of support services including: physical therapy, occupational therapy and speech therapy. Each student also participates in library, art, music, and physical education. The Teszler division serves students five-years-old and above who are classified as severely emotionally disabled. The program focuses on academic remediation, with special attention to social skills deficits, with the plan of returning these students to a successful school career in their neighborhoods. The Vocational division serves students in these programs ages twelve to twenty-one to provide them with the skills necessary to become successful in the world of work.
175 Burdette Street | Spartanburg, SC 29307 | 864.596.8491 | mtz.spartanburg7.org

Daniel Morgan Technology Center  Kira Reaves, Director

Daniel Morgan Technology Center (DMTC) offers a wide range of educational opportunities that align with the needs of regional and national employers. Sophomores, juniors, and seniors enroll in sequential courses that match their interests, skills, and professional goals. These hands-on classes include: Automotive Technology, Building Construction, Business Technology, Culinary Arts, Electricity, Environmental Services, Graphics and Printing, Machine Tool Technology, Computer Aided Drafting and Design, Marketing, Protective Services, Welding, and Horticulture. Work-based learning opportunities are also provided to students in all program areas. Daniel Morgan serves Spartanburg High School and Broome High School in Spartanburg District Three.
201 Zion Hill Road | Spartanburg, SC 29307 | 864.579.2810 | www.dmtconline.org

The Franklin School  Shawna Bynum, Director

The Franklin School is a model child development center operated by Spartanburg County First Steps and located in the Northside of Spartanburg. In January 2019, the center opened its doors and welcomed children and families from the Northside community and from close neighbors and partners including Wofford College, USC Upstate, and School District 7. The Franklin School is designed to serve infants, toddlers, and preschoolers from different socio-economic and cultural backgrounds in an environment where leading research and expertise on early education's best practices take center stage. The state-of-the-art building was designed to fuel young minds by providing optimal learning experiences using both indoor and outdoor classrooms guided by nurturing caregivers.
100 Franklin Street | Spartanburg, SC 29303 | 864.586.7130 | thefranklinschool.org