



International Baccalaureate World School



AVID Scholar School



Project Lead the Way School



Advanced Placement - The College Board

*The mission of Sumter High School, the hallmark in Academics, Arts, & Athletics, is to provide Exemplary Learning Experiences to ensure that each Student has the skills to compete in our Global Society.*



*Learners Today,  
Leaders Tomorrow,  
Gamecocks Forever!*



## School Improvement Council

### 2024-2025 Members:

- Kyle T. Austin—Chair
- Katherine Speed—Vice Chair
- Anamaria Sandor—Principal
- Keisha Scriven—Asst. Principal
- Ruth Creech—Teacher
- Natalia Penridge—Teacher
- Tiffany Brunson—Teacher
- Temisha Budden—PTO Representative
- Jennifer Hannibal-Felder—Parent
- Laurie Merchant—Parent
- Lynette Weeks—Parent
- Kelly Gristwood—Secretary (Student)
- Lauren Gristwood—Student
- Nicolas Woods—Student
- David Vizcarra—Student
- Jaydon Bledsoe—Student
- Tammy Achziger—Community
- Luther Barnett—Community
- Glenda Brunson—Community
- Amy Jamison—Community
- Cedric Kirkman—Community
- Corie Vizcarra—Parent

Dear Parents, Guardians & Community,

On behalf of the faculty and staff at Sumter High School, thank you for supporting our great school! Sumter High offers more than 100-course selections and numerous opportunities for extra-curricular, scholastic, fine arts and athletic involvement. We provide an atmosphere of high expectations and a safe environment along with opportunities for students to enjoy their high school years. We encourage families and community members to partner with us to guide our students into college and career readiness.

**Anamaria Sandor**

Sumter High School, Principal

**Kyle T. Austin**

School Improvement  
Council, Chair

### Follow Us On Social Media

Facebook: Sumter High School Gamecocks

Instagram: Sumter\_High\_School\_Gamecocks



**Mrs. Anamaria Sandor, Principal**

Mr. John Bradley, Assistant Principal  
 Mr. Eric Hawkins, Assistant Principal  
 Mr. Will Howard, Assistant Principal  
 Mr. Walter Lide, Assistant Principal  
 Mrs. Dana Mitchell, Assistant Principal  
 Mrs. Glenda Brunson, Assistant Principal  
 Mrs. Keisha Scriven, Assistant Principal  
 Mr. Crasten Davis, Athletic Director

**120 Teachers / 2,070+ Students**

6 Guidance Counselors  
 4 Career Specialists  
 3 Gear Up Specialists  
 11 Doctorate Degrees  
 82 Masters Degrees  
 6 National Board Certificated  
 15 IB Certificated  
 12 AVID Certificated  
 11 Advanced Placement Certificated

**S.C. College & Career Readiness**

	2023	2025	Growth
<b>College Ready</b>	21.9%	34.6%	<b>+12.7%</b>
<b>Career Ready</b>	34.7%	61.0%	<b>+26.3%</b>
<b>College &amp; Career Ready</b>	42.5%	65.0%	<b>+22.5%</b>

**Fall/Winter 2024 EOC Results**

	2023	Fall 2024	2027 Goal
	Passed with 'C' or Higher	Passed with 'C' or Higher	
<b>Algebra 1</b>	8.2%	8%	18.2%
<b>Biology 1</b>	29.5%	33%	39.5%
<b>English 2</b>	54.7%	48%	64.7%
<b>U.S. History</b>	16.7%	32%	26.7%

**15 Students**  
**Qualified for the**  
**Palmetto Fellows Scholarship,**  
**as of mid April 2025.**

**Academic Highlights**

A.P. Exams, Earned 3 or Higher

8 English  
 7 European History  
 1 Music Theory  
 15 U.S. History

I.B. Exams, Earned 4 or Higher

10 English  
 1 French  
 5 Spanish  
 11 History  
 7 Psychology  
 5 Biology  
 1 Chemistry  
 6 Math

**Perfect Score on the State EOC**

**Fall Semester 2024**

9 students — **Biology 1**  
 7 students — **English 2**  
 9 students — **US History**

**Class of 2025 WIN Career Readiness Results**

485 Students Tested  
 124 — Level 4 Certificates  
 6 — Level 5 Certificates  
 140 — Level 3 Certificates

**Faculty & Staff Spotlight**

Mrs. Sarah Shipman-Hegwood — Sumter High Teacher of the Year, 2025-2026  
 Mr. Erik Hines — Sumter Chamber of Commerce Teacher of the Year 2025-2026  
 Ms. Laura Jefferson — received the BIPOC Scholarship Award from the S.C. Association of School Librarians  
 Mr. Diego Teatin — Elected President of the South Carolina Fellowship of Language Teachers and Advocates (SCFLTA)  
 Mr. Mark Barnes - Head Football Coach of the Year for 5A/Region 5

**Student Spotlight**

Jaydon Bledsoe — SHS Student Body President  
 Kelly Gristwood — SCHSL Student Athlete Advisory Council President  
 Lillie Ivey — SCHSL Student Athlete Advisory Council Member  
 Blake Cox — FBLA State President  
 David Nehemiah Vizcarra — District Two Vice-Chair for Student Government  
 Ava Breland — recipient of the Association of Educational Office Professionals Sumter County Scholarship





Sumter High Band participated in the WLTX Back To School Segment, Mayesville Parade, Sumter's annual Christmas Parade, competed in SCBDA Region Five Honor Band Clinic, and SCBDA All State Band Clinic.

Sumter Swingin' Gamecocks received an of Excellent at Jazz Performance Assessment. Abram McDuffie received Best Soloist at Jazz Performance Assessment. Symphonic Band received a rating of Excellent at Concert Performance Assessment. Wind Ensemble received a rating of Superior with Distinction at Concert Performance Assessment.

The Theatre Department competed at the South Carolina International Thespian Festival where Bryson Aycock and Maryah McIntosh received Superior Ratings For their performance, Dayshaun Powe and Maya Robinson received Excellent ratings. The play produced "Tartuffe" received Superior rating. The students advance to compete on the National Stage in Indiana in June an the International Thespian Festival. The club also won the Superior Ensemble Award. Nick Woods and Maryah McIntosh Received Solo Musical Award. Isabella Martinez, Maya Robinson, and Maryah McIntosh Received Group Acting Award.

The Theatre Department was the first in the state to perform the musical "Bettlejuice, Jr." in January. The end-of-the-year performance "Thirty Under Ninety" will mark 22 years of original playwriting and debut performance.

SHS Visual Art students participated in the Walk of Art in downtown Sumter as part of the Inspire Festival. The festival is a community project where students have their work and art installations on display for the public through from March through April in storefronts around downtown Sumter.

Sumter High Orchestra had 37 members participate in the Region V Orchestra. All State Orchestra Participants: Elizabeth Davis, Kaytie Gaertner, Kristina Mosneaguta, Charli Peters, Allison Ridgeway, Tyler Williams, Grayson Hatfield.

Sumter High Orchestra hosted and played in the Outdoor Pops Concert "An Evening in the Sun"

Honors Orchestra received a rating of Superior with Distinction at Concert Performance Assessment, Sinfonia Orchestra received a rating of Superior with Distinction at Concert Performance Assessment, Chamber Orchestra received a rating of Superior with Distinction at Concert Performance Assessment, Concert Orchestra received a rating of Excellent at Concert Performance Assessment

Jamiah Wilson, Nikol Epps, and Maryah McIntosh earned placement in the 2025 South Carolina All-State Chorus Scholars

Winterguards JV and Varsity placed 4th at CWEA Chapin, Varsity Winterguard traveled to WGI Charlotte and placed 5th within their class during the preliminary rounds. CWEA Ninety Six -- JV placed 4th place and Varsity placed 5th place. CWEA Championships -- JV placed 8th place and the Varsity team placed 7th place.

Honorable Mentions for Janiya McCray (mixed media) and Anna Lee (digital photography) at the Pathfinder's Senior Art Exhibit at the Sumter Gallery of Art

Over one hundred students had art selected to be in the Sumter County American Legion Fair show. Students Sincer Sharper and Tierra Doston won first in their category. Second place winners were Annystie Robinson, Blair Peak, and Romaure Prince. Additionally, third place ribbons were awarded to Bryson Aycock, Anna Le, and Anzeleigh Lenoir.

Sumter High Art students worked with their teachers to create art installations that were put on display downtown Sumter. A couple of hundred students were involved and the art display was available for the public to view for a number of months.

Choir traveled to Williamsburg VA, only school from SC to compete and received the second highest score in the competition.

Sumter High Honors Orchestra received first place in their category and best overall high school orchestra at the Concerto Competition.



### Sumter High School Library

The Sumter High Library has a collection of more than 24,000 books, including eBooks and audiobooks. Our two-story library features a computer lab upstairs with 50 computers, plus more than 15 additional computers on the main floor. We have recently renovated, and our updated space offers more comfortable seating and an inviting environment.

Throughout the year, we offer fun reading activities like Blind Date with a Book, Book Passes, and Book Tastings. We also host an after-school book club and support the SCASL Young Adult Book Award Nominees.

Helpful resources available to students include the Destiny Library Catalog, DISCUS (provided by the State Library), and The Item newspaper, just to name a few.





## Club & Organization Highlights

National Honor Society helped with Alice Drive Elementary Bingo Night, Freaky Friday, the Millwood Elementary Fall Festival, and Sumter's Annual Christmas Parade

Junior Civitan Club hosted two Packs Landing Clean Up events and removed over 600lbs of litter, fed the local homeless shelter each semester, hosted two McCray's Mill Road clean up events removing over 400lbs of litter, hosted a Live Oak Park Litter Clean Up removing 71lbs of litter, planted 10 new live oak trees on campus, and removed over 100lbs of litter in and around Dillon Park.

IB CAS held the annual international fair food, raised funds for the Sumter SPCA with the 'cups for pups', held the annual 'Walk Against Domestic Violence' in downtown Sumter, and collected for 'Toys for tots'

FBLA Chefs Initiative: catered the Madrigal Dinner with partnership with local Business Tasteful Kreations

Student Government received Gold Honor Council at the State SCASC Convention, David Nehemiah Vizcarra was elected District Two Representative Vice-Chair, hosted the Winter Wonderland, Spirit Weeks, Oktoberfest, Hot Cocoa for Teachers, Senior Sunrise, Paint your parking spot, Student vs. Teacher Dodgeball, Powder Puff Football, Miss Sumter High Pageant Winner Shaye Hoff, Angel Tree Ceremony, NHC Valentines Visit, and Football Tailgates

Sumter High School's Paragon Yearbook was featured in the 2025 Jostens Look Book.

Junior Civitan Club raised \$6,000 for the Civitan International Research Center which assists individuals with disabilities.

Key Club hosted several events and projects including Freaky Friday, Feed a Family, Movie Day, Pancake Day and a project for Sumter's NHC Healthcare.

FBLA created a Walking Taco Bar, Hosted 6th Annual District Wide Induction Ceremony, Hygiene Products Drive for a Children's Home, Christmas Cards to Nursing Home, Pack the Pantry: Collected Canned Foods, SHS StarFish Club collected Hoodies and Blankets and sent them to NC Hurricane Victims, made ornaments with children during the Winter Wonderland event, created toy and supplied filled shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child, created Valentine's candy bags as random acts of kindness, created St. Patrick's Day candy bags for our Custodians, Cafeteria Staff, and SPED Para pros

First Priority hosted its annual 'See you at the Pole' in front of the school FLBA attended State Leadership Conference in Greenville, SC - earning 20 trophies

Student Government raised over \$800 for Relay for Life.

The Archery Club was founded in October of 2024.





# ATHLETICS HIGHLIGHTS

## Swim

- 6 athletes qualified for the SCHSL AAAAA Division 1 State Championship meet (Gabriel Kirkhart, Avery Kirkhart, Jack Easton, Anthony Benenhaley, Jordan Hewett, and David Vizcarra)
- Varsity Swim State Championship Results: Team earned 14th place; Individual: Jordan Hewett (3rd place 500-yard freestyle; 8th place 200-yard freestyle)
- Boys placed 14th in the state championships for Relay Race

## Cross Country

- All-Region: Emily Vipperman

## Football

- Partnered with SGA for Relay for Life Fundraiser: Powder Puff Game
- Anthony Addison and Jordan Lowery- Participated in Shrine Bowl of The Carolinas
- John Peebles and Jerius Williams- Participated in North South All-Star Games
- Seniors Selected to the Palmetto I20 Classic All-Star Football Game
- Football Players chose for Farm Bureau Insurance Heart of a Champion Winners
- Hosted Sumter Youth Cheer and Football Camp
- Region V AAAAA Champions / AAAAA Lower State Runner-up
- Touchstone Energy Cooperative North vs. South Bowl All-Star Game (John Peebles, Jerius Williams-selected as captain of South team)
- 2024 Shrine Bowl of the Carolinas (Jordan Lowery & Anthony Addison)
- The Palmetto I-20 Classic All-Star Football Game (Kameron Fortune, Terrence Burgess, Jayden Kennedy, Alex Krivejko, Taveon Brown)
- Farm Bureau Insurance Heart of a Champion Winners (Jerrod Tomlin, Jacori Jackson, Cooper Geddings, Elijah Brunson, Kameron Fortune)
- Head Football Coach Mark Barnes AAAAA Division 1 Region V Coach of the Year
- Kameron Fortune: Unanimous Region Offensive Player of the Year; Most Outstanding Offensive Back; All-Region
- Anthony Addison: Region Defensive Player of the Year

## Volleyball

- Boys Varsity Volleyball: Inaugural Season / won their first game against Wilson High

## Wrestling

- Dominic Ingram Qualifier in State Championship /Varsity Girls Wrestling: Inaugural Team

## Tennis

- Thrilling Victory against Blythewood - 4-3 Record for the season

## Golf

- 11th in the 23rd Magnolia Invitational competition for Boys Golf
- AAAAA Division 1 Region V 3rd Place
- State Championship Tournament Qualifier (1st time in school history)
- Girls Varsity Golf Coach Thomas Nock: Selected as assistant coach for North/South Golf

## Tournament

- Girls' Golf competed in the state championship for the first time in school history

## Basketball

- Nicholas White and Eli Britt- Participants in Pee Dee All-Star Game
- BJ Brown Participant in the 2024-2025 SCBC All-State Team
- 1st Round Playoff champs
- BJ Brown earned 1000 career points; Top 10 Junior player
- AAAAA All-Region (BJ Brown-3rd time, Eli Britt)
- AAAAA All-State (BJ Brown)
- Pee Dee All-Star Game (Nicholas White & Eli Britt)
- Varsity Girls Basketball Head Coach Jeff Schaffer SCBCA North-South Head Coach
- AAAAA All-Region (A'Raina Ross)

## Baseball

- Month of the Military Child Recognition & Hot Start in Region Play

## Softball

- Month of Military Child Recognition
- Ariana Evans, All State Honoree, Featured on The Grind

## Track & Field

- Special Olympics Area 10 Spring Games Track and Field Meet

## Unified Sports

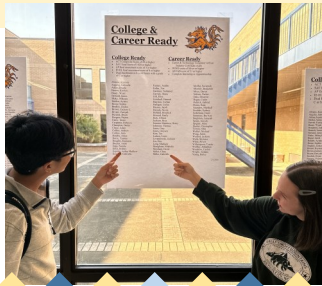
- Received National Banner recognition for being a Special Olympics Unified Champion School (3rd time)



### Sumter High School Improvement Council

#### 2024-2025 Goals

- Goal #1 —We continue the effort from the 2023-2024 school year to recognize & Encourage SHS Seniors for the accomplishment of obtaining College & Career Readiness set by the S.C. Department of Education
- Rationale — The council agreed that students needed additional encouragement to reach these standards, awareness of standards, and praise once they reached the standard.
- Action Taken —Evolving posters displayed around the school listing the Readiness Standards, and the list of Seniors who reached the goal of 'College Ready', 'Career Ready', or 'College & Career Ready'.



## College Ready

- ACT Composite Score of 20 or higher
- SAT Total Score of 1020 or higher
- AP final assessment score of 3 or higher
- IB HL final assessment score of 4 or higher
- Dual Enrollment in 6 credit hours with a grade of C or higher

## Career Ready

- Career & Technology Completer with an Industry Certificate exam
- WIN® score of Silver or higher
- ASVAB score of 31 or higher
- Complete Internship or Apprenticeship

- Goal #2 —Additional focus on Student Academic Achievements
- Rationale — The council agreed the school needed to take additional steps in encouraging students academically.
- Action Taken —Reinstatement of the Academic Hall of Fame, a school tradition that had been discontinued for a decade. The Academic Hall of Fame honors graduates for being the highest achievers. They are formally recognized in the awards ceremony and their names added to plaques on the wall outside the school's front office.



## Class of 2024 Academic Hall of Fame Inductees:

- Ms. Sophia Boone
- Mr. Jeshua Espiritu
- Ms. Alana Garrick
- Mr. Taeyoung 'Aiden' Kim
- Mr. Olin Towery

### Standards for Graduates to be added to the Sumter High Academic Hall of Fame:

- Valedictorian
- Salutatorian
- Highest ACT Math score
- Highest ACT English score
- Highest ACT Science score
- Highest ACT Composite score
- Highest SAT Reading score
- Highest SAT Writing & Language score
- Highest SAT Math score
- Highest SAT Composite score

