

HIGHLIGHTS

Athletics

Of the ninety-two seniors who participated in athletics this school year, forty-seven made the South Carolina High School League's Scholar Athlete list – requiring that they letter in two sports and maintain a 3.5 GPA for seven semesters. The South Pointe Varsity Football Team won the 2016 4A State Championship, its third in a row and fifth in nine years. Our Competition Cheer, Football, Girls' Tennis, Girls' Swimming, Boys' Swimming, Girls' Cross Country, Wrestling, Baseball and Girls' Track each won Region championships this year. Four student-athletes won individual state championships. Fourteen signed to play at the college level.

Journalism

South Pointe in the News (SPiN) Wired was named Best Online Media in the state for the third year in a row and achieved an All-State ranking by the South Carolina Scholastic Press Association (SCSPA). SPiN staff brought home five of seven first place Online Individual Competition Awards: Best Feature; Best Digital Storytelling; Best Photography; Best Review; and Best Videography. South Pointe's yearbook, *The Equestrian*, received an Honor rating.

South Pointe has begun planning for the concept of Convergence Media, beginning during the 2017-2018 school year, which will

- Increase access to digital technology to support STEAM choice schools.
- Increase the methods of promoting South Pointe High School.
- Increase collaboration for teachers and students in the media program.
- Increase the sharing of media technologies across school programs.
- Merge elements of Business and Marketing programs with the Media programs.
- Increase opportunities for students to express their creativity through digital media.
- Increase student achievement in STEAM.
- Develop skills that will benefit students in their future.

2016-2017 SIC Members

Teachers

Joe Koon Kristina Pihanich

Students

Malik Frasier Zoe Mullins

Parents

Dan Ballou Portia Chisolm
Jenette Kettlewell Audrey Lightner
Brett Martens Christi McMillan-Goodwin
Jennifer Norby Ruth Anne Pitt
Rebecca Gilleland, Chairperson

Community Members

Stephen Cox Tyrone Hart Ray Lowder
Jeff Nicholson Rick Norwood Tammy Potter
Felicia Robinson Noreen Ruff

Ex-officio Members

Michael Belk, Assistant Principal
Kay Runyans, Guidance Chairperson
Al Leonard, Principal

SC-SIC 2017 Riley Award Winner!



Purpose of the Report

"This report is issued by the South Pointe School Improvement Council in accordance with South Carolina law to share information on the school's progress in meeting various goals and objectives, the work of the SIC, and other accomplishments during the school year."

South Pointe High School



School Improvement Council

Annual Report to Parents 2016-2017

South Pointe's Mission Statement

South Pointe High School will provide all students with challenging work that will authentically engage them in the learning process and prepare them for successful futures.

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SIC OVERVIEW

The South Pointe School Improvement Council received the prestigious 2017 *Riley Award* from the *South Carolina - School Improvement Council* for its work during the 2015-2016 school year. The award, named for the state's former governor and former U.S. education secretary Richard Riley and his late wife, was created in 2002 to recognize the contributions from more than 1,200 local improvement councils and more than 13,000 groups across the state. South Pointe's SIC was one of sixteen named to the state council's 2017 honor roll in January, from which five finalists were chosen for the Riley Award.

As stated in the *Rock Hill Herald*, "South Pointe's SIC was recognized for their work in adjusting attendance zones to more equally distribute student populations, fund the actual operating costs of student activities and form an Equity Committee dedicated to ensuring equality among the district's three high schools, a release states. In response to the SIC's recommendations, the Rock Hill school district eliminated half of the school's \$185,000 activity deficit, better enforced transfer policies and gave additional funding to all three schools for band and athletics, the release states."

Members of the SIC served on the district's High School Equity Committee that recommended that South Pointe receive additional funding to ensure equitable opportunities for our students. The school board approved that recommendation.

The SIC Marketing Committee planned several activities to disseminate information regarding the many positive aspects of South Pointe's academic, arts, and athletics programs. In addition to inviting realtors to a school drama production, they provided rising freshmen with school paraphernalia and a spring picnic.

SC-SIC Board of Trustees Chair Amelia B. McKie stated, "The South Pointe High SIC has done wonderful work in the past year that is well-deserving of this statewide recognition. When parents, educators, students, and community members work together as a SIC to identify needs and take proactive steps to meet them, it does have significant, positive and lasting impact for our schools, our students, their families and our communities."

MAJOR SCHOOL INITIATIVES



South Pointe has been designated as a *Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) School of Choice* beginning with the 2016-2017 school term. The STEAM philosophy was phased in beginning with the 2016 freshmen class.

STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) focuses on combining the content areas and finding curriculum links, instead of teaching them separately. Students make more meaning and are exposed to real-world concepts through STEAM integration. The STEAM model provides high-quality learning opportunities that simulate the skills needed in the 21st century workplace.

Our vision of STEAM at South Pointe is comprised of the balance of four key concepts: *STEAM-mindedness, the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate, the South Carolina State Curriculum Standards, and the Engineering/Design process*. So what does that mean for our students? Guided by the standards and utilizing the concepts listed above, students will be engaged in collaborative, in-depth, meaningful learning. The goal of this approach is to provide students with real-world skills acquired through rigorous cross-curricular learning. In doing this, students will be prepared for life outside of high school and will master content through authentic, inquiry based learning. At South Pointe, our students will use their creativity and innovation to become critical thinkers and problem solvers.

Construction and Renovations

As a result of the passing of a district bond referendum, construction was completed in two major areas at South Pointe. A Makerspace was built to support the STEAM concept by providing a state-of-the-art collaborative area where students can work in groups to develop projects while sharing ideas and utilizing technology. South Pointe also received a much needed practice area for cheerleading, wrestling and other after school activities. As a result, practices for many sports can begin earlier in the day.

ADDITIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

College & Military Signing Day

South Pointe hosted its second annual College and Military Signing Day. Over one hundred students were joined by family members and college representatives as they signed certificates that were symbolic of their commitment to two or four-year colleges or the military. This annual event signifies South Pointe's emphasis on recognizing our students for their academic perseverance and success.

The Class of 2016

Sixteen South Pointe students graduated with honors and sixteen graduated with highest honors. Eighty-four students took Advanced Placement (AP) exams while twenty-eight took at least two or more International Baccalaureate (IB) examinations. Sixty-seven students were Gold Seal Endorsement recipients, having earned a minimum of 28 units in grades 9-12 with no grade lower than a C or with a cumulative GPA of 4.2 or higher. The 2016 South Pointe High School Senior Class generated over \$10.2 million dollars in scholarship offers, an amazing amount for a class of only 314 seniors. Many seniors worked toward college credit in over 12 different college-level courses offered through the Rock Hill School District's partnership with USC Lancaster. Sixty-one students completed a minimum of four units in an approved Career and Technical Program of study. Thirteen graduates were inducted into The National Technical Honor Society through the district's Applied Technology Center, having completed a Career and Technical program of study and met the eligibility criteria.