

Silver Bluff High School has developed a comprehensive instructional program to ensure that all students graduate college and/or career ready. We strive to ensure that our students reflect the world-class knowledge and skills represented within the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate.

Throughout the 2019-2020 school year, we continued our school-wide instructional focus on planning for instruction and assessing for content mastery and learning. We continue to work toward full implementation of our thematic program, which is being an Advanced Studies Academy of Technology, Engineering and the Arts. We have increased course offerings in the Fine Arts department which resulted in an additional instructional position. To support 21st century learning in our classrooms, we added additional laptop carts throughout the school.

The newly redesigned Advanced Studies Academy of Technology, Engineering and the Arts provides a pathway to assist students in identifying their individualized post-secondary plans. This academy is our school's engine for delivering opportunities to students, making connections with community organizations, businesses, and higher education institutions. As a member of the National Math and Science Initiative, our goal is to increase the number of students taking a course at the honors level or higher, and grow the number of students enrolled in a Career and Technology Education course leading to a completer certificate. We continue striving to increase the number of devices available to our students.

Students explore and enhance their 21st century skills through course work and connections made in the Academy of Technology, Engineering and The Arts. The Project Lead the Way engineering curriculum introduces students to creativity and innovation through teamwork and the engineering process. Students have the opportunity to design solutions to real-world problems and create projects using technology and tool kits that mirror the STEM industry.

Critical thinking and problem-solving skills are also developed in our various technology classes, which includes our newly designed focus on information technology and the cyber industry. With a first-of-its-kind partnership with neighboring Fort Gordon and the US Army Cyber Command, we are working to create opportunities for our students that enable them to make technology connections to the world of cyber security and put these skills to use as part of the Cyber Patriot competition and program. As we further develop partnerships with the US Department of Energy, Aiken Technical College and the community, we are able to begin the process of ensuring students have a path to industry certification and further education.

Our school's connection to the arts industry and coursework helps us provide students with further opportunities to express their creativity by collaborating with other students to create works of art. Band concerts and a Night of the Arts showcase allows for students to work together to showcase the skills they've learned in the academy. This intentional focus has allowed us to increase the number of students enrolled in fine arts courses.

Silver Bluff High School continues to participate in the National Math and Science Initiative (NMSI) college readiness program. With a generous donation from Centerra, a Savannah River

Nuclear Solutions partner, we were able to join the three-year program to grow our Advanced Placement (AP) options for students and give more students access to this rigorous course of study. The NMSI college readiness program assists us in preparing students from 7th to 12th grade for success in college-level AP courses. Teachers receive annual training with follow-up sessions throughout the school year and students attend Saturday study sessions for each AP course they take. The college readiness program with NMSI will be the underlying foundation of our Advanced Studies Academy of Technology, Engineering and the Arts.

We are excited about the progress made throughout the 2019-2020 school year toward the development and implementation of our school-wide instructional program. We look forward to the development and full implementation of its key components. Our learning community believes this will push us forward and allow us to continue to provide our graduates with the world-class skills needed to graduate college and/or career ready as they transition to post-secondary success.