



## **SILVER BLUFF HIGH SCHOOL**

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**BERT POSTELL, PRINCIPAL**

### 2018-2019 Report to Parents

It has been a great year at Silver Bluff High School. Our goals this year were to focus on building a positive culture and climate for our staff and students and increasing academic success. With the help of our school staff, students and supportive community, we have made great progress toward our goals and have created a positive school environment with more community support than ever. In our first year of implementation of the Capturing Kids' Hearts process to improve climate and culture we have seen more than a 30% reduction in classroom disruption.

Our Advanced Studies Academy of Technology, Engineering and the Arts has blossomed. We have more students enrolled in art programs for band and visual arts than we have had in recent years. Our Cyber Patriot teams placed higher this year than our first year in the program and we look forward to more success in 2019-2020. The 2018-2019 school year saw new partnerships for our Advanced Studies Academy of Technology, Engineering and the Arts with Aiken Technical College, Savannah River Nuclear Solutions and the 442<sup>nd</sup> Signal Training Battalion at Fort Gordon. These partnerships have enhanced our academy and brought more resources for the 2019-2020 school year.

Academically, we have also focused on increasing college readiness with the National Math + Science Initiative. With a generous grant from Centera at SRNS, our membership into NMSI has allowed us to increase enrollment in Advanced Placement courses for 2018-2019 and again for 2019-2020. Students and teachers in AP courses have had the opportunity to attend professional development and Saturday study sessions led by NMSI experts. Teachers and students also have the opportunity to receive monetary rewards for earning qualifying scores on the AP exams taken in May.

Athletically, we saw attendance at home football and basketball games soar this year with increased support from the community. We set record attendance during football season and moved into the 2A playoffs. In basketball, our Bulldog Men went deep into the playoffs playing for the Upper State Championship. Several of our track athletes qualified for and competed at the state track finals and two wrestlers made it to Lower State Individuals as well. This school year more than 10 of our student-athletes signed letters of intent to play sports at the collegiate level next school year.

The Bulldogs are looking to the future. We have plans to add courses to our Agriculture program and increase CATE Completers in all areas. Our Advanced Studies Academy of Technology, Engineering and the Arts will grow again for the 2019-2020 school year as we hire an additional visual arts teacher. We are working hard to prepare students for courses of higher academic challenge while continuing to implement the Capturing Kids' Hearts process to enhance our school climate.

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