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## School Achievements

Baxter Thomas, our lead custodian, was named our 2020-21 Support Staff Member of the Year.

Adam Powley, our dual enrollment US History teacher, was named our 2020-21 Teacher of the Year.

Adam Powley advanced to the Top 10 for our district-level Teacher of the Year competition.

Adam Powley was nominated for the National History Day Teacher of the Year Award (Patricia Behring Award).

Will Chappell, our Economics teacher, was recognized as a SC Financial Literacy Master Teacher.

A junior, Emma Carr, won the National Maritime Historical Society Award

Marquis Hemingway, Imunique Herriott, Kelsey McCrackin, Amanda Usher, KayLee Gasque, Jazmine Montgomery, Emma Carr, Nelson Ramos-Ruballos, Carolina Vasquez, Jaedan Higgins, and Keymaura Barrell all advanced to national level for the National History Day Competition.

A senior, Kaya Smith, won the Myrtle Beach Chamber of Commerce Educational Foundation Scholarship.

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## HCS Early College High School SIC Members

### Elected and Appointed Members:

Chair: Martina McKoy, Teacher  
Co-Vice Chair: Ny'Asia Green-McZeke, Student  
Co-Vice Chair: Alyssa Johnson, Student  
Amanda Murphy, Student  
Na'Hari Harris, Student  
Lorelei Rautsaw, Teacher  
Karen Thompson, Teacher  
Kelly Wagner, Teacher  
TyHeia Phillips, Parent  
Eartha Beech, Parent

### Ex-Officio Members:

Demetrius Williams, Principal  
Harry Dietsch, Assistant Principal

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### Purpose of the Report

*"This Report is issued by HCS Early College High 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."*

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## HCS Early College High School

### Annual School Improvement Council "Report to the Parents" 2020-21



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*HCS Early College High School's mission is to provide a small, personalized learning community that accelerates our diverse student population to become responsible citizens who are strong critical thinkers, collaborators, and communicators who can successfully meet and face the challenges of competing in an ever-changing global society.*

## **SIC Annual Goals**

One major goal of SIC this year was to review the five year school improvement plan, which is currently up for renewal. The SIC committee provided insight on items that were no longer relevant and items that needed updating.

With the challenges of COVID, parent nights and student activities took on a different look. One of our goals was to maintain parental involvement. Monthly, our student and parent SIC members continued to update the team on challenges students were facing at home because of the pandemic.

In addition, the SIC members brainstormed creative methods to engage parents in virtual parents nights and incentives for students to participate in school events. One suggestion was to offer incentives for parents who participated, which resulted in an engaging virtual AVID Family Night. Another suggestion by a parent was to give small

tokens like medals as student incentives. As a result, this was given to every freshmen for their commitment on AVID Signing Day, and many wear the medals on their backpacks with pride.

The final annual goal was to support the "Read to Succeed" plan embedded in the School Improvement Plan. One aspect of the plan is to educate parents on effective reading strategies. After brainstorming with SIC members, various topics focusing on literacy in all subject areas were determined for the virtual AVID Family Night held in February 2021. Each presenter received excellent feedback from all parents, students, and community members who attended.

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## **Student Achievement**

The Class of 2021 will graduate with approximately 60% earning an associate's degree or certificate before graduating from high school.

Our EOCEP scores are above district average for both the English 2 and Biology examinations.

The scores from our state career-readiness exam, the WIN test, are the highest in the district.

*"For more information, you may view HCS Early College's "S.C. School Report Card" for the previous school year online at <https://screportcards.ed.sc.gov/overview/?q=T0yMDIwJnQ9SCZzaWQ9MjYwMTA2NA>*

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## **Additional Information**

Our theme for the year is "Reach FAR: Flexible, Adaptable, Resilient." Over the past few months, schools have been presented with unimaginable challenges which require students to be FLEXIBLE, ADAPTABLE, and RESILIENT Learners. Despite the challenges, students will continue to have rigorous, relevant, academic experiences designed to help them build relationships while making real-world connections.

We would love to present ways for you to be involved in the school. The most important role is by continuing to support your student through monitoring grades and encouraging school attendance.

Other Ways to Get Involved:

- Attend AVID Family Nights, so you can learn the best strategies to ensure success for your student.
- Join the School Improvement Council as we would welcome your ideas and contributions on maintaining a Trailblazer Family.
- Follow and like our social media accounts on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter for the latest news. You can also visit our website <[ec.horrycountyschools.net](http://ec.horrycountyschools.net)> for more details.