

SIC REPORT PURPOSE

"This report is issued by the Aiken Scholars Academy School Improvement Council in accordance with the 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"



2024-2025 MEMBERSHIP

Elected Members

Tom Colleran, Parent – Chair
Rineta Sprauve, Parent – Vice-Chair
Colton Payne, Student – Secretary
Ruby Childers, Student
Tasha Levin, Student
Michelle Hughes, Teacher
Ron Johnson, Teacher

Appointed Members

Csaba Suri, Allnex
Hetel Acharekar, Performance Above
Mary Ruth Singer, Novartis Executive Sales Associate
Dr. Tim Lintner – USC Aiken

Ex-Officio Members

Martha Messick, Principal
Cody Goldschmidt, Student Body President - Secretary

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THANK YOU to our partner U of SC Aiken for their continued support!



ANNUAL REPORT TO PARENTS 2025



AIKEN SCHOLARS ACADEMY

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VISION

Our vision is to create a nurturing, supportive, and collaborative learning environment that focuses on growing each student as an individual through a unique, high-quality, and rigorous educational experience immersed in the college atmosphere, preparing Scholars for entrance into an ever-changing and advanced society.

ASA BELIEFS & VALUES

- * Provide a safe, secure, and student-centered learning environment.
- * Build and lift students through the development of a growth mindset, valuing struggle as a natural part of the learning process and essential to their individual growth.
- * Develop a thriving culture by cultivating positive and long-lasting relationships, embracing diversity, communicating effectively, and providing support for the developmental and academic needs of Scholars.
- * Core dispositions necessary for success in college and beyond need to be developed through instruction and reflection throughout the Scholar experience. These core dispositions include beliefs about ability, work habits, motivation, and a "future self."
- * Provide access to meaningful and engaging learning experiences.
- * Promote effective and consistent communication with all Stakeholders.
- * Work cohesively with our school family and local community through meaningful relationships.

SCHOLAR ATTRIBUTES

**SERVICE – CURIOSITY & LIFE-LONG LEARNING – HONOR
OWNERSHIP – LEADERSHIP – ADVOCACY – RESILIENCE**

SIC GOALS

We continue to strengthen the foundation of the school through refinement of the academic program and day-to-day school processes, while maintaining focus on the school's vision. The SIC plays a significant role in examining ways to promote school improvement. In 2024-2025 ASA's SIC discussed improvements aligned directly with the School Renewal Plan, focusing primarily on components of School Climate.

SCHOLAR RECRUITMENT & RETENTION



Goal: Establish a welcoming and supportive environment where we consistently question effectiveness, respond to need, and promote improvement.

Areas of Focus:

1. Improving the ASA experience for current students and emphasizing the value of that experience towards their future.
2. Showing potential students that while the process is difficult, it is worth it in the end.

PROMOTING INTERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

BUILDING COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS



Goal: Expand community partnerships with external business and entities to increase the ASA support base.

Areas of Focus:

1. Providing opportunities for parents to be more involved in the school, along with the school improvement process.
2. Developing opportunities to increase the school's presence in the community and developing lasting relationships with community partners.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

As a school, we also value the experiences and expertise of the community and enjoy having them be a part of our events. Scholars are required to participate in a minimum of 20 hours of documented community service annually.

“Building relationships with and learning how to give back to the community is something that ASA values immensely.”

APRIL 2024-2025 OUTREACH EXPERIENCES

- * Service Hours- At the end of the 23-24 school year, **1984** hours of community service were documented by students.
- * Spooky To Be Hungry – The Beta Club joined delivered collection bags and advertising Harvest Hope’s annual campaign. Scholars also collected nearly **800** non-perishable food items for the campaign.
- * One Table – Scholars joined UofSC Aiken in an event to collect children’s coats for local elementary schools.
- * Most Wonderful Drive of the Year –Student Council sponsored a drive to support Veterans
- * Beta Club volunteered at the Night of 1000 Lights in Downtown Aiken
- * Student Council sponsors an annual Bake Sale at UofSC Aiken.
- * NHS sponsored American Heart Association week, they conducted service project and made a monetary donation
- * ASA hosted its first Blood Drive with Shepphard Community
- * Beta Club conducted a service project to raise money for March of Dimes
- * Gardening, Beta, NHS made Valentines cards for local senior centers
- * NHS put on a “Senior” Prom at a local nursing home
- * Earth Month conducted a clothing swap and highway cleanup.
- * Supporting ACPSD Events+ MORE!

SCHOLAR LIFE

Scholars engaged in many fun activities outside the classroom!

- * Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month, Black History Month, and Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage month with fun activities, programs, and food!
- * Earth Month
- * International Week
- * Mental Health Awareness Month
- * Veterans Day Program
- * Year-long school wide spirit competition, with a school-wide kick-off event
- * Senior Sunrise & Sunset
- * Spirit Weeks, Game Nights, Movie Nights
- * Winter Semi-Formal Dance, Homecoming, Prom
- * Pi Day
- * De-Stress Events before AP testing & USCA Exams
- * School-wide Volleyball, Flag Football, and Kick Ball Games
- * Clubs & Other Organizations include:
 - Academic Team
 - Beta Club
 - Book Club
 - Crochet Club
 - Cyber Patriots
 - Fashion Committee
 - Fine Arts Club
 - Gardening Club
 - Mu Alpha Theta
 - National Honor Society
 - Science Team
 - Student Council
 - Yearbook

SCHOLAR ACHIEVEMENTS

Class of 2024 Data:

- * Graduation Rate- 100%
- * College & Career Readiness- 100%
- * Scholarship Total- \$6,145,268
- * Highest GPA- 5.649; Average GPA- 4.569
- * Valedictorian- Sophia Ready, Salutatorian- Colette Pieters, Sr. Class Speaker- Lukas Willard
- * SC Honors Diplomas- 7
- * AP Capstone Diplomas- 18
- * AP Seminar & Research Certificates- 13
- * AP Scholars- 20, AP Scholars with Distinction- 14, AP Scholars with Honors- 4
- * National Merit Scholarship Recipient- 1
- * Dual Enrollment- 614 courses successfully completed
- * Service Hours reported- 1183
- * ACPSD Senior Scholars- Colette Pieters, Sophia Ready, James Saxon, Haruka Suri

2024 End of Year Academic Data:

- * 97% of total students earned a Qualifying score on AP exams
- * Overall the school had 92% Qualifying scores on ALL AP exams
- * 2024 ACT School Day- Mean 26
- * 2024 SAT School Day- Mean 1186
- * EOC Data 2024- 100% Pass Rate Biology, English 2, US History
- * Eight ASA students participated in Summer Scholars Institute at USC Aiken, a paid internship where they supported and presented faculty research
- * Colette Pieters National Merit Scholarship Winners
- * National Merit Scholarship Program Commended Students- Wyatt Spann



2024-2025 School Year Accomplishments:

- * Academic Team- Ranked 3rd in Aiken County
- * BETA Club inducted 45 new members
- * Cyber Patriots- Semifinal Qualifiers in Platinum Open Division; invited to participate in the Palmetto Cyber Defense Competition
- * Mu Alpha Theta Chapter started
- * NHS inducted 27 new members
- * Junior P2P Course fully implemented
- * Fashion Club conducted Fashion Show at Tri-Development Center
- * Science Team participated in DOE Science Bowl
- * Student Council
 - Cody Goldschmidt SCASC Terry McCoy Hall of Fame Recipient
 - SCASC Gold Council of Honor
 - SCASC School Pride 2nd Place for International Week
 - SCASC Recreation 3rd Place for Reindeer Games
 - Hosted District 3 Rally
- * Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. Black History Bowl- 2nd Place
- * Success Team selected students- Londyn Stroman
- * Junior Leadership Aiken County Participants- Prisha Bhasvar, Penelope Carr, Daniel Colleran, Emily Jacobs, Katie Kirk, Kayla McGahee, Clark Orton, Irelyn Smith
- * 1st Ever Student Accepted into USCA School of Nursing out of High School- Kaylynn Dixon
- * Miss ASA- Breanna Spires, Miss Senior- Rena Humes, Miss Underclassmen- Katahrina Barton
- * 2025 WJBF Scholar Athlete- Rena Humes
- * Jose Hernandez & Irelyn Smith – 2025 Celebration of Character
- * Dr. Anne Poplin – 2025 ASA Teacher of the Year

