

EAST COOPER CENTER FOR ADVANCED STUDIES SIC REPORT

Established in 2014, Launched in 2020

2020-2021



East Cooper Center for Advanced Studies
900 Warrior Way
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29466
(843) 856-5800

The East Cooper Center for Advanced Studies (ECCAS) was designed to bridge the gap between high school and college, providing technical skills and training beyond the high school level. The 3-story, 125,000 square foot academic building features administration areas, science and computer labs, abundant classroom spaces for programs in cosmetology, biomedical science, film, multimedia and visual arts, health science, engineering, horticulture, and EMS technology. Additional facilities include a 6,100 square foot automotive technology building, a greenhouse, and an equipment storage building.

"We want every child to graduate from high school with a viable plan, a realistic plan for what to do next and have the education and skills to do it." Lucy G. Beckham

SIC ANNUAL GOALS

The purpose of the East Cooper Center for Advanced Studies Improvement Council is to:

- (1) Assist in the development, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of the five-year School Improvement Plan (also known as the "School Renewal Plan" or "Strategic Plan").
- (2) Assist in the preparation of yearly plan updates.
- (3) Assist the school in the development and implementation of the School Reading Plan as required by the Read to Succeed Act.
- (4) Develop and prepare the annual *SIC Report to the Parents*, which is to be distributed no later than April 30 of each year.
- (5) Prepare, together with the Principal, the annual narrative for the *SC School Report Card*.
- (6) Provide advice on the use of school incentive award expenditures (if allocated by the legislature and awarded to the school).
- (7) Provide any additional assistance as requested by the Principal or local School Board.

BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS

The ECCAS works closely with a number of different businesses throughout the East Cooper community. So far, the ECCAS has established a working relationship with the following businesses:

- [Dockside Engraving](#)
- [Harris Teeter](#)
- [Kevin Sneed Well Drilling](#)
- [Lowcountry Roots Woodworking](#)
- [Lowe's Foods](#)
- [MUSC](#)
- [Publix](#)

If you are interested in becoming a business or community partner please contact Assistant Principal, Jason Brisini, at jason_brisini@charleston.k12.sc.us



ECCAS SIC PRIMARY CONTACTS

Co-Chair: Alethea Setser
alethea_setser@charleston.k12.sc.us

Co-Chair: Kevin Sneed
james_sneed@charleston.k12.sc.us

Secretary: Tim Wanninger
timothy_wanninger@charleston.k12.sc.us

Principal: Jeffery Blankenship
jeffrey_blankenship@charleston.k12.sc.us

Assistant Principal: Jason Brisini
jason_brisini@charleston.k12.sc.us

Assistant Principal: DeAna Sutler
deana_sutler@charleston.k12.sc.us

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

This report is issued by the East Cooper Center for Advanced Studies 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.

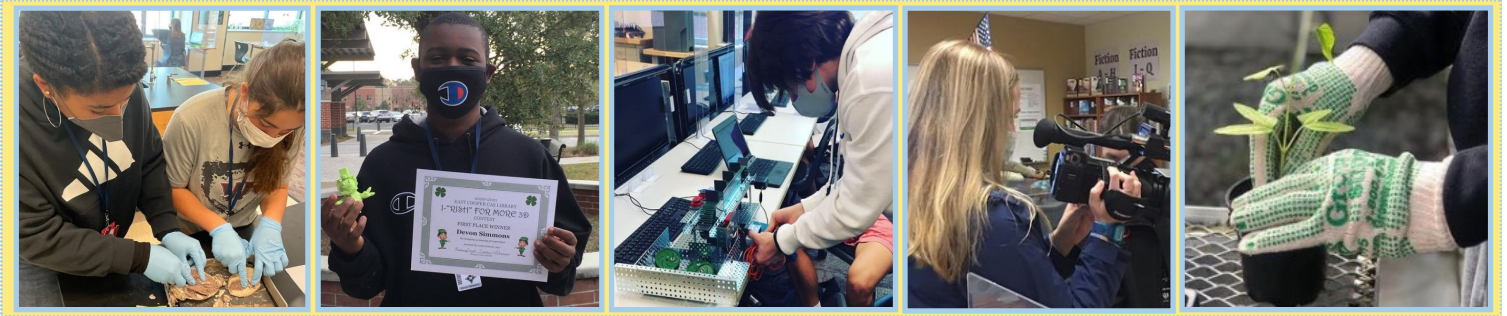


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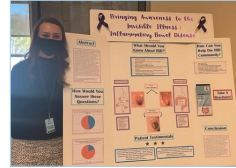
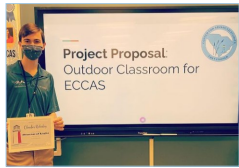
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STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

- The 3859W Astrobots Vex Robotics team for ECCAS won the design award at the state championship in March 2021.
- All 19 of our Auto-Technology completers were tested at the end of the first semester in both ASE Brakes and Maintenance Light Repair. All 19 received certification in one of the two categories, while 13 received certification in both categories.
- Twenty four of our first semester Biomedical Innovations students had a chance to present their Capstone Projects to fellow students and faculty members. In the fourth and final course of the Biomedical Science pathway, the students work on a cumulative Capstone Project designed around their interests.
- Our Engineering Club Design Squad students Charlie Rohaley and Cal Frame, proposed an outdoor classroom to the administration team. The student led Design Squad is now working on the outdoor classroom design and developing a budget. Once the design and budget are approved, the design squad along with the horticulture students will begin building the design.
- Our Civil Engineering & Architecture student worked with our Horticulture students on a cross-curricular project where the Civil Engineering & Architecture students designed the roof-top garden and the Horticulture students are making it come to life by implementing the design.
- The ECCAS has 10 Capstone engineering projects occurring this year which is the largest amount in 1 year (within the past 10 years). Students working in teams of 2 or 3 have determined problems they want to solve, and by the end of the semester will have a working prototype of their solution to their problem.
- The East Cooper Student News program achieved a rating of Superior by the Southern Interscholastic Press Association.
- The Greenhouse Management class has worked tirelessly to revitalize our greenhouse. Students have planted seeds and are currently transplanting, fertilizing, pruning and weeding to produce herbs, vegetables and flowers for this year's plant donation sale
- We have 6 amazing and dedicated students who are working very hard to take photos, video, and conduct interviews to create a virtual tour of the ECCAS. We hope to do this each year and make it even better as we learn about new technology.
- A 3D Student Assembly Team was started and meets each Thursday after school and are currently assembling 3D printers from boxed kits. We hope to be using these printers in our Fab Lab by the end of the year.



TEACHER OF THE YEAR

The East Cooper Center for Advanced Studies is excited to announce Katie Johnston as our very first Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Johnston has taught for eleven years at Wando High School and the ECCAS. Mrs. Johnston attended Auburn University where she received a five year Professional Bachelor's Degree in Architecture. Mrs. Johnston relentlessly pursues innovative approaches to teaching and never settles when it comes to her students' education. When asked about Mrs. Johnston, senior Charlie Rohaley said, "I have never had a teacher who is more excited to come to school each and every day. Mrs. Johnston truly has a passion for teaching. Being a registered architect, she has a lot of knowledge to give her students."

Mrs. Johnston believes hands-on learning is the key to students' investment in their own education, and she sees promise in every student: "Every person is incredibly gifted in some way, and I enjoy having a chance to be a part of their development."



SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS

Grants

Missy Beyel was awarded the Toshiba America Foundations STEM Grant last October for \$4012.00 and purchased a Google Expeditions VR kit (cart included 10 Androids, 10 headsets, and 1 iPad).

Katie Johnston and Missy Beyel co-applied for and received the Bosch BEST Teacher STEM Grant in December for \$1946.00 and were able to purchase 6 - 3D printer build kits and several rolls of filament.

Lisa Luttrell was awarded another BEST Teacher STEM Grant and received \$995.00 in February to purchase 8 Breakout Boxes.

MUSC Partnership

Health Science students at the East Cooper CAS will soon have a chance to explore the medical career pathway as MUSC, ECCAS, Trident, and CCSD's CTE Office work closely together to bring this opportunity to our students. This pre-apprenticeship to apprenticeship program will lead to on-the-job training, compensation, college credit hours, and certification in the field of Sterile Processing.

Christmas Parade

The ECCAS proudly participated in the town of Mount Pleasant's 26th annual Christmas parade. The school was excited to tie for first in the school division.

