

EAST COOPER CENTER FOR ADVANCED STUDIES SIC REPORT

Established in 2014, Launched in 2020

2021-2022



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

The East Cooper Center for Advanced Studies (ECCAS) provides access to high school students from both Lucy Beckham and Wando High Schools. Our school is organized so students may explore future opportunities through 22 different Majors grouped into 17 Programs under 4 Academies. Nearly 1600 students will attend class in the ECCAS this year with the focus of becoming college and career ready. Recognized as a Project Lead the Way (PLTW) Distinguished School in its first year of existence in 2021, the ECCAS will be the only school in the nation to offer all 17 Biomedical Science, Computer Science, and Engineering PLTW courses in 2022. With access to nearly 100 different industry certification exams, students may graduate as licensed Automotive Technicians, Certified Nursing Assistants, Cosmetologists, or Real Estate Agents.

"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:

- [Chick-fil-A North Mount Pleasant](#)
- [Booz|Allen|Hamilton](#)
- [Dockside Engraving](#)
- [Harris Teeter](#)
- [Kevin Sneed Well Drilling](#)
- [Lowcountry Roots Woodworking](#)
- [Loves Foods](#)
- [MUSC](#)
- [Publix](#)
- [Tropical Smoothie The Market at Oakland](#)

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: Jeff 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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STUDENT/ORGANIZATION ACHIEVEMENTS

- Numerous classes and programs throughout the CAS have worked together to attend trainings, in-class field trips, and/or online certification in which over 700 students have obtained industry credentials including: **HIPPA Awareness, OSHA for Healthcare Providers, Bloodborne Pathogens, and BLS & CPR Training, ASE Brakes maintenance and light repair** to name a few.
- Members of the **Pre-Medicine Academy** started the first ever ECCAS **HOSA** chapter. The organization attended the HOSA State Leadership Conference and had two students finish first in their competition category. Five of the ECCAS HOSA chapter members intend on attending this summer's HOSA International Leadership Conference in Nashville, TN.
- **Architecture, Construction and Engineering (ACE)** Mentors have worked with the PLTW Civil Engineering and Architecture students over the course of the spring semester. The mentors have taught a lesson in their field, worked with students on a semester long project, and coordinated two field trips; one to an architecture firm located in downtown Charleston and the other to a local construction site. Students have gained a tremendous amount of insight into the various professions through these experiences!
- **FFA** not only had their chartering ceremony in the spring but they participated in a number of different state-wide events. The organization also held its first ever ECCAS Plant Sale and raised over \$1,800 for the program.
- **PLTW Computer Science** offered three new courses this year including PLTW Computer Science Essentials, PLTW Computer Science Principles and PLTW Computer Science Applications. 100% of the PLTW Computer Science Essentials students passed the EOC earning them dual enrollment credit.
- ECCAS student Jacob Wojtowicz was elected as **DECA Vice President of Career Development** and won. He will lead our school and our state DECA Chapter during the 2022-23 school year.
- ECCAS student Justin Silva was awarded an **Amazon Future Engineer Scholarship** worth \$40,000 and a guaranteed paid internship at Amazon.
- The **Engineering Club Design Squad** built corn hole boards for our school's Marketing Club and are finishing up a bench for our bus stop. A client from Patriots Point who has asked students to design their new ticketing office and gift shop. PLTW Civil Engineering and Architecture and Design Squad students are working on the design work for the client which will be finished by the end of the school year.
- Members of the **ECCAS Engineering Club** submitted an experiment proposal to the Future Engineers NASA TechRise Design Competition. 57 out of 650 proposals. As a selected school the team has been invited to build and test their experiment which will launch in a blue origin suborbital rocket in early 2023, and their prototype will be launched into space in order to run a number of different tests.
- The **VEX Robotics Competition Team 3859W** won Tournament Champion, Robot Skills Champion, and an Excellence Award in the December JPII VRC Tipping Point Warrior Challenge. The team was also ranked number one in South Carolina in skills and will attend VEX Robotics Competition World Tournament in early May.
- The **Future Financial Investors Club** was active from the beginning of the year, with students meeting monthly and presenting on various investment options and strategies, building virtual investment portfolios and competing against each other for fun and bragging rights.
- More than 20 students took steps toward becoming licensed Real Estate agents in our Real Estate class, and there is interest in the program to support a **Real Estate 2** class for the 2022-2023 school year.

TEACHER OF THE YEAR

The ECCAS is excited to announce Missy Beyel as the 2021-2022 Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Beyel was born in Panama but grew up in Salisbury Mills, New York. She attended Clemson University where she received her Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood Education. After several years in the hospitality industry, Mrs. Beyel took a job as the Library Media Clerk for West Ashley High School. After a few years at WAHS her husband took another job in New York where Mrs. Beyel eventually ended up as the PreK-12 Teacher-Librarian at Port Byron School District. It was here where she became "immersed in and truly embraced the STEAM mentality of education."

Depending on the day, you can expect to find a wide variety of events/activities occurring in Mrs. Beyel's Media Center. Some days she may be working with Wando's Career Readiness program which helps exceptional education students develop career and life skills. Other days, Mrs. Beyel may be running a 3-D printer contest or even possibly working with the PAWS for Literacy program which provides therapy dogs in order to promote literacy and reduce anxiety for students. Regardless of the day, you can be assured that Mrs. Beyel is enhancing the lives and education of the students who visit her Media Center! Mrs. Beyel's hard work and dedication make her the perfect choice to represent the ECCAS as our 2021-2022 Teacher of the Year.



SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS

Rookie Teacher of the Year

Allie Maddray was selected as the 2021-2022 Rookie Teacher of the Year for the ECCAS. In her first year, Allie has done an incredible job in the Entrepreneur Academy and has helped to spearhead a number of different projects including the DECA organization and the establishment of a school store.

Grants

Missy Beyel was awarded over \$3,500 from a combination of different grant including Donors Choose, The National Society of High School Scholars, Tanger Outlets, and Walmart at Oakland.

Lisa Luttrell and Chris Sjolander each received the Bosch BEST Teacher STEM Grant in December for \$1946 and were able to update their classroom walls with magnetic dry erase paint.

Community Outreach

Over the holiday season the ECCAS held a number of different charity drives to benefit various local community organizations. The ECCAS FFA Chapter raised over 1,770 lbs of goods that were donated to the East Cooper Community Outreach Center. During the Toys for Tots charity drive the school donated an entire van full of toys for local children.

Christmas Parade

The ECCAS proudly participated in the town of Mount Pleasant's 27th annual Christmas Parade. The school was excited to win first in the school division.

