



Wando High School

Wando School Improvement Council Members

Parents

Thomas Bailey
Toni Bunting
Beth Clark
Debbie Compton
Kate Darby, Chair
Cynthia Hart
Ellen Henderson
Allison Leggett
Pam Murray
Ginger Sottile
Mathilde White
Tammy Wiksell

Students

Jenny Bailey
Christian Blakely
Ross Carey
Toni Cockrell
Edward Douzart
Thomas Henderson
Taylor Ireland
James Leggett
Mariah Logan
Ashley Norman
Audrey Paulling
Eric Wagenlander
Betsy Wallace

Community

Margaret Brown
Yvonne Capers
Beth Darby
Kerry Foy
Tina Garrett
Sue Hensch
Nathan Karpinsky
Joanna Katz
Beth Kerrigan
Paul Kukes
Chris Marino
Ann Muir
Dottie Prevost
Michaela Schmitt
Trisha Spencer
Jean Wall
Joye Wells
Giselle Wrenn

Faculty

Sandra Drayton
Nancy Ferrell
Kay Johnson
Laura Judson
Catherine Lawson
Fred Phillips
Nancy Platt
DiAnna Sox
Sheila Sparks
Emilie Woody

Ex-Officio Members

Lucy Beckham
Katherine Bloder
Jason Brisini
Deb Brown
Shandra Drayton
John Farese
Rebecca Imholz
Mary Whitman

Annual School Report

June 2013

Annual Message from Lucy Beckham, Principal and Kate Darby, School Improvement Council Chair

As one of the highest performing high schools in South Carolina, Wando has received the Palmetto Gold Award for the past eleven years. Although no entrance test is required, Wando consistently proves that a large, public, non-magnet high school serving a diverse population can produce outstanding results.

In recent years, educators from across the United States and from foreign countries have come to Wando to learn more about how a large school maintains a sense of community and helps students remain "connected" to school through the smaller learning communities concept.

Wando High School is a comprehensive school for grades nine through twelve with a diverse student body of more than 3,500 students. More than 25% of our students excel in the visual and performing arts. More than 93% of the 2013 graduating class enrolled in either a two or four year college or university. Wando offers over 250 course selections including Advanced Placement, Dual Credit, Honors, College Preparatory, Applied Technology, and Exceptional Education. The Wando High School Advanced Placement and Dual Credit passage rate continues to be among the highest in the state of South Carolina.

We consider high school graduation an important step for students but not the final goal. Each graduate is expected to leave Wando with a viable plan for his/her future education and career goals. Our students are strongly encouraged to continue their education at the next level.

Wando is a member of the national *High Schools That Work* network. We are committed to continuous improvement and use research-based best practices as our guide.

Our career-related Schools of Study and Ninth Grade Academy provide opportunities for personal connections and help our students see the purpose and relevance of their work here. Through our Schools of Study, students are provided incredible opportunities to explore their skills and talents and refine their college and career goals. Members of the class of 2013 completed 703 majors, four or more elective courses in an area of concentration, and received special recognition at graduation.

Our Ninth Grade Academy provides students an effective transition to high school which begins with a first day experience prior to the start of school for the rest of the student body. Throughout the ninth grade

year, our students are supported as they learn responsibility and make decisions about future plans. Students at all grade levels are assigned faculty advisors who meet with them bi-weekly.

We constantly seek ways to improve instruction and to increase learning opportunities for our students. Our focus areas have been active student engagement, differentiated instruction, technology implementation and standards-based instruction and assessment. Raising the academic bar for all students and providing academic support for those who struggle are crucial to the success of our school.

Our dedicated faculty and staff have spent many hours participating in professional development. Teachers share instructional best practices and work in curriculum teams ensuring quality instruction and assessment in all courses. Faculty collaboration and teamwork are the norm.



We are blessed with a high level of parental and community involvement. Our School Improvement Council and our PTO provide outstanding leadership and support as well as helping provide the future direction of our school. Improving communication with parents and the community is a common goal. Our various booster clubs and the School of Study Advisory Boards are also vital to our school's success. We appreciate their support and continued involvement.

Wando High School Mission Statement

The mission of Wando High School, in partnership with parents and community, is to educate all students by providing a challenging program of study, to encourage lifelong academic and applied learning, and to graduate students prepared to meet the challenge of a rapidly changing and diverse global society.



Wando DECA is the largest DECA chapter in South Carolina with 236 students and was recognized as an outstanding chapter for 2012-2013.

DECA prepares emerging leaders and entrepreneurs in marketing, finance, hospitality and management in high schools and colleges around the globe. Wando DECA gives back to the community by raising funds for various community agencies in the area.

Twenty-six Wando students joined over 13,000 students at the International Career and Development Conference where Wando was honored with a gold certification for The Warrior Shop.

Additionally, one Wando senior won an International Award for Accounting.



Wando High School

Initiatives and Strategies for School Improvement

Initiatives

- Our Ninth Grade Academy houses our freshmen in a "school within a school" where they take core courses. This smaller environment gives ninth graders the opportunity to build relationships and to increase their sense of community.
- Our Smaller Learning Communities Initiative provides a reorganization of the Upper School, grades 10-12, into four smaller career-related "Schools of Study." We believe using a career-related school approach to teaching and learning will help students see the relevance of their coursework and its connection to the future.
- Wando works within the *High Schools That Work* Alliance, a whole-school research-based reform effort. The *HSTW* model focuses on continuous school improvement through key practices

including high expectations, allowing room in the curriculum for career and technical studies, increasing access to academic studies, offering students a challenging program of study, allowing opportunities for work-based learning, supporting collaboration between teachers, actively engaging students in their learning, providing a guidance and advisement system, utilizing a program for extra help and using assessment and data to foster continuous improvement.

Strategies

- Raise the graduation rate by establishing an intervention team offering academic/transition support.
- Expand the Golden Warrior Student Recognition and Awards Program.
- Expand Advanced Placement participation and support.
- Expand the use of data to differen-

tiate instruction.

- Expand CTE, Dual Credit, and Fine Arts courses to meet students' needs and interests.
- Expand on-line learning opportunities for credit recovery and initial credit.
- Provide direct instruction in reading for students who read significantly below grade level via new courses.
- Provide professional development on building positive, productive relationships with students.
- Increase opportunities for entry level workforce credentials and certifications for our graduates.
- Provide professional development on Common Core implementation project-based learning.
- Expand transition and inclusion support for Exceptional Education students.

School Highlights: Academics

- The Senior Class of 2013 earned over \$21 million in scholarships.
- Five Wando seniors were named National Merit Finalists.
- The 2012 AP Scholars from Wando were announced in November. There were 191 scholars with an average score of 4. AP Scholar was granted to 87 students, meaning they received scores of 3 or higher on three or more AP Exams. AP Scholar with Honor was granted to

47 students, meaning they received an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP exams taken and scores of at least 3 on four or more of these exams. AP Scholar with Distinction was granted to 57 students who received an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP exams taken and scores of at least 3 on 5 or more exams.

- Three senior students have been accepted to U. S. Military Academies.

- Students from 47 public schools throughout the tri-county area battled for top honors at the 27th Annual Quest Academic Competition. Overall awards were given to 14 schools. At Level IV, Wando High School placed second.
- The Academic Quiz Bowl won first place in Charleston County, second place in the State Tournament and is headed to the National Tournament.

School Highlights: Communications and Fine Arts

- The *Tribe Talk* staff won six awards for their video entries in the Carry-In Contest Categories at the Southern Interscholastic Press Association Convention. Additionally, their broadcast earned an All-Southern rating (the highest) and were runners-up for the Scroggins Award which is the highest honor at the convention.
- The 2012 *Legend*, our yearbook, received the following honors: Gold Medal rating from the Columbia Scholastic Press Association; Superior Rating from the S. C. Scholastic Press Association; Superior Rating from the Southern Interscholastic Press Association; and a First Class Rating with a Mark of Distinction from the National Scholastic Press Association; and, Jostens Look Book.
- The *Tribal Tribune* won Best in the State of South Carolina from the

Southern Interscholastic Press Association, making it the 12th out of 13 years that the newspaper has won this award.

- Thirty-one theatre students attended the S. C. Speech and Theatre Association Competition. Thirteen individuals and/or groups competed with ten making it to the finals round. Five came home with trophies.
- The Wando Chamber Orchestra performed at the S. C. Music Educators Association Concert Festival and earned a superior rating - only one point away from a perfect score. Twenty students were named to All-State Orchestra.
- Four Wando choirs competed at the S. C. State Choral Festival and all received superior ratings. Fifty-seven students made All-State Chorus.

- For the eighth straight year, the Wando High School Marching Band was named South Carolina State 5A Champion. Wando had more students make All-State band than any other high school in South Carolina. Sixty-five band students made All-State Band and 82 made region band. Five students were named to All-State Jazz Band.
- Twenty-one visual arts students received awards at the S. C. Scholastic Art Competition including five Silver Key Awards and eight Gold Key Awards. In addition, seven students participated in the High School Seniors Art Exhibit sponsored by First Federal and the Charleston Artist Guild. Competing with students from all over the Tri-County area, they won seven of the 13 awards given.

School Highlights: Athletics and Activities



Wando High School finished second in the standings for the South Carolina Athletic Administrators Association Director's Cup for Class AAAA.

- In Athletics, 22 out of 22 varsity teams qualified for the playoffs.
- Four State Championships were won in:
 - Girls Swimming
 - Boys Swimming
 - Boys Lacrosse
 - Girls Soccer
- Wando won two Lower State Championships:
 - Girls Soccer
 - Boys Lacrosse
- 15 Region Championships were won in:

Girls Swimming	Softball
Boys Swimming	Girls Soccer
Volleyball	Boys Soccer
Football	Girls Track
Boys Cross Country	Boys Track
Girls Cross Country	Boys Golf
Girls Tennis	Boys Tennis
Wrestling	
- 75 athletes were recognized as Scholar Athletes by the South Carolina High School League.
- 81 Wando athletes were named to All Region Teams.
- 25 student athletes signed college scholarships.
- 17 student athletes were selected for State All Star Games.
- The Mock Trial "Red Team" won the Regional Competition.
- Wando's Student Council was recognized for the fourth year in a row as a National Gold Council of Excellence by the National Association of Student Councils. This national recognition is the highest honor a Student Council can obtain.
- A senior Wando student was named the 2012 South Carolina Entrepreneur of the Year and the Global Young Entrepreneur of 2013.
- At the FCCLA State Conference, two Wando students placed first in their events. They will attend the National FCCLA Conference in the summer.
- The HOSA Club won multiple scholarships and awards at the S. C. HOSA Conference. Four Wando students applied for scholarships and all four received scholarships ranging in value from \$250 - \$1000. One team of students won first place in the CPR/First Aid Team Event.
- Two Wildlife Teams from Wando entered the Natural Knowledge Challenge and took first and second



place. This event is designed to challenge students' knowledge of the natural resources around them.

- Wando High School's 12th annual Job Fair, sponsored by the Student Improvement Council, was a collaborative community effort that left everyone smiling. Thirty-three businesses came seeking part-time and summer employees; hundreds of students came to find a job. According to employer evaluations, between 175-215 positions were expected to be filled as a result of this year's job fair.
- The Rookie Wando FIRST Robotics Competition Team took second place at the South Carolina Robotics Invitational Workshop Robotics Challenge.
- A team of three Wando students won the South Carolina IED Design Competition.
- The Wando Cyber Defense Team won first place in the Palmetto Cyber Defense Competition and then participated in picoCTF and finished in the top 8% out of 2,000 teams from across the country.
- Our Horticulture Program received GAP (Good Agricultural Practices) certification. GAP Programs may sell produce to school cafeterias.



School Highlights: Faculty and Staff Honors

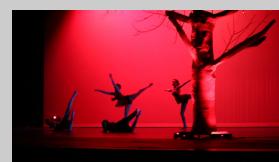
- Volleyball coach Alexis Glover has been selected for induction into the South Carolina Athletic Coaches Association Hall of Fame for 2013. Additionally, she is now the winningest volleyball coach in South Carolina history with 745 wins.
- Jason Sox, science teacher, was awarded the Most Outstanding Science and Mathematics Education Award for the Masters Degree Program at the College of Charleston.
- Allyson Brown was named Wando's Teacher of the Year and Dayna Kreider was named Rookie Teacher of the Year.
- Ashley Webb is this year's recipient of the Mary Whyte Art Educator Award. This award is designed to highlight a high school visual arts teacher in South Carolina who has demonstrated superior commitment to their students and to their craft.
- Congratulations to Christine Kowert who has been awarded a scholarship to study Shakespeare and his works at the Globe Theatre in London this summer.
- DeAna Sutler, anatomy teacher and Ruth Truluck, biology teacher, received the *Project Lead The Way* official teacher certification for the state of South Carolina.
- The following coaches were named Region 7AAAA Coach of the Year: Jimmy Noonan (Football), Alexis Glover (Volleyball), Allyson Brown (Girls Swimming), Winde Ellenberg (Boys Tennis), Jerry Lloyd (Boys Golf), Marie Domin (Girls Cross Country and Girls Track), Bret Davis (Boys Cross Country), Kevin Shiver (Boys Track), and Adam Schneider (Wrestling).
- Mickey Hunter was named Head Coach of the South Carolina Girls Team at the Carolinas All-Star Basketball Classic.
- Jimmy Noonan was named Coach of the South Carolina Football Coaches Palmetto Champions Team.
- Grant winners this year are: Katherine Donohoe - \$2,000 Whole Foods Garden Grant; Mary Catherine Peebles and Ashley Webb - \$18,000 Arts in Basic Curriculum Grant; Kirk Beilke - \$13,000 and \$11,500 Perkins and Laura Brown Funds; Allyson Brown - \$800 from the Intertech Group Foundation; and Ashley Webb - \$2,000 Target.



*We dance for laughter,
We dance for tears,*



We dance for madness,



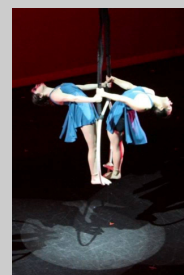
We dance for tears,



We dance for hopes,



We dance for screams,



*We are the dancers,
We create the dreams.*

Annual School Report



Wando High School

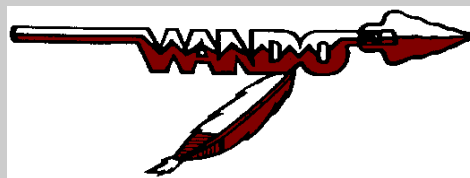
1000 Warrior Way
Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29466

Phone: 843.881.8200
Fax: 843.849.2890
www.wandohigh.com

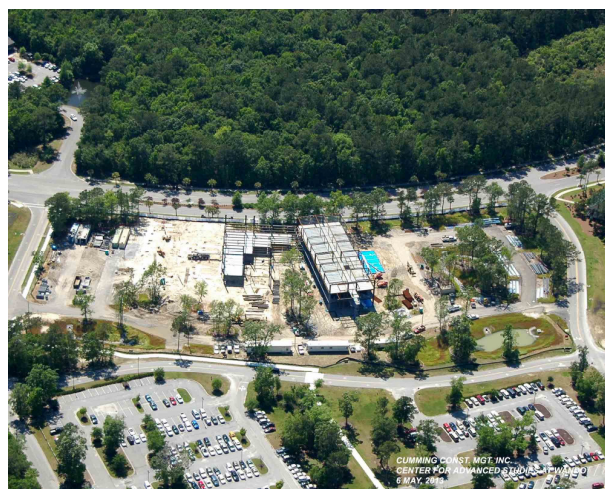
The Wando School Improvement Council meets monthly to plan, monitor, and evaluate improvements at the school level. Their work includes school planning as well as communication between students, teachers, parents, and the school administration.

Our PTSO serves as our primary fundraising group for school-wide projects and is the group that organizes and assigns volunteers, works on beautification, supports school celebrations and recognitions, and provides activities for faculty and staff appreciation and support. Our PTSO is a 501.c(3) charitable organization.

The Wando Family would like to salute our SIC, PTSO, Booster Clubs, parent volunteers, community supporters, and the Town of Mount Pleasant for their continuing support. We would also like to thank the Charleston County School District Board of Trustees, the Charleston County School District staff, and the Moultrie District 2 Constituent Board for their assistance.



Center for Advanced Studies at Wando



Construction of the Center for Advanced Studies at Wando, which is located adjacent to our campus, began during the 2012-2013 school year. This facility will provide space for cutting-edge career and technology course offerings as well as additional classrooms and science labs. Completion of the project is scheduled for 2014.