

North Augusta High School

Parent Report 2020-2021



Mission

Our mission is to engage ALL students in the world class knowledge and skills needed to successfully realize their post-secondary goals through the development and implementation of relevant college and career readiness pathways.

NAHS is a comprehensive four-year high school with a diverse population of over 1,500 students. Accredited through the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, NAHS is a member of the *High Schools That Work* Alliance, a whole school research-based reform effort.

Academics

NAHS has increased the number of qualifying scores on AP exams by more than 160% in the last four years – from 136 qualifying scores in 2016 to 362 in the 2020 school year. NAHS looks forward to continuing this trend during the 2021 school year and beyond as we have over 500 AP students enrolled in at least one AP class.

The faculty at NAHS is committed to continuous improvement using data and research-based practices to guide instruction.

As an academic organization, we believe:

- Our teaching should evoke curiosity and global awareness from students.
- Our speech and actions towards students and each other should come from a place of empathy.
- Our philosophies should involve a dedication to increasing students' sense of social awareness and social responsibility.
- Our practice should value both college and career paths and celebrate them equally.

Although classroom learning is vital, experiential learning through internships, research and service learning enhances the academic setting and brings lasting knowledge.

NAHS ensures that all students graduating are college and career ready by offering college and career assessments to all 3rd year students. The emphasis on college readiness assessments can be seen in student scholarship earnings in excess of \$10 million dollars for the class of 2020. NAHS is also proud to have two 2021 graduates recognized as National Merit Scholarship Nominees.

2020-2021 Academic Data

- Over 30% of student body enrolled in AP courses
- 166% increase in qualifying AP scores between 2016-2020
- 100% of 2020 graduates had post-secondary placements in college acceptance, military, or career placements
- Over 90% of 2020 graduates were accepted to a two- or four-year college

Athletics

Wrestling:

Region tournament; 1st place, Nick Moore and Joseph Jordan. 2nd place, Day'lyn McKinnis David Havasy, Emmanuel Coulibaly.

Ten wrestlers advanced to Lower State Championships.

State championships; 1st place, Day'Lyn McKinnis and Tabatha Soverns. 3rd place, Anagabriela Ayala.

Cross Country

Boys finished 2nd in the Region V AAAA meet

Girls finished 4th in the Region V AAAA meet

Girls tennis

All Aiken Standard Team – Ansley Hooks, Bailey McNair

2nd in Region V AAAA

Competed in Region 5-AAAA Playoffs

Football

5-2 record, undefeated record (4-0) in region play

Region Champion

Elite 8 Playoff Participant

All Aiken Standard Team – Austin Harrell, Grayson Bridgers, Joe DeLaughter, Bryson Mealing, Donifon Brown, Matt Baskett, 10 All-Area Aiken Standard recipients

All-State Performers – Joe Delaughter (SCHSL-4A) Austin Harrell, Donifon Brown, Matt Baskett (HSSR)

10 All-Region selections. (Offensive POY Austin Harrell and Overall POY Tae Boyd)

5 All-Area Augusta Chronicle recipients, 2 CSRA Athlete recipients, 6 Border Bowl selections

Coach Jim Bob Bryant named Region Coach of the Year

3 Collegiate Signings; Sewanee University and Benedict College

JV undefeated, Region Champion

Clay Target Team

Carson Jones placed 19th in the State at the SC DNR Senior Sporting Clays Championship

Carson Jones and Evan Waldhauser were top performers at the SC DNR Virtual Skeet Open

Volleyball

All State AAAA Team – Shelby Smith

Participated in annual *Spike Out Cancer* night

Girls Soccer

After a shortened 2019-2020 season, Girls soccer is back on the field in 2021, currently 4-5 overall

Baseball

After a shortened 2019-2020 season, baseball is off to a great start in 2020, currently 7-3 overall and currently in 1st place (4-1) in AAAA Region 5

Competed in the High School Showcase game at SRP Park against Midland Valley, winning 13 to 3

Boys Soccer

After a shortened 2019-2020 season, Boys soccer is off to a great start in 2021, currently 11-1 overall and currently in 1st place (6-0) in AAAA Region 5

Softball

Softball started the season 16-2 overall, with a 5-0 region record.

Tori Pinner signed with Augusta University

Swimming

Madden Bell was named Aiken Standard Swimmer of the Year (50 Freestyle,) finished in 2nd place (50 Free) at the SC State Swim Meet

Max Hooper was named the Aiken Standard Swimmer of the Year (50 Backstroke) and won the 2020 Coaches award

All Region Girls Relay; Allie Satterfield, Haley Winburn, Olivia Dicks, Katie Swann

All Region Boys Relay; Drew Pond, Madden Bell, Max Hooper, Travis Brown

Joseph Lykins and Sofia Kryshalowych were named Most Improved Swimmers, Drew Pond received the Bobby Kotz Character Award

Girls Golf

2020 Region V AAAA Champion

All-Aiken Standard Team, All-Region – Cassidy Fortson

Boys Golf

Boys golf got off to a hot start, ranked #3 in the State. The team finished 2nd in the Battle of the Dam tournament in Columbia. Mitchell McNeill won medalist against Midland Valley in match play.

Boys Basketball

9-7 Overall, 5-3 in League Play

Finished season on a four-game win streak

AAAA All State Basketball Team - Colin Rodrigues

Fishing

Finished 19th out of 95 teams in the Fisher and Hart Win Bassmaster High School Tournament on Lake Hartwell

Girls Basketball

15-2 Overall Record

Undefeated (8-0) in Region Play

Region Champion, 1st round playoff winner

AAAA State Player of the Year – Kiana Lee

2020 She Got Next Tournament MVP – Kiana Lee

Two students signed collegiate intent letters, Kiana Lee and Alexis Meriweather

Archery

Ethan Todd signed with Emmanuel College

Cheerleading

2021 Captain Jaelynn Curry and Kendra Sterling

Fine Arts

In 2020, the AP Studio Arts classes achieved a 100% pass rate on the National College Board exams and enrollment in the program continues to grow.

National Art Honor Society began offering a \$500 scholarship to a qualified student who will be entering an arts-related career.

The Visual Arts program continues to expand with the acquisition of two new full-time teaching positions which will incorporate digital and media arts and photography.

National Art Honor Society continues to be active in the North Augusta community, partnering with the Arts and Heritage Center for art shows and community service projects.

The musical arts programs at NAHS have had a tremendous year, despite the challenges of COVID-19. With the implementation of various safety protocols, our students were able to resume playing and singing at their characteristically high level. Our NAHS Choirs saw the origins of a new all-male ensemble, the Jacket Gents. This group is comprised of male students in all grades and participated in the production of our school's Black History Month Video. Our choirs also had four students earn places in the SC All-State Chorus.

The Orchestra program saw growth in numbers and musical excellence during a year of unique circumstances. The Orchestra held exceptional performances in the Winter and Spring, and participated in the Garcia All-County Orchestra Clinic hosted at North Augusta High School in the Spring. The Jacket Regiment entertained fans in The Jackets Nest at our home football games. Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band presented Winter and Spring performances.

Twenty-nine members were named to All-Region Band and one student earned All-State Status. North Augusta Fine Arts are thrilled to be holding classes in our new complex that also has a Piano Lab and Music Theory Classroom.

Mr. Christopher Leysath, Director of Choirs, was featured in a published article by Dr. Jeffrey Allen Murdock.

Community Service

North Augusta High School students and faculty have donated thousands of dollars and thousands of service hours helping those in need within our community. NJROTC has spent over 1,500 hours completing activities throughout our community including Wreaths across America, parking services for various activities and color guard performances.

Our Culinary clubs have provided luncheons for various community associations including the Aiken County School Board and serving faculty and staff at employee luncheons. In a year with more need than ever, Teacher Cadet organized donations from students, staff, community and alumni to enable over forty local children to enjoy a gift-filled Christmas. Our Interact and Environmental Clubs have conducted year-long school-wide recycling projects.

NAHS faculty and staff continued their long-standing tradition of contributions to the United Way, with a 29% increase in total contributions from 2019-2020. Varsity and Junior Varsity athletes from multiple sports participated in litter pickup and roadside beautification projects in March and April, helping to collect over 500 pounds of trash and debris from community roads and thoroughfares. Varsity and Junior Varsity volleyball teams participated in the annual *Spike Out Cancer* fight night, promoting cancer awareness and

funding for research. NAHS FBLA organized a two-day blood drive in October in conjunction with Sheppard Blood Center, with over 60 students donating. Another blood drive in conjunction with the American Red Cross is scheduled to take place in late April.

NAVY JROTC

The NAHS NJROTC unit earned the rating of distinguished unit in 2020 as one of the top NJROTC units in North and South Carolina. The unit conducted their Annual Military Inspection on 9 December 2020 with a guest inspector from Fort Gordon. The cadets performed a uniform inspection, drill demonstration, space inspections and presentations, and a unit leadership briefing. They earned the highest marks with an inspection rating of outstanding.

The NJROTC Academic Team competed throughout the 2020-2021 school year and competed in the Area 6 regional competition placing 2nd overall from 67 schools. This earned them the invitation to the Navy NJROTC Brain Brawl Nationals that will be held in May, competing against the other top 23 schools in the nation. Trey Beck, Andrew Aldrich, Ben Delgado, and Kylan Osgood represented the team in the Brain Brawl competition.

The NJROTC rifle team competed in the Aiken County Rifle League Area 6 Regional Match, and Navy JROTC postal. The team placed 1st overall in the Aiken County League Championship, and 10th overall out of 30 teams during the regional competition.

In addition to numerous football, basketball, and soccer games, the NJROTC color guard presented colors at the SRP park for the North Augusta vs. Midland Valley baseball game in April 2021.

Despite the restrictions of COVID, the NJROTC unit was able to achieve a high level of community service around the school and community earning 1,566 service hours this year. This also included participating in the Wreaths Across America event in December.

BETA CLUB

Students participated in the 2021 SC Beta Convention; Molly Lindsey, 1st place agricultural science. Kadence Adams, 2nd place mathematics. Madison Noyce, 2nd place poetry. Jeffrey Moody, 3rd place science. Emma Grace Leopard, 3rd place painting. Meaghan Wilson, 3rd place woodworking.

Savannah Padgett was named as a semifinalist in the National Beta Scholarship program, placing in the top 100 of over 2,700 applicants.

STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

Palmetto Boys State selections – Noah Lindler, Jeffrey Moody, Andrew Towner

Palmetto Girls State selections – Kadence Adams, Harlee Bryan, Abigail Goforth, Lia Murphy

Student 2 Student, a Military Child Education Coalition initiative, participated in various activities highlighting the unique challenges of military families and students in the educational environment. S2S members participated in a virtual meeting with First Lady Jill Biden. Students Kaylie Lewis, Trey Newton, Emil Ayala, and Alexis Hutchinson also completed a competitive project for the Frances Hesselbein Student Leadership Program

NAHS FBLA

The NAHS FBLA chapter participated in the annual State Conference, with thirteen students earning 1st place awards in various categories. Business partner Kayla Dunbar Corley from Sheppard Community Blood Center was also named SCFBLA *Businessperson of the Year*. The NAHS FBLA chapter was once again named *Most Outstanding Chapter*, while participating in numerous service and community projects.

School Goals

As part of the school's continuous improvement plan, NAHS set the following goals for 2020-2021:

- Increase leadership, project development, and participation opportunities for students.
- Monitor and support student and staff morale during the uncertainty of the pandemic.
- Encourage fellowship and interaction to provide a sense of normalcy while respecting the realities and limitations of the ongoing pandemic.

School Facilities

Construction of the new performing arts, athletic training and gymnasium area was completed. The new gymnasium area is comprised of a walking track, practice court, concessions stand, and atrium area. Demolition of the old gymnasium is currently underway and will house a band practice field in the future.

The performing arts area opened with state-of-the-art performance rooms for band, chorus, and orchestra students, as well as a dedicated piano lab for instruction.

SIC Membership

Parents:

Dara Dixon

Ashley Fortson

Kim Butler

Community Members:

Brad Siverhus

Dena Thomas

Faculty:

Amanda Wilson

Travis Spears

Students:

Bella Waters

Lily Butler

The SIC holds monthly meetings which are open to the public. If you are interested in serving on the SIC, please contact school principal John Murphy.

NAHS greatly appreciates the support of our community in creating an educational experience of excellence for our students. Suggestions for improvement of our school program are welcome.