

# WEST ASHLEY

## HIGH SCHOOL

2025-2026

WE ARE WEST ASHLEY.

### SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL REPORT TO THE PARENTS

As the proud neighborhood high school for over 2,000 students in Grades 9-12, West Ashley High School reflects the diverse spirit of the West Ashley community. Built from the historic merger of Middleton and Saint Andrews High Schools, we honor a legacy of rich traditions and deep-rooted community ties. We are defined by a steadfast commitment to student achievement, preparing every Wildcat to lead with purpose and find success in their chosen path. Our dedicated faculty and staff focus on providing students with the essential skills and career characteristics needed to become adaptable learners, ready to navigate a dynamically changing world.

We empower our students through diverse curricula and a wealth of extracurricular opportunities, providing clear pathways for growth. This commitment to excellence is reflected in our "Excellent" rating on the South Carolina School Report Card and the highest graduation rate in our school's history. We strive to provide a welcoming and inclusive environment where our Wildcats find their place and a deep sense of belonging within our building. We see the diversity of our students as a true strength that makes life in our community richer every day. Our continued focus on building well-rounded individuals shines through a deep educational experience that extends far beyond the classroom walls.

### OUR MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of West Ashley High School is to encourage, educate, and empower every student to become a confident, self-directed, lifelong learner who values diversity and possesses the tools for academic, social, and personal achievement.

### WHAT WE OFFER

#### RIGOROUS ACADEMICS

We provide an elite academic experience, featuring competitive programs that challenge students to excel in their chosen paths. Our dedicated faculty, extensive course offerings, and our partnership with the West Ashley Center for Advanced Studies create an engaging environment with high-interest opportunities that ensure every student is prepared for success after graduation.

- **Extensive Course Catalog:** Over 200 course options, including 30+ AP and Dual-Enrollment offerings, designed to challenge every academic interest.
- **Premier Academic Pathways:** Opportunities for competitive, elite programs such as our Scholars Academy and our forthcoming AP Capstone Diploma Program.
- **Career & Technical Education (CTE):** More than 14 CTE majors providing practical skills and pathways to the workforce.
- **Distinguished Arts & Performance:** 6 distinct programs that allow students to explore their creativity and talent.
- **World Language Opportunities:** Numerous program offerings that promote global communication and understanding.
- **Industry Certifications (in partnership with CAS):** Offerings ranging from Mechatronics and Auto Tech to Welding.

**More than just a school. It's where student potential meets opportunity, building a legacy of success & lasting relationships.**



#### COMPETITIVE ATHLETICS

Our AAAAAA athletic program is built on a deep-rooted tradition of excellence and a relentless competitive spirit. As home to numerous region and state championships, we prioritize the development of the student-athlete, cultivating individuals who embody leadership, discipline, and grit. Being a Wildcat means upholding a championship-caliber legacy while mastering the academic and athletic rigor necessary to succeed at the highest levels.

### CLUBS & ACTIVITY GROUPS

Beyond the classroom, students explore their passions through over 25 clubs and organizations, including Student Government, Robotics, and Chess Club. We provide extensive community service through our PACK program, alongside leadership hubs like DECA and the National Honor Society. From Bass Fishing to Art and Music, every student can find their niche and make a local impact.



WHAT IS FLEX MOD?

Our innovative "Flex Mod" schedule provides students the opportunity to navigate personalized learning paths while receiving structured and targeted supports. By blending extensive and traditional supports with daily flexibility, we ensure these resources are accessible to all students through 1-on-1 teacher assistance and dedicated intervention spaces. Now in our third year, we continue to refine this approach, remaining anchored by PACK as our constant to ensure every student is supported, connected, and equipped for academic acceleration.

#### FLEXIBLE SCHEDULING

### SCHOOL INFORMATION

**SCHOOL REPORT CARD RATING:** EXCELLENT  
**STUDENT ENROLLMENT:** 2069  
**GRADUATION RATE:** 91.2%  
**SCHOLARSHIP MONEY EARNED:** \$4,772,940.00

#### ENROLLMENT DEMOGRAPHICS:

**WHITE:** 47%  
**AFRICAN AMERICAN/BLACK:** 34%  
**HISPANIC/LATINO:** 11%  
**OTHER:** 8%



#### ADMINISTRATION

**PRINCIPAL**  
Andy Brandt

**ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL**  
Joshua Sherman

**ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS**  
Monique Cunin  
Danielle Dates  
Mikkail Jenkins  
Nathaniel Pearson  
Tristan Robinson  
Shannon Turner

**Director of School Counseling**  
Kristan Willis

**Athletic Director**  
Doug O'Donald

**Campus Security Director**  
Clyde King



## NOTABLE SCHOOL & STUDENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- "Excellent" rating earned on the SC School Report Card, representing the highest state distinction for school performance.
- Highest graduation rate in school history at 91.2%.
- Historic first-time recognition on the College Board AP School Honor Roll.
- District leader in advanced coursework, offering the most expansive selection of Honors, AP, and Dual Enrollment courses for the 2025-2026 school year.
- Scholars Academy SY26 cohort achievement: 200+ university credits earned and nine students named to the President's or Dean's List within the first semester of the 2025-2026 school year.
- Class of 2025 National Honor Society seniors maintaining a 4.35 GPA with 3,000 community service hours.
- 141 Class of 2025 graduating seniors achieving professional CTE completer status.
- Mr. Bradley Blake, WAHS 2025-2026 Teacher of the Year, honored as a CCSD Teacher of the Year Top 5 Finalist—marking the third consecutive year a WAHS teacher has achieved this distinction.
- Thousands of dollars raised and countless community service hours contributed through student-led Passion and Advocacy Projects developed within PACK classes.
- Impactful community engagement through the highest number of events hosted to date, including the expansion of the annual Wildcat Trunk or Treat, the inaugural Holiday Tree Lighting, and record-breaking participation for the Class of 2029 Freshmen Orientation.
- West Ashley High School website honored with "Best in Show" and a Reward for Excellence at the 2025-2026 SCNSPRA Rewards.
- Record-setting Athletic Department history with the highest number of regional championships and scholarships earned by the Class of 2026.
- Superior with Distinction for Band at the SCBDA Concert Performance Assessment—the first time in over a decade.
- SCMEA Outstanding Program Award recipient for the West Ashley Chorus.
- Superior with Distinction rating at the SCMEA State Performance Assessment for Chorus.
- First-ever participation and Superior ratings at the SCMEA Fall Piano Festival.
- Debut of the first student-written play and record-breaking attendance for the Spring Musical.

## KEY INITIATIVES AND STRATEGIC APPROACHES FOR IMPROVEMENT

### IMPROVE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

#### 1 TARGETED MONITORING & INTERVENTIONS



Student progress is monitored every 4.5 weeks to identify candidates for SLT enrollment and provide targeted assistance until academic milestones are reached, with plans to scale the Graduation Acceleration Program (GAP) to provide specialized counseling and weekly monitoring for students requiring non-traditional frameworks.

#### 2 EXPANSION OF ADVANCED PATHWAYS



Access to Honors, AP, and Dual Enrollment has increased through curriculum interest fairs and focused promotion within PACK classes, which is being followed by strengthened collaborative, data-driven professional learning for staff to refine instructional strategies and maintain high academic expectations.

#### 3 PROACTIVE PROGRAM GROWTH



High-rigor opportunities continue to expand through community informational nights and prospective family sessions including the AP Summer Bootcamp, AP/Dual Enrollment Information Night, West Ashley Spotlight, and the launch of the AP Capstone Diplom program. These initiatives ensure neighborhood students can access elite academic rigor and more course offerings than magnet programs without leaving their community.

#### 4 ATTENDANCE-ACADEMIC CORRELATION



Real-time attendance monitoring is being integrated into the academic support framework to directly correlate daily presence with SLT needs, ensuring that students with chronic absences receive immediate tiered interventions to prevent learning gaps and credit loss.

### IMPROVE STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

#### 1 COMPREHENSIVE TIER 1 SUPPORT



The PBIS framework reinforces the PACK rubric of Personal Responsibility, Advocacy, Collaboration, and Kindness through a multi-layered recognition system. This includes earning Cat Coins for daily positive behaviors, redeeming Cat Shack coupons for rewards, and celebrating standout student contributions through Student of the Week and Student of the Month spotlights.

#### 2 RECORD-SETTING TIER 2 SUPPORTS



The Student Support Team offered the highest number of small-group opportunities in school history including a Hispanic mentorship group with the Charleston Police Department, grief groups, social skills groups, and a men's leadership group, and continues growing these specialized supports based on emerging student needs.

#### 3 INCLUSIVE STUDENT VOICE & MENTORSHIP



Student dialogue circles celebrate student growth within the PACK values, while vertical peer mentorship programs within credit-bearing PACK classes are expanding to create a supportive environment where students take ownership of their collective school experience.

#### 4 INCENTIVIZED PRESENCE INITIATIVES



New school-wide attendance challenges are launching to highlight student consistency through public recognition and school-wide shout-outs. Starting next year, this will expand to include larger-scale quarterly opportunities to recognize success and provide targeted rewards that build a peer culture where being "on time and on task" is viewed as a primary act of Personal Responsibility.

### ENHANCE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

#### 1 AWARD-WINNING COMMUNICATION



After earning "Best in Show" for the school website and streamlining school-to-home communication through newsletters and social media, the "West Ashley Spotlight" is expanding to showcase student success and program opportunities to Wildcat families, as well as future Wildcat families and community stakeholders.

#### 2 STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP & GROWTH



Our PTSO continues to be a driving force in school involvement by actively supporting teachers and students as key sponsors for community events, while the School Improvement Council (SIC) strengthens its role in school governance, and new partnerships through the LOCAL program provide essential resources for the building.

#### 3 COMMUNITY-LED ATTENDANCE ADVOCACY



We are piloting a comprehensive attendance campaign with West Ashley community members, local groups, and business partners to reinforce collective responsibility for school presence. This initiative sets shared messaging and community-based incentives, framing consistent attendance as a vital pillar of local workforce development and the future success of our shared community.

#### 4 FAMILY ENGAGEMENT & RESOURCES



Building on the success of events like the Holiday Tree Lighting and Wildcat Trunk or Treat, we are using these community gatherings to share resources and attendance toolkits that reinforce the link between consistent school presence and long-term student, as well as community and school success.

## CONNECT WITH THE WILDCATS



At West Ashley High School, our strength lies in the people who walk our halls and the community that surrounds them. We believe every student, parent, and community member plays a vital role in our collective success.

Whether you are joining the Wildcat family for the first time or reconnecting as a proud alum, we invite you to partner with us as we work together to support student growth and build a brighter future for the community we all share.



Phone: (843) 573-1201  
Fax: (843) 573-1223



4060 W Wildcat Blvd, Charleston, SC 29414



westashleyhigh.ccstdschools.com



wahscommunications@charleston.k12.sc.us



@WAHSPage



@westashleyhighschool



## SIC MEMBERSHIP

### Elected Members

Mahmoud Abuein, Student  
Andrea Bigelow-Wright, Teacher  
Danielle Mantek, Parent  
Jacob Perlmutter, Parent  
Maiya Scott, Student  
Angel Simmons, Climate Coach

### Appointed Members

Janie Daniels, Community Member  
Tre McLean, Community Member  
Kristan Willis, Community Member (Chair)

### Ex-Officio

Andrew Brandt, Principal  
Shannon Turner, Assistant Principal