

## SIC MEMBERS

### School Improvement Council Membership and Positions

2020-2021 Member List Link: <C:\Users\heather.white\OneDrive - Cherokee County Schools\SIC Committee Members for 2020 2021.docx>

Desired Positions: Co-Chair and Secretary

## CONTACT US

If you are interested in joining Gaffney High School's SIC, please contact any of the members below:

Principal: [erik.gerstenacker@cherokee1.org](mailto:erik.gerstenacker@cherokee1.org)

Assistant Principal: [marilyn.milton@cherokee1.org](mailto:marilyn.milton@cherokee1.org)

SIC Chairperson: [heather.white@cherokee1.org](mailto:heather.white@cherokee1.org)



# Gaffney High School Parent and Community Report



School Improvement Council  
2020-2021

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Programs, Accolades, and Honors ..... 1

Special Events ..... 2

    Ceremonies..... 2

    Learning and Communication..... 2

SIC Goals ..... 3

Areas of Improvement..... 4

**Proposal Link** ..... 4

**Questions to Consider**..... 4

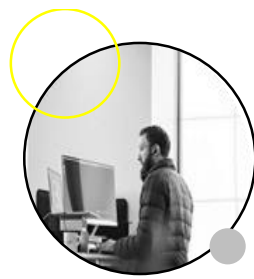
Mission Statements ..... 5

Membership and Contact Information ..... Back Cover



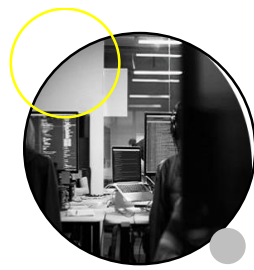
## MISSION STATEMENTS

### CCSD Mission



The mission of Cherokee County School District, steeped in pride and tradition, in partnership with all stakeholders, is to ensure that all students have the education necessary to succeed as responsible, productive citizens by providing excellent opportunities in academics, athletics, and the arts.

### GHS Mission



The mission of Gaffney High School, in partnership with the local community, is to ensure an excellent education in a safe, diverse environment focused on academics, athletics, technology, and the arts, so all students are equipped to contribute as productive global citizens with pride and tradition.

### SIC Mission



The mission of the South Carolina School Improvement Council is to facilitate meaningful parent and community involvement in our state's public schools by providing resources, tools and strategies to local School Improvement Councils and other stakeholder groups.

## SIC GOALS

### Our Goals

With this year's challenges, creating SIC goals is of the utmost importance for educators and community, alike. SIC goals are created from the consideration of various essential areas of the school where improvement is considered a priority and is logically attainable and sustainable.

- Teaching and Learning
- Digital Learning and Technology
- Community and Family Involvement
- School Environment

Proposal Link: <C:\Users\heather.white\OneDrive - Cherokee County Schools\School Improvement Council 2020 2021.docx>

- How can we promote valuable teaching and learning experiences for continued success in the global society?
- What impact is digital learning and technology having on our school and community?
- How can we promote and maintain positive partnerships between Gaffney High School and families, and community?
- How has Gaffney High School's learning environment changed? What are measures being taken to ensure health and safety in a positive learning environment?

“EXCELLENCE IS NEVER AN ACCIDENT; IT IS THE RESULT OF HIGH INTENTION, SINCERE EFFORT, INTELLIGENT DIRECTION, SKILLFUL EXECUTION AND THE VISION TO SEE OBSTACLES AS OPPORTUNITIES.” ANONYMOUS

## PROGRAMS, ACCOLADES, AND HONORS

### Academics

Even through COVID-19's influence, Gaffney High School graduated 435 seniors who accomplished the following: over 19 million dollars awarded in scholarship money, average SAT for students that graduated in 2020 is 951. The average ACT for the juniors that took it last year was 16.6.

### Athletics

Gaffney High School offers a wide variety of sports including: football, baseball, softball, basketball, golf, cross country, track, soccer, swimming, tennis, volleyball, and wrestling. Our school's history of championship status remains a continuous vision of future accomplishment where excellence will transcend on any field, pool, court, course, or mat.

### Student Activities and Engagement

To develop and discover individual talents and skills, Gaffney High School offers many opportunities centered on that specific concept.

- The Gaffney Band of Gold competed in various competitions around South Carolina, performed at school functions, ceremonies, and numerous events throughout the school and community.
- GHS Chorus and Honor Choir remained constant in efforts to use student talents not only displayed at Gaffney High School, but also throughout the community.
- Performing Arts/Drama-Advanced Drama class proudly attended the South Carolina Theatre Association Play Festival for the first time last year. They also completed the one-act play called "Chester, Who Painted the World Purple." They also attended monologue events at the festival, attended workshops, and met with college recruits. "virtual" festival for the South Carolina Theatre Association. They submitted a one-act play called, "The Baloney, The Pickle, The Zombies, and Other Things I Hide from my Mother" where they will compete virtually in November.

## CONTINUED ACCOLADES AND HONORS

- Visual Arts: Opportunities range from intermediate to advanced levels in areas of drawing, ceramics, embroidery, photography, other forms of expression. The annual Arts Expo allows student work to be displayed from all over the district in one gallery, Gaffney High School.
- AFJROTC receiving the Distinguished Unit Award, 2000+ community service hours, 15 cadets earning national awards, and 100% cadet graduation rate.

## Special Events

- AVID- Academic Support, College Readiness, and Community Service (**Advancement Via Individual Determination**) is a college-readiness system designed to increase the number of students who enroll in four-year colleges. Although AVID serves all students, it focuses on the least served students in the academic middle. #weareavid: 35 trained teachers, 6 trained administrators, 136 total students in 2020.
- Beta Clubs- Academic acknowledgement and community service are a continued success at Gaffney High School. Students, grades 9-12, are invited to join this elite group.
- Honor Societies: Gaffney High School continues to offer the Mu Alpha, the math honor, for students who qualify, but last year was also able to introduce, for the first time, the Victoria Tomlinson Chapter of the National English Honor Society. There are approximate 30 members who demonstrate excellence in reading, writing, and verbal skills.
- Leadership Opportunities- Student Council, Senate, and Student Body Officers among a variety of leadership positions and offices in special area clubs and organizations.
- Language Opportunities- Creative Writing and French and Spanish clubs are offered at Gaffney High School with leadership opportunities in all areas.
- Special Area and School Enrichment- Green Teens for improving today's environment, SPIRIT club, and the Rodeo club.

## SPECIAL EVENTS CONTINUED

### Ceremonies

Even in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, we continue to celebrate the talents and accomplishments of our students. Momentous events such as graduation, academic and athletic honors, and homecoming continue to be a valued part of our school's tradition and are embedded in our daily rituals and routines to strive for success.

**“WE ARE WHAT WE REPEATEDLY DO. EXCELLENCE, THEN, IS NOT AN ACT, BUT A HABIT.” ARISTOTLE**

### Learning and Communication

The unplanned educational deviations that have occurred from COVID-19, have and continue to influence the way teachers deliver prime instruction to Gaffney High School's students. As a faculty, the motivation has been to continue best practices using technology, but never allowing student contact and engagement to suffer in the process. Teachers have collaborated and planned valuable instructional practices, created secure conferencing spaces for direct instruction with students, and maintained daily learning practices that allowed students to grow, learn and succeed in non-traditional learning environments and avenues.

- Canvas
- CCSD Supported Online Applications
- Communication: Email, Remind, Zoom, Microsoft TEAMS, and Canvas Conferences
- CCSD and Gaffney High School Social Media Avenues
- Virtual Learning Experiences: Edgenuity
- Hybrid Schedules A and B