

Gaffney High

School August 2023

2023-
2024
Edition

Main

story

As we grow and
change, so do the
challenges to
overcome. We are
CHAMPIONS!

*A collection of
sources for analysis
of the school's data
to establish goals
for continuous
improvements.*

INSIDE

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Welcome TO OUR SCHOOL

The School Improvement Counsel is a broad-based body intended to advise the principal and school. The SIC collects data and combines the experiences of its members in an effort to make improvements to the school.

The School Improvement Council consists of the following: parents, teachers, students, and community members, the school's principal, and other ex-officio members.

South Carolina State law requires that every K-12 public school have an active SIC. The law states that it is the responsibility of the local school board to ensure SICs are constituted within each district. This includes career, vocational, and technical schools. .

What do SICs do?

SIC duties focus primarily on the school improvement process.

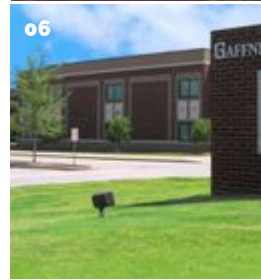
SICs should perform the following tasks:

- provide input and feedback during the development of the school's five-year renewal (improvement) plan and annual updates;
- assist in implementation of school improvement programs and activities;
- monitor and report on progress toward improvement goals in the annual *SIC Report to the Parents* and, with the principal in the narrative, to the *SC School Report Card*;
- provide other assistance as requested by the principal.

Gaffney High School's SIC members are excited and eager to begin this year's endeavors to support and foster positive change and improvements.

Enjoy!

What's INSIDE



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SIC members, contact information, and elected type

Celebrating our Graduates

Awards, Accolades, and Scholarships

As we celebrated the graduating class of 2023, the faculty, staff, parents, and community acknowledged and celebrated various student talents and personal accomplishments. Diplomas were awarded to demonstrate completion of secondary academic goals. Congratulations to the Class of 2023!

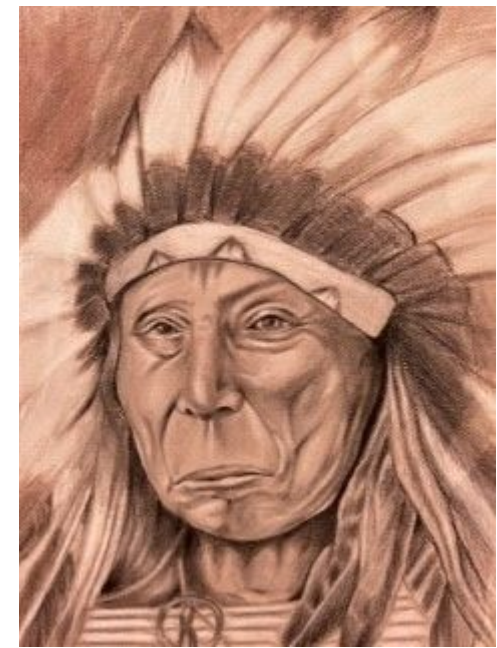
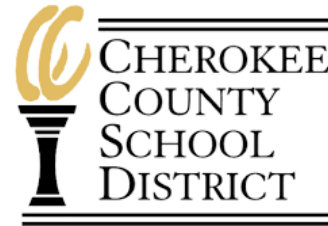
There were 380 graduates last school year, including 54 who graduated in December (2022). Of these graduates, 274 students

received either the LIFE or HOPE scholarships. Two hundred sixty-one students achieved College and/or Career Ready status. Fourteen students were Palmetto Fellowship recipients. Nineteen seniors were recognized as AP Scholars, including one AP Scholar with Honors and six AP Scholars with Distinction. four seniors were recognized through the College Board Recognition Program as National Rural and Small Town awardees.



2023 Scholarships: \$14,676,527

Mission



The Mission of Cherokee County School District: Steeped in pride and tradition, in partnership with all stakeholders, this district's mission 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.

Cherokee County School District's Vision: Cherokee County School District is committed to strengthening the professionalism of all of its stakeholders, including students. Students should be prepared to compete on the local, state, national, and international levels and focused on these areas, all schools and the district will move toward this path.

Gaffney High School's Mission Statement: 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.

School Improvement Council 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.



The Path to Change

Where are We Going?

Last year's SIC goal centered around the school store "Indian Enterprise." The school store teaches students to plan and to be independent. This opportunity is a transitional experience to prepare students for real-world professional skills while also serving the student body, faculty, parents, and community with reasonably priced retail, snacks, and

supplies. Gaffney High School's School Improvement Council partnered with Special Services to provide an established venue for the merchandise, plan and coordinate staffing, and provide a supportive environment for learning and professional responsibility and skills.

This year's goal is to encourage more parents and community members to be engaged with Gaffney High School.



Paint It, Park It

2020-2021 Goal: Paint It, Park It.

Community and Family Involvement

are two very important Factors in a successful educational institution. This project encourages positive relationships and participation with all stakeholders to allow positive exterior change to our building. The idea is to incorporate and support the arts which will encourage all children to express themselves in a positive and productive way. All moneys collected from the yearly implementation of this project go directly to other improvement projects and goals.

2021-2022 Goal: Tribal Treats

Positive School and Student

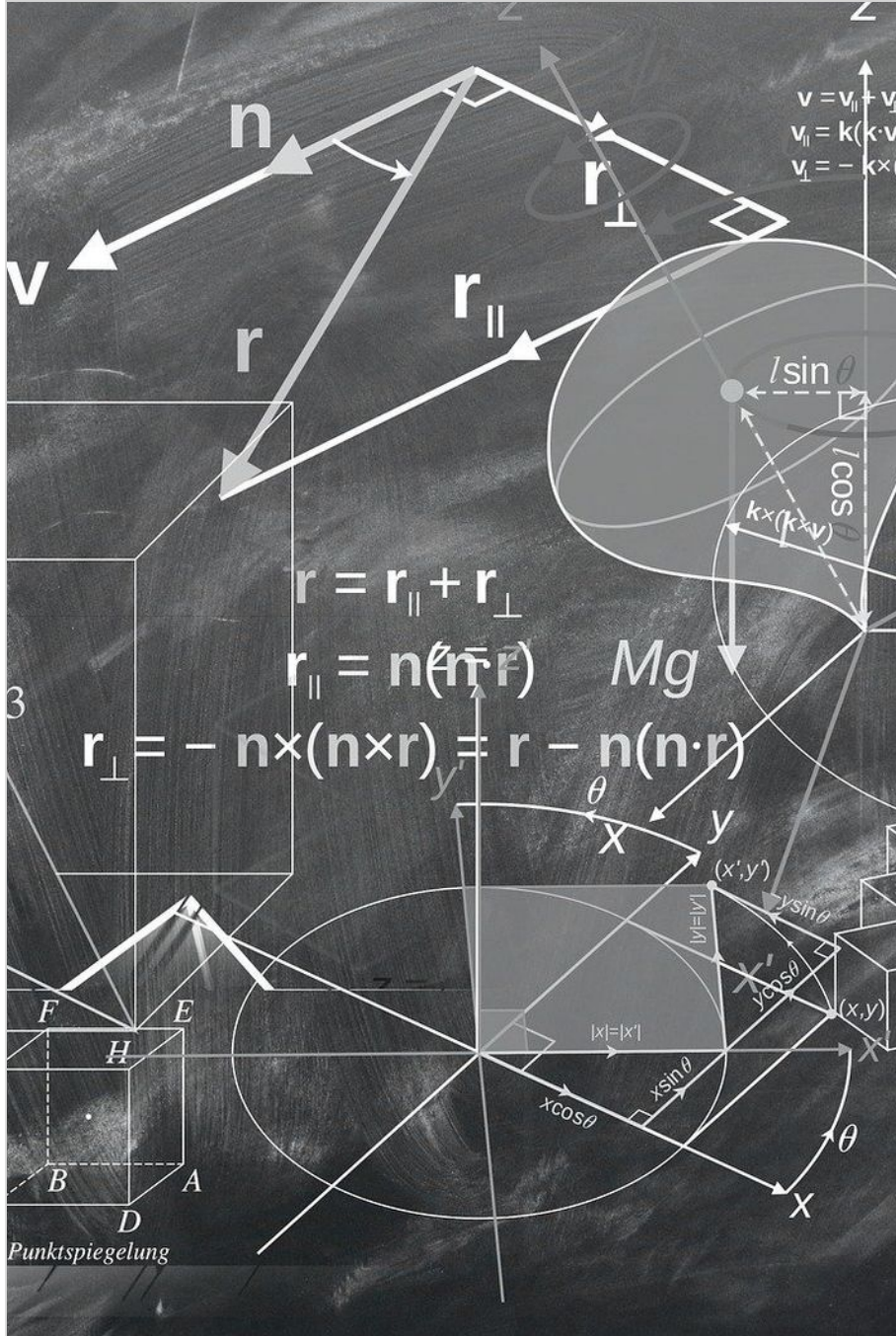
Relationships, will keep this project alive each year. A positive event such as this ignites positive relationships, comradery, and acceptable behavior which are all essential in the school environment.

2022-2023 Goal: Indian Enterprise

Student, Community, and School Relationships will allow this project to be successful and remain a source of positive revenue to financially support special programs, classes, and students at Gaffney High School.

2023-2024 Goal: Gaffney Gives Back

Although the poverty rate in Gaffney, South Carolina is higher than surrounding areas, we have the desire to give all we can to our community. This year's goal was to host a blood drive to support and honor a local family in our community who have been dealing with the long-term results of cancer.



Gaffney High School 2023 Data

- Student Enrollment: 1838
- School Performance Grade: Gaffney High School scored 44 out of a possible 100 with a rating of "below average." Data collected centered on the criteria to ensure that all students meet the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate.
- Academic Achievement: Scored "below average" on English and Algebra End-of-Course assessments.
- Student Preparation for Success: Scored "unsatisfactory" on Biology and US History and the Constitution End-of-Course Assessments
- Multilingual Learners' Progress: Scored "below average" in meeting the proficiency target.
- High School Student Success: The majority (77.7%) of all students at Gaffney High demonstrated success in high school last year.
- College and Career Readiness: Over 55 percent of seniors at Gaffney High were either college or career ready in 2023.
- Graduation Rate and Data: Scored "average" as 78.4% of students graduated on-time in 2023.
- Total Number of Graduates: 380
- Annual Dropout Rate: 3.7% (up from 2.8% in 2023)
- Dropout Rate Recovery: 1.5% (down from 2.0% in 2023)
- Advanced Placement: Of the students who completed AP courses, 45.8% scored a 3 or higher.
- Dual Enrollment: There were 169 eleventh and twelfth graders enrolled in dual enrollment courses. Of these students, 17% earned a C or better and obtained college credit.
- The SAT: Of the 36.6% of Gaffney High juniors and seniors who took the SAT, the average composite score was 973.

School Improvement Council

2023-2024

GHS Staff

Chairperson: Heather White
Elected
heather.white@cherokee1.org

Co-Chairperson: Laura Brooks
Elected
laura.brooks@cherokee1.org

Secretary: LaKeisha Sims
Elected
lakeisha.sims@cherokee1.org

Jill Hanna
Elected
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Angel Moss
Elected/TOY 2023
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Chris Hardy
Elected
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Brett Wallen
Elected
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Evetta Montgomery
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Karen Denton
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Kim Barnes
Appointed/tech
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Leslie Kaczmarczyk
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Traci Dill
Elected
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Lawanda Mooror
Appointed/TOY 2022
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Committee Designation

Jennifer Bedford
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Jeff Mages
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Paul Singh
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Wendy Tindall
wendy.tindall@cherokee1.org

Student Nominations (**2 years)

**Ghader Alhadrami
**Savanna Scruggs
**John Vassey
**Emazon Littlejohn
Haylie Douglas
Kaylea Varner
Tamarea Mayes
Sadie Phillips
Jaylah Blocker
Ashtyn Blackwell
Alyssah Richards

Azyiah Gregory
Nevaeh Moore
Rubi Garcia-Narvara
Cam McGill
**Carson Montgomery
Diya Patel