



Darlington High School

2021-2022 Report to Parents



Preparing for the future by learning every day!

Our Vision

The vision of Darlington High School is to promote a safe, caring, positive, and innovative learning environment that empowers teachers to prepare students for the 21st Century through communication, collaboration, creativity, and critical thinking.

Our Mission

The mission of Darlington High School is to engage all students in relevant learning experiences to prepare them to be leaders and responsible citizens in our culturally diverse society.

We Believe

All students can learn. Students learn through active involvement in relevant experiences. Student success will be enhanced by active support from the school, parents, and community. Cultural diversity enhances lives and society. Learning is a lifelong process. Instructional strategies should incorporate a variety of learning experiences to accommodate different learning styles.



Persevering Through a Pandemic

As we moved into the 2021-2022 school year, Falcons were hopeful for a return to “normal”, but like all schools, we found there to be continuing challenges. As numbers of Covid cases have risen and fallen throughout the year, Falcons have found a way to persevere—one of the key components of our Falcon PRIDE motto (Perseverance, Respect, Integrity, Dependability, and Excellence).

Despite needing to continue to practice social distancing protocol for most of the year, our students, faculty, staff, and community rose to the challenge of our new structures, keeping a focus on academics as we all worked to be better each day than the day before. This commitment to excellence was seen in the growth on MAP tests in math and English, as well as increased scores on the End-of-Course testing in English II, Algebra I, and Biology.

As we have welcomed back the students into the classrooms this year, we have also continued our focus on community service. Our ECHP students resumed their one hour of service per hour of college credit earned, and multiple clubs worked together to tackle the “campus cleanup” days, needs at our local nursing homes, hospitals, and community.

Principal Cortney Gehrke stated, “No matter what this pandemic brought our way, as Falcons, we have handled it together. We have been there for one another through all the ups and downs. That is what makes Darlington High School special.”

Volunteer @



The Early College Honors Program

DHS Early College Honors Program affords students the opportunity to take actual college courses with certified college instructors in the eleventh and twelfth grades.

http://dhs.dcsdschools.org/departments/early_college_magnetprogram/the_benefits

Darlington County Institute of Technology

DCIT provides hands on experiences in various career fields (from nursing to welding).

Students have the opportunity to attain various job related certifications.

<http://dcit.dcsdschools.org/>

Key to Career Program

The Key to Career program offers hands-on internship opportunities with local businesses.

School Improvement Committee

Goals

1. Improve overall EOC data by 3% on/before June 30, 2022 from the 2020/21 school year.

2. Faculty will work to improve school culture/environment by actively recognizing and celebrating student behavioral growth (faculty will recognize students without referrals with school wide initiatives).

Members

Community

Keith Cauthen
Lisa Rock
William Altman

Students

Amber Tallent
Christopher McBride

Parents

Karen Pegram (Secretary)
Whitney Louis

Faculty

Erin Farrell (Chair)
Jennifer Hooks (Co-Chair)

Administrators

Cortney Gehrke
Brandon Hutson

Important Contacts

Administrators

Mrs. Gehrke: Principal (843)398-2730

Cortney.gehrke@darlington.k12.sc.us

Mrs. Lenard: Seniors (843)398-2750

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Mr. Martin: Juniors (843)398-2806

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Mrs. Jacobs: Sophomores (843)398-2729

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Mr. Hutson: Freshmen (843)398-2728

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Guidance

Mrs. George: Guidance Secretary (843) 398-2732

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Mrs. Washington-Davis: Freshmen (843)398-2732

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Mrs. Thomas: names A-Gregg (843) 398-2735

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Mr. Lowe: names Gregg-Mos (843) 398-2729

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Mrs. Carter: names Mos-Z (843) 398-2824

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Ms. McMichael: Career Specialist (843)398-2794

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Ms. Ford: School Community Facilitator (843)398-2730

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Additional Support

Mr. Hankins: Attendance and Data (843)398-2736

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Coach Jordan: Athletic Director (843)398-2791

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Ms. Moses: Student Support Advocate (843)398-2762

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Mrs. Wallace: ECHP Coordinator (843)398-2796

Debra.wallace@darlington.k12.sc.us

Student Clubs

-Falcon Young Men

-JROTC

-Yearbook

-Gospel Choir

-Anchor Club

-Key Club

-National Honor Society

-Beta Club

-Lavender Ladies

-Fellowship of Christian

Athletes

-Gamer's Guild

-JAG

Athletics

Men and Women's

-Basketball

-Cross Country

-Golf

-Soccer

-Tennis

-Track and Field

Women's

-Cheerleading

-Softball

Men's

-Baseball

-Football (was not on

the flyer)

-Wrestling

School-wide Accountability and Testing Support

- EOC: End of course Testing- (*English II, Alg I, Bio I, US History*)
- ACT/SAT: College Readiness-(11th grade)
- WIN: Career Readiness- (11th grade)
- Midterms & Finals - (*all grades*)
- All core classes are required to teach rigorously and standards based
- ACT/SAT prep classes offered
- Math prep classes (Alg 1 geared)
- Test taking strategies are taught explicitly

Falcon Pride

Perseverance

Respect

Integrity

Dependability

Excellence



Stay Connected

Parent Teacher Organization: http://dhs.dcsdschools.org/for_students_parents/d_h_s_p_t_o

Athletic Booster Club: <https://www.facebook.com/people/Darlington-High-School-Athletic-Booster-Club/100057281208188/>

Facebook: Quick, daily updates

Visit: <https://www.facebook.com/Darlingtonhigh/>

PowerSchool: Student schedules, grades, and attendance

Visit: <https://dcsdsc.powerschool.com/public/>

Schoology: Individual class assignments and assessments

Visit: <https://lms.dcsdschools.org/login/ldap?&school=394022029>

