



# Darlington High School

19-20 Report to Parents  
Welcome to the Falcon Family



**We believe in you, and we hope you believe in yourself.**

### 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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...

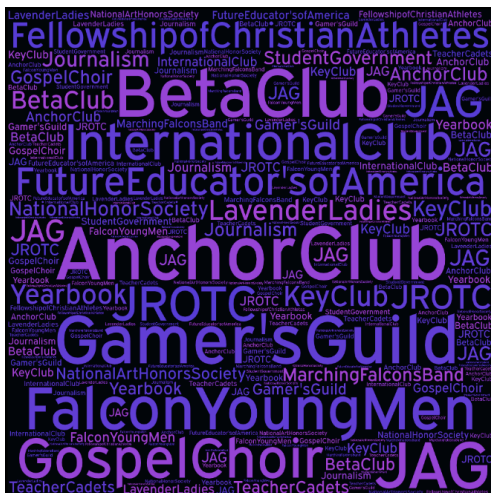
All students can learn. Students learn through active involvement in relevant experiences. Student success will be enhanced by active support from the school, parents, and community. Cultural diversity enhances lives and society. Learning is a lifelong process. Instructional strategies should incorporate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



### Celebrating Success in 2019-2020

- \*16 students earned Associates degrees, and this was the first year Associates of Arts and Associates of Science have both been offered.
- \*Students earned almost 1800 college hours.
- \*Jazz band earned a perfect score at the SCBDA Jazz festival, and Symphonic band was selected to perform on stage as the top 5 in the state.
- \*Students earned over 2000 hours of community service.
- \*\$200 was donated to the SC Aquarium in Charleston for the Sea Turtles Rescue Project.
- \*\$300 was donated to Breast Cancer Awareness and Research.
- \*\$250 and toys were donated to McLeod Children's Hospital .
- \*Students raised \$600 for Relay for Life
- \*Raised \$6000 to provide food for over 70 local families

### DHS Clubs and Organizations



### Celebrating Alumni

- \*John Early, DDS (c/o 2005)- Doctorate in Dentistry, returning to the Pee Dee to practice dentistry in our area
- \*Tempestt Gavins Johnson (c/o 2008)- advanced degrees, taught in China, and traveled the world to return home and make a difference in her community
- \*Merritt Hardee Wallace (c/o 2009)- Doctorate in Pharmacy, serving our local community in the Wal-Mart pharmacy
- \*Kyreeq Fox (c/o 2017)- working towards being commissioned as a 2nd lieutenant, already graduated from Air Assault School, president of the SCSU Men of Distinction organization, and provided a scholarship to a member of the DHS class of 2019
- \*Kyra March (c/o 2018)- received a full ride to Harvard University and gives an annual scholarship back to a deserving student in her community
- \*Deborah Jernigan (c/o 2018)- graduated for the U.S Navy Recruit Training Command and is already a sailor of the USS Nimitz (the world's largest aircraft carrier), recently was in charge of guiding 3,500 safely on the \$4.5 billion ship

# The Early College Honors Program

The Darlington High School Early College Honors Program is designed to offer ninth and tenth grade students the opportunity to take advanced courses in preparation to take actual college classes with certified college instructors in eleventh and twelfth grade. Successfully completing a college course by earning a C or higher will result in the student earning at least 3 hours of college credit for each class the student takes. Qualified students can take as many classes as their schedules allow or only a few that interest them. Truly driven and dedicated students can even earn a two-year associate degree by the time they graduate high school!

## School Improvement Council

### Goals

1. Improve overall EOC data by 3% yearly; improve College/Career Readiness scores by 3% yearly and raise ACT composite scores to 15+ yearly.
2. Decrease the percentage of failures due to attendance for individual courses by 5% from the previous school year.

### Members

#### Community

Jane Lloyd  
Will Isgett

#### Students

Ella Watford  
Cameron Graham

#### Parents

Wendy Schurknight  
(secretary)  
Sterling Mosby

#### Faculty

Kristen Johnson (Chair)  
Greg Dolce (Co-Chair)

#### Administrators

Cortney Gehrke  
Lindsey Cote'

## Important contacts

### Administrators

**Ms. Gehrke:** Principal (843)398-2730  
Cortney.gehrke@darlington.k12.sc.us  
**Ms. Lenard:** Seniors (843)398-2750  
stephania.lenard@darlington.k12.sc.us  
**Mr. Martin:** Juniors (843)398-2806  
Chad.martin@darlington.k12.sc.us  
**Ms. Cote':** Sophomores (843)398-2728  
Lindsey.cote@darlington.k12.sc.us  
**Ms. Poole:** Freshmen (843)398-2779  
Cassandra.poole@darlington.k12.sc.us

### Guidance

**Ms. George:** Guidance Secretary (843) 398-2732  
Brenda.george@darlington.k12.sc.us  
**Ms. Washington-Davis:** Freshmen (843)398-2732  
Sheila.davis@darlington.k12.sc.us  
**Ms. Thomas:** names A-Gregg (843) 398-2735  
Samia.thomas@darlington.k12.sc.us  
**Ms. Jacobs:** names Griggs-Moses (843) 398-2729  
Glennie.jacobs@darlington.k12.sc.us  
**Ms. Carter:** names Mot-Z (843) 398-2824  
Kourtney.carter@darlington.k12.sc.us  
**Ms. McMichael:** Career Specialist (843)398-2794  
Stephanie.McMichael@darlington.k12.sc.us

### Additional Support

**Ms. Bass:** Attendance (843)398-2730  
Amanda.l.bass@darlington.k12.sc.us  
**Coach Jordan:** Athletic Director (843)398-2791  
Michael.k.jordan@darlington.k12.sc.us  
**Ms. Moses:** Student Support Advocate  
(843)398-2762  
tiffany.moses@darlington.k12.sc.us  
**Ms. Wallace:** ECHP Coordinator (843)398-2796  
Debra.wallace@darlington.k12.sc.us

## Advisory Schedule

### Monday- Thursday:

Students report back to assigned classes throughout their week for an extra 30 minutes of tutoring directly before or after their lunch.

### Fridays

Students report to their assigned Friday advisory class that serves a similar purpose as a "homeroom" where they work on career goals, opportunities for academic success, and school news and updates.



## Falcon Writing Center

A student-led writing center organized by Mrs. Tempestt Johnson, a DHS English teacher.

## School-wide Accountability and Testing Support

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

## Falcon Pride

- P**erseverance
- R**espect
- I**ntegrity
- D**ependability
- E**xcellence



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

## Stay Connected

**PowerSchool:** Student schedules, grades, and attendance  
**Schoology:** individual class assignments and assessments

**Peachjar:** School calendars, flyers, updates, etc.

### School Connects Calls

*All resources can be accessed on our DHS website. Feel free to contact the front office or our student data manager (Hankins) for any login information.*