



# Darlington High School

23-24 Report to Parents  
Welcome to the Falcon Family



## TOGETHER WE RISE!

### Our Vision

The vision of Darlington High School is to engage students in a nurturing environment that prepares them to excel as college and/or career ready.

### Our Mission

The mission of Darlington High School is to educate and empower students to be responsible citizens.

### 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. Learning strategies and experiences should accommodate differences in learning styles.



## Growing a Culture of Excellence

Darlington High School (DHS) was excited to return for the 2023-2024 school year with updated vision and mission statements developed by all stakeholders that speaks to the heart of our daily focus. This year is about making sure every Falcon finds a place where they feel connected and valued, as we strive together to become the best versions of ourselves individually and collectively. We set high goals for ourselves to see improvements in culture and educational success, inside and outside the classroom, knowing that Falcons are more than capable of reaching those goals.

Comparing first semester of 2022 to first semester of 2023, it is undeniable the gains that we are making. We saw an increase in the average daily attendance for all students from 90.30% to 92.34%, a 22.4% decrease in discipline referrals, a 5% increase in the class pass rate, and an 11.85% increase in the number of A, B, and C's in classes.

Beyond these numbers, we are also seeing huge growth in our extracurricular activities, allow us to celebrate together on the fields, courts, and mats as well.

Falcons are proving daily that TOGETHER WE RISE!



SCAN ME

Become a Volunteer!

# The Early College Honors Program

The Darlington High School Early College Honors Program is designed to offer students the opportunity to take advanced courses and college classes while in high school. 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. Increase Algebra I EOC scores to 27% C or better.
2. Increase Biology I EOC scores to 26% C or better.
3. Increase positive culture at DHS as evidenced by increased scores on the Panorama survey.

### Community Members

*Keith Cauthen*  
*Lee Andrews-Chair*  
*Gray Fail*

### Students

*Sean Odum*  
*Jaiden Dubs*

### Parents

*India Dargan*  
*Brandy Weaver-Secretary*

### Administrators

*Cortney Gehrke*  
*Brandon Hutson*

### Faculty

*Bradley Knox-Co-chair*  
*William Dubose*

## Important contacts

### Administrators

**Ms. Gehrke:** Principal (843)398-2730  
Cortney.gehrke@darlington.k12.sc.us  
**Ms. Jacobs:** Seniors (843)398-2729  
Glennie.jacobs@darlington.k12.sc.us  
**Mr. Martin:** Juniors (843)398-2806  
Chad.martin@darlington.k12.sc.us  
**Mr. Ray:** Sophomores (843)398-2750  
Roderick.Ray@darlington.k12.sc.us  
**Dr. Hutson:** Freshmen (843)398-2728  
Brandon.Hutson@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-Gar (843) 398-2735  
Samia.thomas@darlington.k12.sc.us  
**Mr. Lowe:** names Gas-Mc (843) 398-2779  
Adam.lowe@darlington.k12.sc.us  
**Dr. Bowden:** names Me-Z (843) 398-2824  
deidra.bowden@darlington.k12.sc.us  
**Ms. McMichael:** Career Specialist (843)398-2794  
Stephanie.McMichael@darlington.k12.sc.us

### Additional Support

**Mr. Little:** Attendance (843)398-2743  
Samuel.Little@darlington.k12.sc.us  
**Coach Norris:** Athletic Director (843)398-2791  
James.norris@darlington.k12.sc.us  
**Ms. McElveen:** Student Support Advocate  
(843)398-2762  
Kimberly.McElveen@darlington.k12.sc.us  
**Ms. Ward:** ECHP Coordinator (843)398-2763  
Michelle.Ward@darlington.k12.sc.us  
**Ms. Bruce:** Student Data Manager (843)398-2736  
tameka.Bruce@darlington.k12.sc.us  
**Mr. Means:** Student Support Mentor  
(843)398-2839  
Justin.means@darlington.k12.sc.us

## Organizations

Anchor Club  
Band  
Falcon Young Men  
FCA  
Gamers' Guild  
Gospel Choir  
JAG  
JROTC  
Key Club  
Lavender Ladies  
National Art Honor  
Principal Advisory  
Student Government  
Yearbook



## Athletic Programs

Baseball  
Basketball  
Cheer  
Cross Country  
Football  
Golf  
Soccer  
Softball  
Tennis  
Track and Field  
Volleyball  
Wrestling

## 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
- Read 180 Classes
- Math 180 Classes
- Test taking strategies are taught explicitly

## Falcon Pride

- P **er**severance
- R **es**pect
- I **nt**egrity
- D **ep**endability
- E **x**cellence



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843-398-2730  
Fax: 843-398-2739

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

## Stay Connected

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

SchoolStatus Connect, Facebook, and Instagram

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