

# SUMMERVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

## SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL'S ANNUAL REPORT TO PARENTS 2013-2014



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### MESSAGE FROM HEAD PRINCIPAL KENNY FARRELL

Summerville High School has had another great year! We scored EXCELLENT on the “absolute rating” of our school report card and showed overall gains in almost every single area. We also earned PALMETTO GOLD for academic performance and PALMETTO GOLD for closing the achievement gap! We are pleased with our progress, but we remain determined to get even better. We strive daily to prepare our students to be productive citizens and lifelong learners. Our goal is to arm our students with the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and habits they need to become successful in their future endeavors. We realize that our efforts are molding our country’s future leaders.

With the visionary leader-

ship of Dorchester District Two and its board as well as the unwavering support of the Summerville community, the administration and staff of Summerville High School are able to creatively and proactively embrace new and better programs and opportunities for our students. First and foremost, we strive to develop academic programs that help to prepare our students for our modern technologically advanced world. We offer an Early College program, an Accelerate Engineering Program, a STEM Academy, dual enrollment opportunities, a wide variety of Advanced Placement classes, and extensive testing to ensure that our students can compete for admission into colleges and/or the workforce.

Furthermore, SHS promotes a strong athletic and fine arts program to motivate students to be involved in their school and to develop their skills, talents, and ability to work as a productive members of a team.

Summerville High School is EXCELLENT! This is a result of the efforts of many dedicated educators, a powerfully supportive school board and community, and loving parents who instill in their children a love of learning and an appreciation for education. May we long have reason to celebrate the successes of our children.

Sincerely,

Principal

Summerville High School

The purpose of this report is to provide vital information about our school to all of stakeholders so that we can be informed collaborators in making Summerville High School the best school in the state of South Carolina.

#### Our Mission Statement:

The mission of Summerville High School is to provide a safe, nurturing and challenging learning environment which prepares and encourages all students to be lifelong learners who are caring, productive citizens.

#### SUMMERVILLE HIGH SCHOOL DATA

Enrollment as of 4/2014: 2,745

HSAP First-Attempt Passage Rate 93.2%

On-Time Graduation Rate 77.8%

EOC Passage Rates

♦ Algebra I .....87.0%

♦ English I .....78.8.0%

♦ Biology.....75.3%

♦ U.S. History .....76.2%

#### WE ARE CONNECTED!

Students and parents can connect with us on FaceBook by “liking” us at <https://www.facebook.com/shsgreenwave>. If parents are members of our school fusion, they can elect to get daily email updates from SHS.

#### SHAC: Summerville High School Athletic Club

In its second year of operation, SHAC has 200 members and has raised nearly \$20,000 to support ALL sports at SHS. The primary goals are to improve facilities and to build a new training facility to support all sports at SHS. To join, contact Mr. Giet at [pgiet@dorchester2.k12.sc.us](mailto:pgiet@dorchester2.k12.sc.us).

#### ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

- ♦ Stephanie Alford
- ♦ Valerie Blunt
- ♦ Preston Giet
- ♦ Brooks Harlow
- ♦ Trey Hodges
- ♦ Michelle Leviner
- ♦ Lynne’ Reeves
- ♦ Jennifer Tracy

## 2013-2014 Initiatives and Strategies for School Improvement:

### Goal 1: Strengthen parent communication.

In this area, the SIC worked to make sure that all parents have access to ParentPortal and can "like" SHS on FaceBook, a program that quickly gets announcements and celebrations out to our stakeholders. We promoted efforts to get information out to parents through details being posted on our website and through our ParentLink phone dialer. With the support of Spanish teacher Mrs. Elena Schupp, we implemented a program to send important announcements out in Spanish to our ESOL families.

### Goal 2: Increase parent involvement.

The SIC provided ways for parents to help celebrate teachers through gift cards during the winter holidays and during teacher appreciation week and through gifts for our teachers of the year. We also used our various avenues

of communication to inform parents of ways to be a part of our school family through such events as parent information nights.

### Goal 3: Promote student leadership.

The SIC encouraged our student members, who are elected members of the SHS Student Government, to determine ways for more students to become involved at SHS. They responded by making efforts to more effectively and diligently advertise opportunities and to plan events that created excitement among our students.

### Goal 4: Increase school spirit.

The SIC tapped into its student members to attempt to create opportunities to increase school spirit, especially in athletics, fine arts, student events, and special support endeavors for our needy students and faculty. They did a great job of making posters, organizing special programs at sport events, and spreading news about ways to get

## Additional Strategies to Promote Student Success:

- ◆ Ninth grade students and at-risk students have an advisory period each day for tutoring and support.
- ◆ Credit recovery opportunities are provided for students who are behind in their classes or in the number of credits needed for graduation. This includes day classes in our APEX labs as well as classes in our evening school.
- ◆ Each department posts a tutoring matrix to inform students of tutoring opportunities before and after school.
- ◆ Teacher mentors are assigned to seniors identified as "at risk."
- ◆ School wide Student Improvement Plans have been created to encourage mastery of course content.

## Special Honors and Awards:

- ◆ Gailia Mercer-Brown - Guidance Counselor of the Year
- ◆ Alice Kelley -Teacher of the Year and district finalist
- ◆ Joshua Ayers - Rookie Teacher of the Year and district finalist
- ◆ Travis Farnham - Rookie Teacher of the Year
- ◆ Darryl Tucker - Star Performer of the Year

## A Sample of Our 2013-2014 School Achievements:

- ◆ Summerville High School was one of 5 Dorchester District 2 schools to be awarded "Gold-Gold" status by the State Department of Education.
- ◆ Summerville High School students have participated in and been successful in a variety of academic events and competitions, including Quest, several essay-writing competitions, and Robotics.
- ◆ Through our service clubs and organizations, SHS students have participated altruistically in such events as Relay for Life, Breast Cancer Awareness, and several blood drives.
- ◆ The Summerville High School NJROTC continues to be one of the best programs in the country. This is evidenced by the U. S. Navy awarding the Distinguished Unit with Academic Honors to this unit year after year.

- ◆ The Summerville High School yearbook staff won the Scholastic Press Association's "Most Improved Yearbook" award and was featured in the 2013 Jostens's Look Book .

### Athletics:

- ◆ Our cheerleading competition team received two 1st place awards.
- ◆ Wrestling Coach Darryl Tucker was named Region Coach of the Year for the 3rd straight year, AAA Coach of the Year, & SC Coach of the Year by the High School Sports Report. His wrestlers won the traditional state championship by 36 points and brought home 5 individual state championships.

### Fine Arts:

- ◆ A sampling of awards include: various ribbons at the Coastal Carolina Fair and the Southeastern Wildlife Expo; Strings, Choral, and Orchestra Superior ratings; winners at piano competitions;

Artist Guild Scholarship winner; awards at the SC Speech and Theatre Association Competition in theatre; and a strings student's acceptance to the SC Governor's School of the Arts.

- ◆ Our band, color guard, and winter guard received a number of top honors at various competitions.
- ◆ Our percussion groups have branched out to perform at various venues in our community and have two students who will go to college on special scholarships.
- ◆ Our dance teams won multiple awards and participated in a variety of events.

### Career and Technical Education:

- ◆ Our Wave TV Crew has top 10 video the SC Young won a number to state and national awards for such things as their stories, their videography, and their coverage of athletics.
- ◆ Second place winner in Technology Competition.

## SIC Members

Kelly Kennedy, SIC Chair  
Kenny Farrell, Principal  
Lynne' Reeves, Assistant Principal  
Elena Gobin, PTSA Rep

### Students:

- ◆ Renee Bourgeois
- ◆ Avery Causebrook
- ◆ Amanda Guido
- ◆ Matthew Reeves

### Parents:

- ◆ Paige DiMuzio
- ◆ Cammy Groome
- ◆ Mary Lynn Harlow
- ◆ Liz Lybrand
- ◆ Robin Pye
- ◆ Scott Turner

### Faculty:

- ◆ Mary Frances Barrier
- ◆ Kelly Browder
- ◆ Noelle Hauck
- ◆ Jennifer Roberts
- ◆ Elena Schupp
- ◆ Debra White

