

The STHS School administration and faculty seek to help all students reach their full potential by making each decision with ALL students in mind. The administration will offer practical tools and strategies such as Saturday Academy, extended day, and recovery courses to help the faculty become strong advocates for every student in our school. Over previous years, we have placed an emphasis on several initiatives to strengthen the educational experience for our students. Our purpose as a school is to create a safe, energetic, and rigorous learning environment that will engage, empower, and enrich all students. To reach these goals, our administration and staff continue to working on making the subtle shift toward a more personalized approach to teaching and learning. The 2019-2020 year brought a more dramatic shift as Covid-19 forced school closings and pushed a remote learning platform. Strom Thurmond High School made the shift to remote learning and the Flip model of teaching became our normal.

With the shift to a Flipped learning approach, lessons are now more focused upon the individual student. For example, STHS has made the switch to a 4X4 model allowing students to take four courses semester one, earning a credit for each course they pass, and four new courses semester two. STHS has also lengthened the amount of time spent in classes to 100 minutes per block as well as added a Saturday Academy and a fifth period to the day. This shift allows for maximum instructional time and increased opportunities for face-to-face application with teachers

We will continue our systematic approach to gain an accurate picture of our school community's strengths and weaknesses. This information will be used to improve student achievement and meet challenging academic standards in our state. Administrators and teachers will continue to use the AdvancED process that collects and examines information about school wide issues. We will then utilize our data to determine priority goals, develop a plan, and allocate funds and resources. Students, parents, teachers, administrators, and other community members will be asked to participate in the data collection process through surveys and program studies. We are continuing to research emerging trends that will help us improve our school. STHS maintains a clear focus by giving students rigorous opportunities to grow and maximize their potential.

We will continue to utilize a professional development model that provides ongoing opportunities for our teachers to incorporate best practices in the classroom. From the comprehensive instructional and extracurricular programs to the high standards for teaching and learning, STHS strives to provide opportunities that parallel our values and beliefs. We believe these opportunities will improve the quality of instruction, teacher-student interactions, school climate, and safety. We plan to continue studying and utilizing the Profile of the South Carolina and the Edgefield County Graduate to ensure our students are prepared with college and workforce readiness skills. At Strom Thurmond High, we work daily to fulfill our mission, purpose, and direction.