

## South Florence High School

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<https://www.fsd1.org/schools/southflorence>  
 Carol Hill, 2014-15 Principal

The mission of South Florence High School is to prepare students to become responsible, world-class citizens and high-achieving life-long learners.

SFHS...The Future's Bright; the Future's Bruin

*2013 Revised Mission Statement*

South Florence High School (SFHS) remains committed to equipping twenty-first century learners with skills for school and beyond. Thus, the school increased initiatives and training associated with its federal Safe and Supportive School Grant and its ABC Arts Grant. The school also received a grant to support initiatives related to international and cultural awareness and responsiveness. In addition, the school received nine (9) other grants during the 2014-15 school year, creating more student-focused opportunities related to wellness, safety, and developing career and college readiness.

The school contributed to FSD1 receiving its 2014 Excellent rating from AdvancEd accreditation visit and evaluation. SFHS also contributed to FSD1 receiving the AP Honor Roll Award for raising AP scores while also increasing the number of students taking AP classes. In addition, the school was recognized as a School of Distinction by the National Beta Club Organization and was selected as the host site for a state-wide arts consortium workshop.

The class of 2014 earned over \$5,851,000 in scholarship offers, which included 72 Hope Scholars, 85 Life Scholars, and 13 Palmetto Fellows Recipients. Of the 2014 graduating class, 82% plan on attending a two or four year college, and they applied to over 90 different colleges nation-wide.

Student recognitions for 2013-14 included a SFHS junior who was one of 60 students nationally to receive the prestigious LEDA scholarship to study at Princeton the summer of 2014. In addition, four underclassmen from SFHS were accepted to the SC Governor's Residential School for the Arts for 2014-15 school year. For a second year, over 75% of freshmen taking AP Human Geography earned college credit.

SFHS Data	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
4-Yr Grad Rate	74.1%	75.6%	76.9%	77.6%	77.7%
5-Yr Grad Rate	—	75.2%	81.4%	79.5%	82.5%
HSAP - 1st attempt	77.0%	77.6%	75.2%	89.4%	74.4%
HSAP Longitudinal	92.3%	88.7%	92.6%	90.9%	90.1%
EOC - All tests	59%	57.8%	65.5%	68.3%	68.0%
Algebra 1	75.3%	67.0%	79.7%	72.7%	76.5%
English 1	73.5%	68.2%	76.0%	72.6%	66.9%
Biology	--	59.3%	58.2%	69.8%	73.0%
US History	44.6%	50.0%	52.6%	57.5%	57.5%
AP Tests	45.2%	44.0%	47.5%	55.0%	49.2%
School Report Card	Average	Average	Good	Good	Good

### School Renewal Goals for 2014-15

1. Increase 4-year graduation rate to 80%.
2. Increase 5-year graduation rate from 79.5% to 80.5%
3. Increase End-of-course composite passage rate from 68.3% to 70%.
4. Increase the median average of parents and students satisfied with learning environment from 73.7% to 78%.
5. 98% of SFHS courses will be taught by highly qualified teachers by 2015.

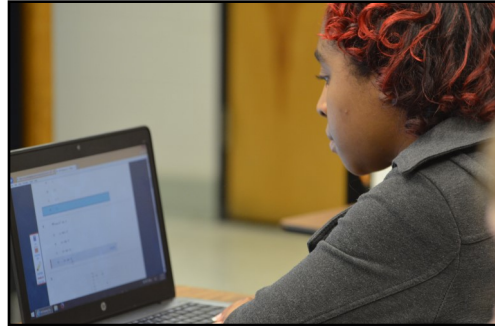
### School Improvement Council 2014-15

Stacy Duke, Secretary	Elected Teacher
Ashley Rodgers, Vice Chair	Elected Teacher
Gregory Dukes	Elected Teacher
LaShonda Williams-Shaw	Elected Teacher
Kiersten Camlin, Chair	Elected Student
Emma Collins	Elected Student
Casey Morris	Elected Student
Kaitlyn Lowry	Elected Student
Kejuan Robinson	Elected Student
Madison Bryan	Elected Student
Nolan Mitchell	Elected Student
Gracelyn Rast	Elected Student
April Filyaw	Elected Parent
David Rast	Elected Parent
Victor Coachman	Appointed Member
Dara Drummond	Appointed Member
Dexter Fulmore	Appointed Member
Kerterial Fulmore	Appointed Member
Barbara Kennedy	Appointed Member
Mallory Baxley	Appointed Member
Angel Briggs	Appointed Member
Felix Jordan	Ex-Officio Member
Kim Mack	Ex-Officio Member
Mrs. Carol C. Hill	Ex-Officio Member





Tekoyia Washington prepares to plant tomatoes in the SFHS garden.



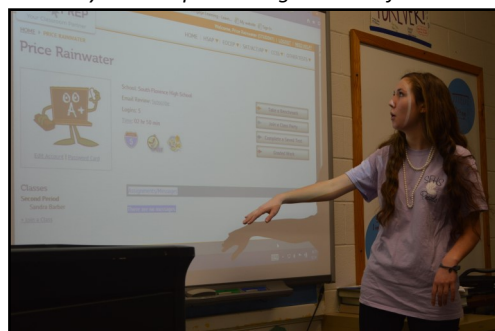
Briana Gary uses one of the new laptops purchased this year to build math and science skills.



Robbie Myers guides Brayden Rowe and Austin Powell in creating the SFHS ropes course.



A Chihuly-like sculpture hangs in the cafeteria.



Price Rainwater explains USA TestPrep to parents and students at SFHS's Academic and Arts Showcase, *Simply the Best*.

## South Florence High School Promotes Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics (STEAM) Initiatives!

### Science

Biology End-of-Course test scores went up significantly in 2014. And that is just part of the story... Advanced Physics, Chemistry... and gardening! Science initiatives embraced health and wellness as SFHS partnered with MUSC and McLeod's Hospital System to receive a Wellness Grant and start up a school garden. In addition, the new partnership between SF and the Lion's Club facilitated the start of a Leo Club. Students in this club created an opportunity for students to receive vision and hearing screening during the school day.

### Technology

SFHS's increased investments in technological resources have increased student opportunities, engagement, and achievement. Students completed research projects using a variety of online sources; completed written assignments with the Microsoft Office Suite; created multimedia presentations and movies; utilized web based curricula (Ever-Fi Personal Finance, Khan Academy, Apex Credit Recovery, and PLTW PBS courses for Biomedical Sciences and Introduction to Engineering Design); utilized online test preparation tools (USA Test Prep and Schmoop); and worked collaboratively with their peers and teachers using Google Classroom and Google Apps for Education. These opportunities increased students' proficiency with 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills and increased their capacity to be successful on the global level.

### Engineering

SFHS partnered with the School Foundation and FMU Center of Excellence to receive two grants to construct a ropes course. Then students from the Environmental and Natural Resource Management course began engineering and building the course. Students have developed stronger collaborative skills in the process of designing, building, and using the ropes course. In addition, SFHS added an Introduction to Engineering course this year. An artist-in-Residence worked with these students to enhance their ability to appreciate and create engineering designs.

### Arts

Integrate science with the visual arts and students learn about the chemistry of color and create tie dye lab aprons. Integrate visual arts with biology and students learn how to pick out details and visually represent what they are seeing under a microscope. Integrate music with physics and students better understand sound waves. When 351 ninth graders perform *Romeo and Juliet* on stage, they better understand figurative language, which improves EOC scores. With the support of the ABC Arts Grants, SFHS brings in Artists-in-Residence to help with its arts infusion initiatives. In the past 12 years, SFHS has received over \$250,000 in arts grants from the SC Arts Commission and SC State Department of Education. So in addition to arts infusion, SFHS has started a dance program, enhanced the auxiliary stage in the drama room, received its first superior rating at state band competition in over 20 years, and earned accolades and awards for Choralier and the Chamber Choir performances. Plus, this year, the 3D Design classes created and hung a large, Chihuly-like sculpture in the commons.

### Mathematics

Teaching math is one thing; developing mathematicians is another. This year SFHS tackled the challenge of better preparing students for college algebra. The school received a grant from the National Network of Partnership Schools to subscribe to USA TestPrep resources for Algebra II. Over 140 students logged in over 500 hours of practice, mostly done at home, and scores and grades improved!