

South Florence High School

3200 South Irby Street

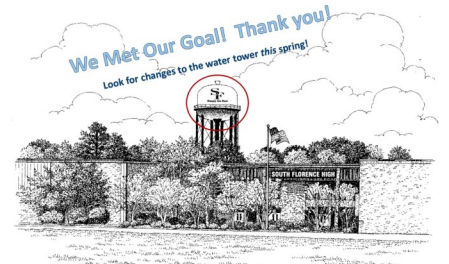
Florence, SC 29505

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<https://www.fsd1.org/schools/southflorence>

Carol Hill, 2015-16 Principal



SF celebrates the SIC accomplishment of getting the Red Bud Lane water tower painted with the SF logo.

SFHS data indicate school commitment to building world-class knowledge in students. SFHS offered more Advanced Placement (AP) courses this year and increased the percentage of students passing AP exams, including a 94.7% passage rate of freshmen who took the AP Human Geography exam. The percentage of SFHS students passing AP exams exceeded the SC average and was on par with the national average. The 2015 graduating class earned over 8 million in scholarship monies, indicating a state-level and national-level respect for their accomplishments. An AIFS grant helped develop an International Club. SFHS also hosted five international exchange students, and a school group toured Europe.

SFHS School Improvement Council (SIC) initiatives cultivating world-class skills took many forms. Staff and student training continued related to the internationally recognized 16 Habits of Mind, thinking habits that help people know the “smart” thing to do when faced with challenges. Students used these thinking habits to produce a number of world-class products: a Chihuly-like art sculpture in the commons, an award-winning yearbook, an acclaimed literary magazine, a ropes course unique to the Pee Dee, a Jobs for America’s Graduates (JAG) conference display, and choreographed dance routines. Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics initiatives increased as the school received two grants.

SFHS’s SIC facilitated life and career success indicators in students through implementing eleven (11) different innovation grants. Collaboration with community partners created multiple service-learning opportunities promoting health and wellness. Students also spearheaded the SIC initiative, *Simply the Best*, an arts and academic showcase. Other SIC initiatives encouraged student self-directedness and hard work.

SFHS Data	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
4-Yr Grad Rate	75.6%	76.9%	77.6%	77.7%	81.0%*
5-Yr Grad Rate	75.2%	81.4%	79.5%	82.5%	82.1%*
HSAP - 1st attempt	77.6%	75.2%	89.4%	74.4%	N/A
HSAP Longitudinal	88.7%	92.6%	90.9%	90.1%	N/A
EOC - All tests	57.8%	65.5%	68.3%	68.0%	70.7%*
Algebra 1	67.0%	79.7%	72.7%	76.5%	87.9%
English 1	68.2%	76.0%	72.6%	66.9%	63.6%
Biology	59.3%	58.2%	69.8%	73.0%	68.0%
US History	50.0%	52.6%	57.5%	57.5%	64.2%
AP Tests	44.0%	47.5%	55.0%	49.2%	50.3%
School Report Card	Average	Good	Good	Good	N/A

* 2014-15 SIC Goals Exceeded

SIC School Renewal Goals for 2015-16

1. Increase 4-year graduation rate to 80.5%.
2. Increase 5-year graduation rate to 82.5%
3. Increase End-of-course composite passage rate to 71%.
4. Increase the median average of parents and students satisfied with learning environment to 80%.

School Improvement Council 2015-16

Stacy Duke	Elected Teacher
Ashley Rodgers, Vice Chair	Elected Teacher
LaShonda Williams-Shaw	Elected Teacher
Kiersten Camlin	Elected Student
Noah Suggs, Secretary	Elected Student
Emma Collins	Elected Student
Gracelyn Rast, Chair	Elected Student
KeJuan Robinson	Elected Student
Madison Bryan	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
Angel Briggs	Appointed Member
Felix Jordan	Ex-Officio Member
Kim Mack	Ex-Officio Member
Mrs. Carol C. Hill	Ex-Officio Member



SFHS was a top-five state contender for the Prestigious SIC Dick and Tunky Riley Award for Excellence!

South Florence High School Promotes Science, Technology, Reading, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics (STREAM) Initiatives!



Chemistry students Kyle Avellino and Brock Dawkins showcase their tie dye lab aprons.



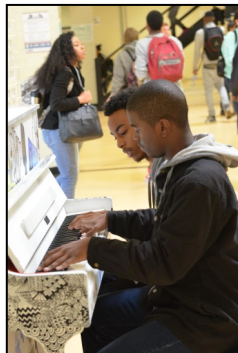
Trainer, Sarah Shaeffer, works with Emily Todd in the training room prior to a softball game.



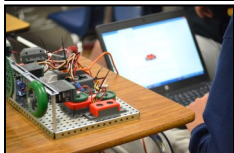
Librarian, Bev Shearon, helps Tyrone Comer with a school project.



Peter Nguyen enjoys reading graphic novels found in the school library.



Charleston Pittman and Jerome Williams play a duet on the piano in the commons.



Principles of Engineering students work on programming the robots they built.



Newly purchased calculators with color screens help make algebra come alive.

Science

The expanded SF garden grew seasonal crops throughout the 2015-16 school year, teaching students about botany and wellness. Students from the Environmental and Natural Resource Management class engineered, designed, and built raised beds for garden expansion. Chemistry classes learned about the chemistry of color and created tie dye lab aprons. Health Careers remained the number one career cluster of choice by SF students. The number of Sports Medicine classes increased, and a SF training room was created this year.

Technology

SFHS expanded its technology capacity by increasing the number of laptops and calculators and upgrading wireless capacity. The number and success of students taking online courses increased, keeping the school's APEX lab busy during and after school.

Reading

Several teachers at SFHS were accepted into a teacher-training grant providing professional development in the teaching of reading in all content areas. The grant offered by the Gates Foundation and the Southern Regional Educational Board (SREB) lasts for three years and will eventually involve all content-area teachers. This initiative has been embedded into the school's SIC strategic plan, which also includes all teachers taking a course in reading instruction in fall of 2016.

Engineering

SFHS added a second level of Project Lead the Way (PLTW) classes in Engineering. The engineering class built and programmed robots. Additional teacher training in summer of 2016 will allow for a third level course to be offered next year.

Arts

With the addition of a fine arts position in 2015-16, SFHS increased the number of arts classes and increased the number of students served. SFHS continues to be an Arts in Basic Curriculum (ABC) school, and as such, arts were infused into English, Chemistry, Biology, and Algebra 2. The band received a rating of superior for the second year in a row, the only time that has happened in school history. The school received a Play-Me-I'm-Yours piano which students have been playing in the commons before school, during lunches, and after school.

Mathematics

Teaching math is one thing, developing mathematicians is another. The school increased the number of co-taught math Algebra classes and received grants to buy more calculators and to place computer laptops in three of the math classes, facilitating more blended instruction. Algebra 1 EOC passage rates were at a historic high of 87.9%.

