



West Florence High School
221 North Beltline Drive
Florence, South Carolina 29501
843-664-8472

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL REPORT TO PARENTS AND COMMUNITY 2014

MISSION STATEMENT

West Florence High School is committed to enabling its students to become confident, self-directed, and lifelong learners. Students will be provided a safe environment, optimal learning conditions, equitable opportunities, consistent support, encouragement, and respect for all.

HSAP First Attempt Percent Meeting Standard					SCHOLASTIC APTITUDE TEST			
Year	ELA				Year	Verbal Means	Math Means	TOTAL
2009	84				2009	470	479	949
2010	85				2010	466	476	942
2011	90				2011	469	464	933
2012	91				2012	463	464	927
2013	91				2013	436	456	902
End of Course Tests Percent Passing					ADVANCED PLACEMENT TESTS			
Year	English	Algebra	US History	Biology	Percent scoring 3 or better			
2009	74	84	N/A	47	2009		49	
2010	82	83	N/A	60	2010		51	
2011	74	81	49	78	2011		49	
2012	78	80	53	73	2012		56	
2013	73.5	83.8	62.3	78.7	2013		57	

PERFORMANCE GOALS

Goal 1: To increase student achievement on standardized tests.

To increase standardized test scores, West Florence offers:

- USA Testprep, Inc., an online preparation resource
- MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) testing, an instrument to identify student weaknesses and lead teacher planning to remediate as needed
- Gifted/Talented and Advanced Placement courses
- Tutoring in English and math
- Writing lab
- E-book readers/iPads in selected classes
- HSAP workshops for at-risk students and parents
- HSAP remediation classes
- SAT preparation classes
- Daily literacy and weekly lessons in all subject areas
- SAT Workshop
- Faculty Focus Groups
- Mosaic Classroom Observation Tool
- Inclusion SPED, English and math classes

Goal 2: To prepare students for the technological skills required by modern society.

To prepare students for the technological skills required by modern society, West Florence has acquired:

- Digital Input Technology/Digital Imaging/ Web Page Design classes
- Digital cameras
- Digital scanners
- Wireless Internet access
- 7 classroom computer labs (including 2 laptop carts and 1 iMac computer lab)
- 90 interactive whiteboards
- 10 Smart wireless slates
- 4 Personal Smart Response systems
- 70 Apple iPods/iPod Touches for instructional use
- 20 Mini iPads for classroom use
- Texas Instruments (TI) Navigational System (wireless communication between student and teacher calculators)
- TI –Nspire calculators
- Integrated technology in all classes
- Google Apps for Education
- Fathom (a data analysis software program)
- ParentLink (automatic phone messaging system)
- Power School/Parent Portal (online school information source for students and parents)
- ROTC flight simulator
- Faculty Focus Groups
- Ebooks available for checkout in library

Goal 3: To reduce the student retention rate in all grades.

To reduce the student retention rate in all grades, West Florence has implemented:

- South Carolina Economic and Education Development Act
- High Schools That Work
- Smaller Learning Communities (career academies)
- Academic Advisors for all students
- Faith-Based mentoring program
- Community-Based Training
- Media Center extended hours
- APEX program (credit recovery throughout school year and/or summer)
- Attendance Recovery
- Dropout Prevention Initiative
- Graduate Florence Academy
- Faculty Focus Groups
- Focus on Children of Poverty—workshops by Tammy Palowski.
- South Carolina Virtual School
- Dual Credit Classes

Goal 4: To assist students with career choices in preparation for the workplace or post-secondary education.

To assist students with career choices in preparation for the workplace or post-secondary education, West Florence provides:

- Four-year Individual Graduation Plan (IGP)
- Individual career counseling
- Career interest surveys
- Career fairs
- Two career development facilitators (CDFs)
- College Fair at Francis Marion University
- College Application Day
- WF onsite college representatives
- South Carolina Course Alignment Project (SCCAP)
- Youth Leadership Program
- Work-based learning coordinator
- Monster.com career semester courses
- Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG)
- Internships and shadowing
- Community partnerships
- Dual-credit opportunities from Florence-Darlington Technical College (FDTC) and Francis Marion University (FMU)
- ARTICULATION—FDTC partnership
- Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB)
- Faculty Focus Groups

AWARDS/RECOGNITION

Academic Accomplishments

- 109 LIFE Scholarship recipients
- 16 Palmetto Fellows
- 46 Board of Trustees Awards
- 70% of the senior class graduated with honors
- Senior scholarships totaling more than 5 million dollars
- 6 South Carolina Board of Education Academic Achievement Awards
- Palmetto Gold Award

Athletic Accomplishments

- 9 Athletic Scholarships
- Region champions in girls' soccer, boys' soccer, girls' tennis boys' tennis, football, and baseball
- 3 North/South All-Star players
- 12 players named South Carolina High School Scholar