



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

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL REPORT TO PARENTS AND COMMUNITY  
 2013

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
2008	89				2008	479	486	965
2009	84				2009	470	479	949
2010	85				2010	466	476	942
2011	90				2011	469	464	933
2012	91				2012	463	464	927
End of Course Tests Percent Passing					ADVANCED PLACEMENT TESTS			
Year	English	Algebra	US History	Biology	Percent scoring 3 or better			
2008	71	84	N/A	56	2008		50	
2009	74	84	N/A	47	2009		49	
2010	82	83	57	60	2010		51	
2011	74	81	49	78	2011		49	
2012	78	80	53	73	2012		56	

**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
- Gifted/Talented and Advanced Placement courses
- Tutoring in English and math
- Writing lab
- E-book readers/iPads
- Inclusion SPED and math classes
- HSAP workshops for 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

**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
- 11 total computer labs (including 2 laptop carts and 1 iMac computer lab)
- 85 Smartboards
- 12 Smart wireless slates
- Smart Response system
- 70 Apple iPods/iPod Touches for instructional use
- Texas Instruments (TI) Navigational System (wireless communication between student and teacher calculators)
- TI –Nspire calculators
- Weekly technology lessons in all classes
- Moodle—an online discussion board for students/faculty
- 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

**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.

**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)
- Knights Armor—clothes closet provides clothing for Interviewing/conferences
- College Fair at Francis Marion University
- College Application Day
- WF onsite college representatives
- 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)
- ARTICULATION—FDTC partnership
- ASVAB—Arms Service Vocational Aptitude Battery
- Faculty Focus Groups
- Youth Leadership Program

**AWARDS/RECOGNITION**

**Academic Accomplishments**

- 98 LIFE Scholarship recipients
- 20 Palmetto Fellows
- 54 Board of Trustees Awards
- 67% of the senior class graduated with honors
- Senior scholarships totaling more than 5 million dollars
- 3 South Carolina Board of Education Academic Achievement Awards

**Athletic Accomplishments**

- Region champions in girls' soccer, boys' soccer, girls' tennis, boys' tennis, and football
- 2 North/South All-Star players in girls' tennis
- 21 players named South Carolina High School Scholar Athletes
- Individual State Champion in girls' track