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Wade Hampton High School has maintained a tradition of academic excellence for over 55 years. We are proud of the accomplishments of our outstanding students and faculty. Wade Hampton's strength emanates from the educational partnerships between the students and faculty, the wealth of parental and community involvement, and the love of learning that exists as a result. The school year opened with a stimulating newness. The freshman class smiled with 448 new faces eager to start their high school careers. There were 16 new teachers, and for the first time in 9 years, there was a new principal.

First Goal: Raise the academic challenge and performance of each student. Wade Hampton High School is one of the highest performing high schools in South Carolina. Since 2011, the graduation rate has increased from 84% to over 93%; and has been the highest graduation rate of all GCS high schools two out of the past 3 years. Other notable metrics include the AP pass rate (up 10.5% from last year), the EOCEP pass rate (up 1% from last year), the SAT composite score (up 37 points from last year) and the ACT composite score (up 1 point from last year). The class of 2014 earned 369 state diplomas, produced 118 Life Scholarship recipients, 23 Palmetto Fellows, and was offered more than \$12,000,000 in scholarships. There were 7 National Merit Finalists, 3 National Merit Winners, and 5 SC Teaching Fellows. The Class of 2015 is off to a good start as two of the four Presidential Scholars in the district were Wade Hampton students. Wade Hampton High School has been given the grade of Excellent on the South Carolina State Report Card for 6 years in a row, and has earned the grade of A for federal accountability (The ESEA-Waiver) for all 3 years the program has been in place.



APRIL

2015

REPORT TO THE
COMMUNITY

The principal of WHHS is eager to continue to move our school forward to even greater heights. A focus on the goals of the school's Renewal Plan will foster growth and allow Wade Hampton to soar even higher. Wade Hampton High School is known as the school that cares for and about students as individuals. The **Wade Hampton High School GOALS** are the force that drives what we do and are aligned with the goals of Greenville County Schools.

Second Goal: Ensure quality personnel in all positions. The academic accomplishments of Wade Hampton High School are like the flowers of a strong root system. The adults modeled dedication and excellence consistently and pervasively, therefore the students developed the same qualities academically. The culture promotes the concept of life-long-learners. The instructional faculty has district professional development requirements to meet annually; but most far exceed the minimum requirements. Throughout the year, teachers take advantage of opportunities to attend and present at local, state, and national conferences. During spring break, some teachers travel abroad alone or with student groups, to learn about and have first hand experiences with other cultures. Wade Hampton teachers are as passionate about learning as they are about teaching; and the quest to make every experience a teachable moment drives their passion. There are 13 educators on the faculty with National Board Certificates, 62 with advanced degrees, 22 with AP

Endorsements and 62 have been endorsed to teach gifted learners. WHHS teachers continue to complete advanced degrees and certification to improve their knowledge of subject and pedagogy as well as for advanced salary recognition. Of the past 5 WHHS candidates for Teacher of the Year, 3 were among the top 5 finalists for the district. The Wade Hampton High School faculty is a dynamic cohort of educators who are dedicated to instilling a love of learning in each of their students.

Third Goal: Provide a school environment supportive of learning. School safety, once taken for granted, is now a major concern to parents, students, and other stakeholders within most communities. Annual state surveys taken by the parents, students, and teachers of WHHS reveal that the majority of our stakeholders believe that WHHS is a safe environment. Programs and policies such as ID badges, Ignore the Door, and the remodeling of the front office entry for security are measures that have been taken to further protect the students and faculty. Enhancements have been made to the instructional program as well. Academics are supported through established programs such as The Freshman Academy, now in its 12th year, the After School Tutoring program, which provides free transportation home for students within WHHS's attendance zone, and the Writing & Literacy Center. Additionally, approximately 20% of the student body takes advantage of specialized curricula at The Fine

Arts Center or one of the four Career Centers throughout the county. One means of promoting rigor is through a philosophy of moving students into higher level courses if the achievement data supports it. This practice is one of the reasons that Wade Hampton High School maintains the largest AP course enrollment in the district. In 2014, Greenville County Schools launched Graduation Plus. This initiative was designed to encourage students to enhance their diploma program by selecting course work that leads to completer certificates in technical areas or college credits through the dual credit program, as well as offering opportunities for Early College. In 2015-2016, three dual credit courses will be added to the instructional program. They are Marketing, English 101, and Human Anatomy. Additionally, the CERRA sponsored Teacher Cadet Program is a dual credit course that has been offered at WHHS since 1986 and has been expanded to include a Teacher Cadet 2 course. We believe that variety in the instructional program is vital to meeting the needs of our students.

Wade Hampton High School is the flagship high school of the Greenville County Schools district. We embrace the qualities that make us unique, allowing students to assume ownership of their education and ultimately their futures. As we move further into the 21st century, it is clear that the world is ever-changing. And while the strategies must change to keep up with changes in the world, it is clear that the goals of the Renewal Plan are the road map to our vision. *Cum audacia!*

- Excellent/Excellent SC Report Card 3 years in a row.
- Federal Accountability Grade of "A" for all 3 years the ESEA-Waiver has been in place.
- Two of the four Presidential Scholars in GCS were Wade Hampton High students.
- One WHHS student was a National Merit Semi-Finalist in 2015.
- A WHHS student was honored with The President's Volunteer Service Award.
- The Wade Hampton community worked together to raise over \$225,000 for the ALS Center of Excellence during Spirit Week.
- Student Council was honored with the Gold Gavel Award, making WHHS the BEST 4A Student Council for 2014.

Principal
SIC Chairman

Eric Williams
Debbie Strickland

