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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. In September, we were honored by the federal government with the designation as a 2016 National Blue Ribbon School. WHHS is the first high school in the upstate to be awarded this moniker since 1986. 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. This school year opened with over

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. These three goals will be described in this report to the community along with many accomplishments in each area.

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. We are excited and proud to announce that our 4 year graduation rate was 95.4% in 2016. This is an all time high for WHHS and was the highest graduation rate among GCS high schools. We are also proud of our 5-year graduation rate of 94.5%, another new record for WHHS. The ACT and ACT WorkKeys assessments were administered to all 3rd year high school students in April 2016 as SC's new assessment for state and federal accountability. As expected, WHHS's scores in all areas of the ACT exceeded the scores for the district. The ACT WorkKeys results showed 94% of our students received a National Readiness Certificate.

The class of 2016 earned 379 state diplomas, produced 141 Life Scholarship recipients, 28 Palmetto Fellows, and was offered close to \$12,000,000 in scholarships. There were 3 National Merit Finalists and 1 Presidential Scholar Winner. Although the grading component of the SC School Report Card program is suspended until the fall of 2017, we continue to meet or exceed the goals of our renewal plan.



APRIL

2017

REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

1,700 students in attendance and many more on the waiting list. The fine arts and athletic offerings also grew along with new and advanced academic opportunities.

Wade Hampton High School continues to move forward to even greater heights. A focus on the goals of the school's Renewal Plan 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



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 consistent and pervasive modeling of dedication and excellence by the adult stakeholders fosters behaviors in students that lead to quality academic achievement. The culture promotes 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, 76 with advanced degrees, 29 with AP endorsements, and 31 are 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 7 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 14th 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 were 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. 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!*

- 2016 National Blue Ribbon Schools Award
- Excellent/Excellent SC Report Card since 2012.
- Federal Accountability Grade of "A" for all 3 years the ESEA-Waiver has been in place.
- The Wade Hampton community worked together to raise over \$221,000 for The Emerson Rose Heart Foundation during Spirit Week.

Principal
SIC Chairman

Eric Williams
Lori Madeline

