

LEADING LIKE GENERALS



Report to the Community

Principal Lance Radford ~ SIC Chairman Debbie Strickland

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Common Core Standards: Wade Hampton is Ready!

The idea for the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) started in 2009 as a states-led initiative to create consistent standards and expectations of students. It was an effort to ensure a coherent rigorous underpinning for students' entrance into college or the workforce and to ease student transitions between districts. The Council of State School Officers and the National Governors Association, with input from teachers, parents, and other stakeholders, developed these standards to address the wide discrepancy between districts in student expectations and graduation requirements. The standards have been voluntarily adopted by 45 states that recognize the benefit of providing challenging, coherent, clear, and consistent expectations across our population, regardless of zip code and the need to prepare students for competition in an increasingly global, economic environment. Much like the current SC State Standards provide teachers with a guideline of what students should be expected to know in each subject and grade level, the CCSS provides that guidance across the states that have adopted it.

The CCSS was approved as South Carolina's academic standards

on July 14, 2010. Since then the Greenville County School District's Division of Academics has been working diligently to target and bridge gaps between the current State Standards and the CCSS and to establish curricula based on the new standards. Full implementation of the CCSS in ELA and Math is targeted for next school year, 2014-2015.

Wade Hampton began preparing as soon as the state standards were adopted in 2010. The CCSS content standards are in place for English Language Arts and Math only. All other content areas will continue to use the SC State Content Standards. The CCSS influence the other content areas in the form of Literacy Standards. Professional development has been ongoing, beginning with book studies the first year on collaborative teaching methods. With the help of the district, the administration and teachers have been researching the standards to understand fully what they are, what they mean and the best way for students to be assessed. The CCSS focuses very strongly on a student's ability to read, to determine relevant information, to write, and to apply his or her skills. As a result, teaching will emphasize

logic and critical thinking. As is the practice at Wade Hampton, everyone has gone above and beyond the bare minimum. Teachers and administration have taken sample assessments in an effort to comprehend more fully the skills a student will need to be successful in the CCSS assessments. Throughout the current year, students have been participating weekly in "close reading" activities in each classroom. These involve reading a prepared text on a subject, and by using specific close-reading strategies to comprehend and ascertain relevant information, the student glean information that can be used to support a response to assessment questions. During this Bridge Year, everyone involved is doing double duty. The

school and students will still be measured on current standards now in place while they work diligently to be prepared for the new standards that will reach full implementation next year. Wade Hampton is ready. In fact, we fully expect to maintain the focus

on Rigor, Relevance, and Relationships that you, the community, have come to expect from your neighborhood high school.

Teacher Cadet students represent us well at North Greenville University's Teacher Cadet College Day.



GOALS & OBJECTIVES

GOAL AREA 1: Raise the academic challenge and performance of each student.

GOAL AREA 2: Ensure quality personnel in all positions.

GOAL AREA 3: Provide a school environment supportive of learning.

Educate. Inspire. Empower.

Wade Hampton Generals Live Up to Their Namesake

The Wade Hampton High School Generals are the proud namesake of Brigadier General Wade Hampton. A general is a leader, and much like their namesake, the WHHS Generals are leaders in every area in which they are involved. Within the walls of the school exists an impressive collection of enrichment opportunities that are available to each and every student. This allows each young adult to tailor his or her high school experience and to cultivate individual interests. Generals are not only intellectual, but also artistic and athletic. With over seventy clubs, teams, and organizations on the WHHS campus, there is an opportunity for every student to be involved in their area of interest.

Although the over twenty athletic

teams are the most visible, there are clubs for service-oriented students as well. These include Interact Club, Junior Civitan, and Key Club, not to mention our award winning Student Government. In fact, there are over ten different service organizations and clubs available that make a difference in the Wade Hampton community. There are also at least twenty special interest clubs including Chess, Diamonds, Theatre Brigade, Robotics, MBK Mentoring Group, Fencing, and a Dance Team. Because academics is always a priority at WHHS, and to encourage academic exploration and recognition beyond the classroom, there are almost fifteen different organizations with a focus on academics, including an Academic Team, the National Honor Society,

the National Art Honor Society; as well as very active French, German, and Spanish Language Clubs.

Come one, come all! To ensure that all Generals have the strong academic foundation that they need for success in high school and beyond, we have after-school tutoring available to every student on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays. This tutoring

is free to all Wade Hampton students and for all courses and levels. Free transportation home within the WHHS attendance zone is also available for any student who wants or needs it. Through our academic focus and by taking advantage of the numerous enrichment opportunities, every Wade Hampton General will be prepared for graduation and beyond!



Larissa Cladovan and Maria Berrio work on artistically carving their pumpkin in art class.

Generals in the Classroom

- ★ ~WHHS awarded the NASSP Breakthrough Schools Award in 2012, a national award.
- ★ ~WHHS awarded the Panasonic National School Change Award in 2011, a national award.
- ★ ~WHHS named the Carolina First Palmetto's Finest High School in 2010, a state award.
- ★ ~WHHS was a Carolina First Palmetto's Finest finalist in 2010, 2009, and 2008.
- ★ ~ACT High Performance Award in 2012, 2011, 2010, and 2009.
- ★ ~SAT High Performance Award in 2012 and 2009.
- ★ ~Palmetto Gold Award Winner 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010, and 2009.
- ★ ~Second highest graduation rate among all GCS in 2013 (86.5%), highest in 2012 (87%), second highest in 2011 (84%), and highest in 2010 (86%).
- ★ ~Second highest 5th Year graduation rate among all GCS in 2013 (87.79%), highest in 2012 (87%) and 2011 (87%).
- ★ ~The graduation rate has increased over 15% (from 71% to 86%) since 2005 and has exceeded the state and district rates since 2006.
- ★ ~The EOCEP pass rate (87.5%) is the 2nd highest among all Greenville County High Schools in 2013
- ★ ~Almost \$15 million scholarships offered to the Class of 2013.
- ★ ~28 Palmetto Fellows Scholarship recipients in The Class of 2013, the highest number in WHHS history!
- ★ ~FIVE students awarded SC Teaching Fellows Scholarships in The Class of 2014.
- ★ ~The average freshman GPA was 3.41 in 2013.
- ★ ~All subject pass rate of 95.12% in 2013.
- ★ ~Student enrollment has increased over 26% since 2005.
- ★ ~**EXCELLENT growth rating two years in a row!**
- ★ ~**EXCELLENT State Report Card rating FIVE years in a row!**

Did you know?

WHHS OFFERS...

~A very successful Freshman Academy in its 11th year of supporting freshmen in their transition to high school.

~Well-established World Language Program including four years of German, French, and Spanish; including AP Spanish.

~Eighteen AP courses, beginning with freshman classes.

~Fourteen Career Clusters classes at Bonds and Enoree Career Centers with transportation provided.

~More than 52 different sections in the award winning Fine Arts Department. Curriculum includes four levels of choral music, art, band, orchestra, journalism, and drama.

~An award winning Air Force JROTC program.

~Twenty-two varsity and 12 JV teams in 16 different sports.

~Twenty special interest clubs & ten service organizations

~Technology-rich environment, including wireless internet access throughout the building, ten computer labs, four wireless laptop computer labs, iPads in the classroom and 82 Promethean Boards for classroom instruction.

~Twelve faculty members with National Board Certification, with more on the way!

~Shared common campus with the District's Fine Arts Center.

~After school tutoring with free transportation home.