

2020-2021

# Saint James High School School Summary Report



## OUR MISSION:

*Every student will graduate from Saint James High School with the skills to start work or attend college with no remediation.*

Dear Shark Family Members,

St. James remains dedicated to the mission of preparing all students for the evolving realities of an ever-changing world through a rigorous, relevant, and engaging high school experience. We hope that you will celebrate with us as you review the many successes covered in this annual report. Most importantly, we understand that the rising test scores, academic accomplishments, and athletic achievements of this school year would not have been possible without the backing of dedicated parents, guardians, and community partners. Remember, as a valued stakeholder in our school, your opinions are critical to our ongoing improvement, and we encourage you to get involved in our Shark Family. Working together, we can ensure that, like true Sharks, our school continues to move in only one direction - FORWARD!

Vann Pennell, Principal  
Kim Frederick, SIC Chair



## School Improvement Council

Angel Mack	Jacob Bartlett	Bitsy Farmer
Tara Watts	Anna Grace Watford	Vann Pennell
Angel Mack	Andrew Parness	Jamie Hammons
Jeanna Johnson	Helene Gerrald	

Saint James High School  
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## Our Performance Goals

Tracking our Achievements on the Fall 2020 SC State Report Card

In the fall of 2018, the state of South Carolina released its first round of school report cards based on new criteria drawn from the federal *Every Child Succeeds Act* of 2015. Under these guidelines, schools are rated and ranked based on a number of factors, including end-of-course exam scores, on-time graduation rate, graduates' college and career readiness, the progress of English-language-learners, and overall student engagement. Based on these criteria, St. James earned the following rankings:



Not Rated

**Academic Achievement**  
English and Algebra  
EOC Scores



Not Rated

**Preparing for Success**  
US History and Biology  
EOC Scores



Not Rated

**On-time  
Graduation Rate**  
Class of 2020



Not Rated

**College and Career  
Readiness**  
Class of 2020



Not Rated

**E.L.L.  
Student Progress**  
All E.L.L. Students



Not Rated

**Student  
Engagement**  
All Students

Due to the ongoing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, the state of South Carolina has applied for and received a waiver on accountability measures from the US Department of Education.

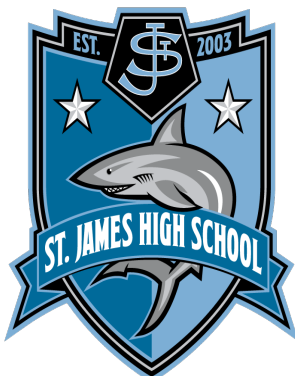
It is anticipated that these measures will be reinstated during the 2021-2022 school year.

### Our School's Strategies for Improvement

- Implement a mandatory unit recovery program in core classes to increase passage rates and decrease retention.
- Provide targeted test-prep for SAT, ACT, and Work-Ready assessments.
- Monitor and support at-risk students to ensure graduation in four years.
- Continue to expand the school's AP program to provide course offerings for more students.

### *SAT and ACT Scores*

The graduating class of 2020 continued to perform well on college entrance exams, outpacing district, state, and national averages!



	<i>SAT Composite</i>	<i>ACT Composite</i>
<i>St. James High School</i>	1044	19.6
<i>Horry County Schools</i>	1033	18.0
<i>South Carolina</i>	1019	18.1
<i>United States</i>	1030	20.6

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## ***Sharks Moving Forward*** ***Looking toward the Future at SJHS***

The 2020-2021 school year was one unlike we have ever experienced!

In the midst of an unprecedented global pandemic, our students, faculty, staff, and community members faced challenges that were unthought of as recently as the first two weeks of March 2020. Yet, despite the struggles that COVID-19 created, St. James High School continued to live up to its reputation as one of the best schools in the state of South Carolina.

Although they were not included in the state's accountability measurements, End-of-Course test scores during the 2020-2021 school year held par with—and in some cases exceeded—performance in previous years. Likewise, students' Advanced Placement exam results were among the highest in the history of the school. Students and faculty alike worked tirelessly to ensure that the "learning loss" that was anticipated during the past year was held to a minimum.

St. James was once again recognized as being among the top schools in the nation by *US News and World Report*. In addition to this accolade, the school was voted *Best of the Beach* by readers of the Myrtle Beach *Sun News* in October.

As we cautiously transition back some sense of normality, this *is* and *should be* a very exciting time for the students, parents, and educators of St. James High School. Working together, we can ensure that we continue to move FORWARD - like true Sharks!