

2019-2020

# 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  
Helene Gerrald, SIC President



## School Improvement Council

Kim Frederick  
Tara Watts  
Angel Mack  
Jeanna Johnson

Jacob Bartlett  
Anna Grace Watford  
Andrew Parness  
Helene Gerrald

Bitsy Farmer  
Vann Pennell  
Jamie Hammons



Saint James High School  
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## School Improvement Council Initiatives

Here are just some of the initiatives your SIC undertook this year:

### Teenage Drug Use and Vaping Awareness Meeting

Given the proliferation of teenage vaping, drug use, and related health issues in recent years, the SIC chose to host an informational meeting for parents and community members. Working in conjunction with the school and the Horry County Police Department, the SIC was able to provide attendees with valuable knowledge to help keep our school and community safe!



### The Great Kindness Week Challenge

To inspire students, faculty, and community members to display acts of kindness in their daily lives, the SIC once again helped organize The Great Kindness Week Challenge. This weeklong celebration in late January included the charitable efforts of schools throughout the St. James cluster and encouraged participants—students, parents, and staff—to make the world a better place for those around them.

### Freshmen Orientation

Every year in mid-August, the School Improvement Council works with the school's faculty and administration to provide incoming 9th graders with a day just for them. This freshmen orientation event welcomes all new students into the building before upperclassmen arrive for the first day of school. By easing the transition from middle to high school, we hope to welcome these new students into the Shark family!



**All parents and community members are invited and encouraged to participate in our *School Improvement Council!***

**Meetings are held in the SJHS Auditorium on the 2nd Tuesday of every month.**



## Our Performance Goals

### Measuring our Achievements

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:



Excellent  
16.06/ 25  
Points earned

**Academic Achievement**  
English and Algebra  
EOC Scores



Good  
6.14/ 10  
Points earned

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



Good  
17.11/ 25  
Points earned

**On-time  
Graduation Rate**  
Class of 2018



Excellent  
20.60/ 25  
Points earned

**College and Career  
Readiness**  
Class of 2018



Good  
6.36/ 10  
Points earned

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



Average  
2.00/ 5  
Points earned

**Student  
Engagement**  
All Students

### 2018-2019 Overall Rating

**Excellent  
68**

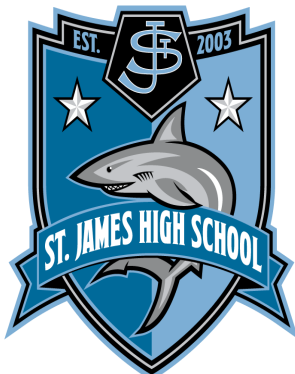
School performance substantially exceeds the criteria to ensure all students meet the Profile of the SC Graduate

### 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 2019 continued to perform well on college entrance exams, outpacing district, state, and national averages!



	SAT Composite	ACT Composite
St. James High School	1053	19.8
Horry County Schools	1044	18.3
South Carolina	1021	18.0
United States	1039	20.8

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## ***Sharks Moving Forward***

***Looking toward the Future at SJHS***

As always, it's a very exciting time to be a Shark!

As our community continues to grow, and our student enrollment swells, our school continues to look for ways to provide a world-class education to the students of Murrells Inlet, South Carolina.

In 2018-2019, St. James became one of a select few schools in state to offer the prestigious Advanced Placement Capstone Diploma program. This advanced course of study will provide our most highly-motivated students with the knowledge and tools necessary to complete university-level learning and research.

The students of St. James also continue to benefit from the expansion of the district's Personalized Digital Learning initiative. Refreshed personal learning devices and utilization of adaptive digital content and learning management systems allow our teachers to provide students with individualized instruction, tailored to their unique needs. Our school and district remain committed to providing all of our students with the tools and experiences they need to be successful!

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!