

Gilbert High School

Annual Report to Parents

April 30, 2014



Gilbert School Improvement Council Members

Parents

Melissa Alewine
Tammy Harman, Chair
Barbara Harman
Jayne Harris
Angie Lewis
Debra Whittle

Students

Lea Howell
Alexx Henley

Community

Cindy Bostic
Kim Keisler
Lynn McGee
Tracy Pound
Susan Reeves
Ron Hill

Faculty

Colleen Hilton
Bree Williams
Julie Rojek
Sharie Cato
Josh Haxton
Tracy Gooding
Christina Bosserman
Libby Newman
Donald Spears
Jennifer Gibbons
Rodney Craps
Brenda Hedgecock

Ex-Officio Members

Ann O'Cain
Laura Covington
Casey Calhoun
Matthew Warren
Barry Harley
Shea McCormack

Annual Message from Ann O'Cain, Principal

Gilbert High School was named a Palmetto Gold School for Academic Excellence and Improvement for 2013-14. School improvement is vital in providing not only high expectations but the most innovative, rigorous, and engaging instruction possible for our students to prepare them for life beyond high school. This year, our focus continues to be on providing rigor in our instruction and focus on student learning, while providing meaningful feedback to students on their performance.

Gilbert High School takes very seriously the responsibility of preparing students for the 21st century. Our data reflects that we are not meeting the graduation criteria for several subgroups; African Americans, Hispanics, students with disabilities, (who showed improvement this school year) and students on free/reduced lunch. We continue to focus on these subgroups to remediate for on-time graduation and catch them early to prevent dropping out.

This school year, GHS introduced The ZONE (Zeroed-in On Ninth-grade Excellence), a freshmen experience. The freshmen ZONE was designed to assist first time 9th graders as they adjust to the demands of high school. In order to lay a solid foundation for high school, a support system is in place to help students graduate in four years. It is our hope that The ZONE will engage freshmen in a rigorous curriculum, foster student achievement and develop positive student/teacher/parent relationships. The ZONE

supports our vision of providing a nurturing, caring, and safe environment for our incoming 21st century learners.

An additional support system, TRIBE Time, was implemented for students this year. GHS created TRIBE Time, an Advisor/Advisee time where every student has a teacher advisor that they make personal contact with each week during their four years of high school. TRIBE time is also a time where students can meet with teachers, during the school day, for extra help, remediation, checking for understanding of standards and skills, to re-take assessments, and extend their learning. TRIBE Time is in place to build positive student/teacher relationships and provide that one person that a student can go to for assistance academically, socially, or emotionally.

Throughout the 13-14 school year, school-wide in-service training has included key information in regards to making the shifts in instruction that accompany new state curriculum standards. Through classroom observations, teachers have had to demonstrate how they have incorporated the shifts in content, instruction, and assessment in their classrooms. Together, we continue to create and implement effective formative and summative assessments in order to focus on student learning. In order to complete that task, we provided guidance to teachers through staff development in how to provide more meaningful feedback



to ensure higher quality products from students.

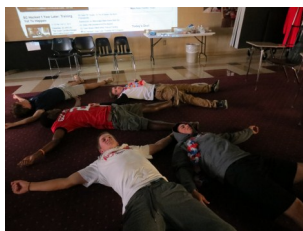
Parents, with your support, Gilbert High School will continue to provide challenging and rigorous coursework as well as structure support systems to our students in order to make them college and career ready. We want our students to graduate with world class skills such as creativity and innovation, critical thinking and problem solving, collaboration and teamwork, as well as communication skills.

As always, I thank the parents of our students and the Gilbert Community for their continued support of our endeavors as we strive to provide our students with a world class education!

E. Ann O'Cain, Principal

The mission of Gilbert High School, in collaboration with the Gilbert Community, is to develop self-directed, innovative, healthy citizens by providing a safe, nurturing, learning environment, in preparation to meet the challenges of a globally competitive society.

Gilbert Life



Initiatives and Strategies for School Improvement

- Creation and Implementation of The ZONE, a Freshman Experience
- Cambridge SAT/ACT Workshops for students
- Raising the Graduation rate by establishing intervention (RTI) teams offering academic/transition support
- Providing on-line learning opportunities for unit recovery, course recovery, and initial course credit through Edgenuity
- Provide access to remediation and extension of learning during the school day through *TRIBE Time*.
- Creation of weekly *TRIBE Time* Advisor/Advisee Character Curriculum
- Targeted underperforming subgroups in meeting the 74.1% graduation rate in 4 years.
- Instructional Coach to provide support for teachers in developing a rigorous and supportive curriculum, instruction, assessments, and feedback
- Guidance created small groups to discuss relevant issues (i.e. grief, college apps, transition, study skills)

School Highlights: Academics

- Gilbert High School name Palmetto Gold School for Academic Excellence and Improvement
- Gilbert High School just completed Year I of *Green Steps School Certification*
- 2013 opening of our New Advanced Center for Sustainable Solutions and 1st "Center Graduate"
- Gilbert High School named *Outstanding HSTW School* by Southern Regional Educational Board (SREB)
- Gilbert FBLA boasts a National Finalist; Gilbert DECA has State Gold Medal Winner
- 2013 opening of our newly renovated Health Science Wing at the end of the 400 Hall.
- Gilbert Health Science had 100% passage rate (16 students) in the Certified Nursing Program (CNA)
- Gilbert HOSA earned 11 Medals at State Competition along with a State Officer
- First Center for Sustainable Solutions Graduate in 2014

School Highlights: Communications and Fine Arts

- Marching Band placed 6th in AAA State Marching Finals
- 14 All-Region, 32 Solo/Ensemble, and 3 All-State band participants
- Overall Performance Award (OPA) for the 4th consecutive year
- The GHS yearbook, *Gilbertine*, was inducted into the Walsworth Publishing's Annual Gallery of Excellence for the 5th consecutive year
- GHS Winter Guard and Winter Percussion both placed 2nd at SCBDA Winter Ensembles Competition
- Chorale: State Superior in Sight-Singing and Performance
- 2 All-State Chorus participants
- 7th place in South Carolina Theater Association (SCTA) participants; one theater student named to All-Star Cast
- SCSTA 1st Place Group Performance
- Lexington I Holiday Card Contest Winner
- 3 Peach Festival Art Contest Winners
- Scholastics Art Competition Gold Key Drawing Award and Silver Key Photography Award

School Highlights: Athletics and Academics

- 14 senior student athletes in top 10% of Class of 2014
- WLTX Player of the Week in football and softball
- In Athletics, 13 out of 16 varsity athletic teams qualified for the playoffs.
- Gilbert won 5 Region Championships including girls cross country, baseball, softball, and boys tennis and boys golf.
- 30 student athletes were name *Scholar Athletes* by the South Carolina High School League.
- 59 student athletes were named to All-Region Teams.
- 2 Region 5 AAA Players of the Year
- 6 student athletes were named to All-State Teams
- 6 student athletes signed college athletic scholarships or are continuing their athletic career at the college level.
- 5 student athletes participated in North/South and 2 on the SC Select Team
- 4 student athletes were selected for State All-Star Games
- GHS Athletic Training Department named 1st Team Safe Sports by National Athletic Trainers Association (NATA)



School Highlights: Community Service

- GHS hosts the *Annual Battle of the Badges* for the Lexington County Sheriffs Department
- GHS students work the Annual Lexington County Peach Festival every July 4th
- SIC sponsored 1st Annual Coat Drive and 1st Annual Cinderella Project
- GHS FFA hosts the Annual Farm Day for Gilbert Primary School
- Gilbert Key club sponsored "Bold Blue Day"
- HOSA sold bagels and raised funds for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
- Chorus performed in the Annual Gilbert Carol Lighting
- Photo 2 sponsored Farm Day photo booth to benefit Relay for Life
- GHS Student Athletes volunteered for Read Across America at GPS



School Highlights: Faculty and Staff Honors

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • United Way Outstanding High School Campaign Award 2013-14 • Lisa Myrick, Science Teacher, earned Midland's Master Naturalist Certification • Ashley Burnett named 2014 S.C. Select Team Baseball Assistant Coach • Derrick Cooper named GHS Teacher of the Year • Barry Harley was Head Coach for North/South All-Star Football Team | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Principal Ann O'Cain, Region 5 AAA Principal of the Year • L.C. Storey named Support Staff Member of the Year • Wayland Hiott, Region 5 AAA Coach of the Year boys golf • Ryan Allman, Region 5 AAA Coach of the Year boys tennis • Byron Millwood was Head Athletic Trainer for North/South All-Star Football Team | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ashley Burnett, Region 5 AAA Coach of the Year, baseball • Reuben Eargle, Region 5 AAA Coach of the Year, softball • Dawn Fairey, Assistant Coach for North/South All-Star Girls Golf Team • Suzanne Halloran was named <i>Palmetto Citizens FCU Youth Financial Educator of the Year</i> • Shari Cato was the recipient of the National HOSA Outstanding Service Award in Orlando, FL |
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<http://ghs.lexington1.net:8013/>



Gilbert High School Teachers Empower 21st Century Learners



Zeroed-in

O_n

Ninth grade

Excellence

The Gilbert High School Freshmen Zone is a transitional environment designed to assist first time 9th graders as they adjust to the demands of high school. GHS's version of the Freshmen Academy will allow freshmen to be on a team that will help them transition successfully. Our mission is to help students lay a solid foundation for high school so that they have every support system in place in order to graduate with-in four years. It is also our hope that freshmen will develop positive student/teacher/parent relationships, engage in rigorous academics, all while fostering student achievement. The ZONE will support our vision of providing a nurturing, caring, and safe environment for our incoming group of 21st century learners.

Lexington County School District One does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability or age in admission to, access to, treatment in or employment in its programs and activities. The following people have been designated to handle inquiries or complaints. The Chief Human Resources Officer handles inquiries/complaints regarding Title IX. The Director of Middle Schools handles inquiries/complaints regarding Section 504. The Mathematics Coordinator handles inquiries/complaints regarding Title II. Contact these people if you have questions regarding these issues at 100 Tarrar Springs Road, Lexington, SC 29072 and telephone number (803) 821-1000.