

# Swansea High Freshman Academy Achievements

## Academic Achievements

As a professional learning community SHFA is very cognizant of learning, collaboration and results to continue a cycle for improvement.

The Swansea High Freshman Academy has significantly decreased the retention rate for ninth grade students in Lexington School District Four. The retention rate for ninth grade students has decreased over twenty-six percent since the Academy's inaugural year in 2010.

SHFA students have experienced a ninety-three percent success rate for accruing six or more credits during their 2013 ninth grade school year. Ninety-six percent of students are on track to graduate within four years of high school.

Predictive data of student learning shows that the Academy is on track to have another successful year for freshmen passing the ninth grade. The class of 2017 is on track to receive over \$2.1 million in academic scholarship.

State survey data shows the majority of parents, teachers and students felt that the SHFA provided a learning environment that was safe and conducive for learning. Parents and students were pleased with the efforts of the staff to provide extra time and support

for student learning and cared about the success of each student.

The S.C. End of Course Exam was given in the content areas of English and Algebra. The state accountability tests count twenty percent of the student's final grade in each content area tested. SHFA students achieved an overall passage rate of eighty-one percent on the End of Course exam in 2012-2013. Ninety-one percent of the students passed their Algebra I End of Course exam and seventy-one percent passed their English I End of Course exam.

## Student Involvement

Swansea High Freshman Academy was well represented in many extra-curricular endeavors during the 2013-2014 school year. Forty-five percent of the student population was enrolled in the JROTC program which was recognized as an honor unit with distinction. Forty percent of the student population is involved in athletics. These students contributed towards the region championships in wrestling and track.

The band and chorus program was represented by thirty-one students from the Academy. The Marching Band received a superior rating at the State Concert and Jazz Festival, were Lower State Champions and State Runner Up in AA competition. Eleven students were selected for honor band. The chorus program also received an excellent rating at the state choral festival.

Our Beta, Leader's Edge and Green Team clubs served over 500(+) community service

hours during the 2013-2014 school year. Student involvement has been a key for success at SHFA.

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**Swansea High  
Freshman Academy**  
*Ensuring Student Performance at the  
Highest Level*

## 2013-2014 School Summary Report



## Mission Statement

*We will create a learning environment which ensures student performance at the highest level as determined by state and national standards. We will prepare students for a seamless transition to relevant employment, further training, or postsecondary study.*

## Bryan K. Evans, Principal

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## **SHFA**

### **School Improvement Council**

**Chair:** Ms. Susan Hook

Ms. Karen Marrero-teacher

[kmarrero@lexington4.net](mailto:kmarrero@lexington4.net)

Ms. Valencia Jackson-parent

Ms. Eris Speights-parent

Mr. Timothy Martin-parent

Mr. Robert Frederick-student

Ms. McKayla Spencer-student

Ms. Kathy Mixon-community

Mr. Eric Pack-teacher

[epack@lexington4.net](mailto:epack@lexington4.net)

Ms. Joyce Simmons-community

Ms. Shareika Zeigler

Ms. Toyeka Campbell-Teacher of the Year

[tcampbell@lexington4.net](mailto:tcampbell@lexington4.net)

Principal: Mr. Bryan Evans

[bevans@lexington4.net](mailto:bevans@lexington4.net)

#### **Purpose of the Report**

*This Report is issued by the Swansea High Freshman Academy School Improvement Council in accordance with South Carolina law to share information on the school's progress in meeting various goals and objectives, the work of the SIC, and other accomplishments during the school year.*

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### **School Goals**

- 91% passage rate for grade 9
  - *Strategies include alignment of Curriculum in all Content Areas to Common Core*
  - *Increase authentic literacy practices*
  - *Provide Response to Intervention*

- 85% passage rate for End of Course exam
  - *Professional Development that drives learning, collaboration and results*
  - *Progress monitoring of our comprehensive assessment model*
- 5% positive increase of stakeholder perception survey data in the areas of learning environment, physical/social environment and home-school relations
  - *Implement PBIS*
  - *Improve communication with all stakeholders*
  - *Utilize data points in the area of achievement, attendance and discipline*

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## **Our History**

The Swansea High Freshman Academy's inaugural year was 2010-2011. The academy utilizes the building that once housed the Swansea Primary School as a satellite campus to Swansea High School.

The dynamics of the Freshman Academy will allow for students to reap the benefits created by a small learning community. In a small learning community students experience a more personalized education which enhances learning through high levels of rigor, relevance, and relationships in a non-threatening environment.

A small learning community can greatly increase communication between all stakeholders, increase collaboration and

increase the likelihood for academic success. Our small learning community will be broken up into two teams of eight core content teachers that will interact with their 110 students daily. The team will get to know every student, readily identify strengths and weaknesses of individual students and provide a timely intervention by utilizing data for each student.

The goal of the Freshman Academy will be to increase student attendance, provide positive behavioral supports/ interventions, and ultimately ensure student success at the highest level by providing best practices in each classroom with a focus on learning, collaboration and results.