



**Nationally Board Certified Faculty**



DFHS celebrates our newest Nationally Board Certified teachers, Ali Hendrick & Kim Smoak, who join the already impressive group of dedicated Nationally Board Certified teachers here at DFHS!!!!



2019-2020

# Dutch Fork High School



Photo Credit: Blaisdell Aplin, DFHS Student

## Annual School Improvement Council “Report to the Parents”

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**Mission:** Dutch Fork High School ensures the academic, social, mental, physical, and personal growth of all students so that they will be college and career ready in a globally competitive world. We provide a challenging and comprehensive curriculum that utilizes effective teaching strategies and creates a stimulating environment that fosters self-respect and motivates the continual pursuit of life-long learning and service.

**School Improvement Council (SIC):** The Dutch Fork High School's School Improvement Council meets monthly to plan, monitor, and evaluate improvements at the school level. It's work includes school planning, as well as communication among students, teachers, parents, and the school administration.

This report is issued by the Dutch Fork High School's 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.

## SIC Members

Chair  
James Mensch, Parent  
[jmensch@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:jmensch@mailbox.sc.edu)

Ex-Officio Members  
Dr. Gerald Gary, Principal  
[ggary@lexrich5.org](mailto:ggary@lexrich5.org)

Ginny Haynes, Assistant Principal for Instruction  
[ghaynes@lexrich5.org](mailto:ghaynes@lexrich5.org)

### NEW MEMBERS FOR 2019—2020

Susan French  
Rick Henry  
Siegfried Tanner  
RETURNING MEMBERS

Gloria Bowman  
Julie Ann Dixon  
Sandra Gibson  
Ward Hacklen  
Larry Houk  
Kim Hudson  
George Lusk  
James Mensch  
Jodie Moore  
Thomas Moore  
Janine White

TEACHERS  
Susan Aplin  
Caitlin Attaway  
Molly Dawson  
Laurie Humphrey  
David Kennedy  
Kate Mewborne

Jessica Thur  
STUDENTS  
Adam Steger  
Daylee Abrams  
Hallie Ivester  
Skylar Landreneau

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North Central High School was devastated by a tornado causing millions of dollars in damage. Concerned for their loss, our Dutch Fork High School Beta Club and staff pitched in and collected school supply items for them.

Congratulations to our Dutch Fork High School Beta Club students! Their dedication to academic and leadership development paid off! They received the 2020 School of Merit



The Dutch Fork High School Key Club collected over 1200 canned goods and food items in their annual Halloween Food Drive. Similarly JROTC donated during their "Harvest of Giving" for Sharing God's love ministry.

## DFHS Arts



DFHS performed in Chicago



DFHS Drama presented Little Women



DFHS students who signed a letter of intent to play a sport in college!

- Girls Swimming Regional Champs
- Boy's Soccer ranked #2 in USA Today poll

**And Many Many More Accomplishments ....**

## DFHS Gives Back to the Community



58 Clubs with over 9,257 hours of community service



Dazzlers performed their annual Holiday Tour for the residents of three nursing and assisted living homes: Lowman Home, Generations of Irmo, and Carolina Gardens. Residents clapped, cheered, laughed, and received either holiday ornaments or candy canes for coming to watch us. Similarly, The Beta Club also visited with residents of local nursing homes during the holiday season.

## 2019-2020 SIC Annual Goals

- Increase academic performance for all students
- Promote a positive school culture
- Improve communications, both internally and externally
- Maximize operational efficiency

## School Demographics

### School Enrollment

15-16	16-17	17-18	18-19	19-20
1777	1776	1785	1685	1687

### 2018-2019 Ethnic Distribution (in percent)

African American	36
White	49
Asian	5
Hispanic	4
Other	6





# Initiatives & Strategies for School Improvement

**Mobile Technology** Dutch Fork High School shares District Five’s belief in providing students with the 21st century tools and skills they need to support their learning and to prepare them for postsecondary education and the real world. Currently, full-time teachers and students have Chromebooks. Students can use a district issued device or bring their own device. Additionally, a full-time Digital Integration Specialist (DIS) and five Technology Teacher Leaders (TTLs) work collaboratively with students and staff to offer education, training and support.

**Data Teams** Data teams are groups of teachers who meet regularly to use student assessment data to make instructional and curricular decisions. Data teams examine patterns and trends in student learning, establish specific learning goals and timelines for curriculum delivery and assessment, facilitate analysis that results in action and maintain continuous improvement cycles. The ultimate goal of data teams at DFHS is to create a self-sustaining, collaborative culture emphasizing continuous academic improvement for all students.

**PBIS** is a proactive school-wide approach to discipline. Supports include established behavioral expectations, explicit instruction on those expectations, positive reinforcement for desired behaviors, and consistent consequences for behavioral infractions. Faculty and staff teach and acknowledge respectful, responsible, and reputable behavior. Since implementation in 2010-2011, DFHS has seen a significant decrease in the number of discipline referrals. A decrease in discipline referrals indicates an improvement in the quality of student and teacher interactions and fewer behavioral issues creates a safer environment that is more conducive to learning.

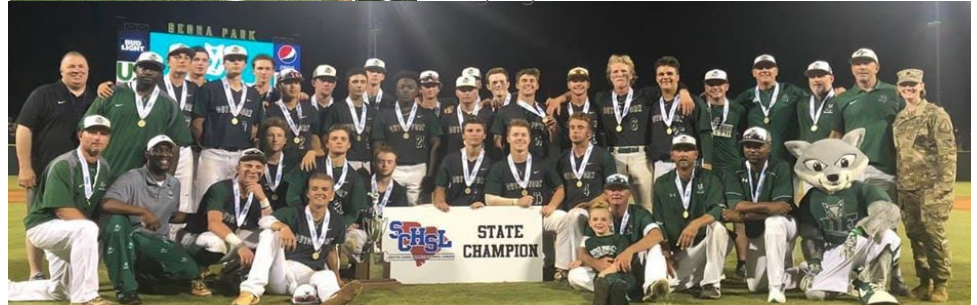
# Silver Fox Athletics



Members of the class of 2019 were offered over \$73 million in scholarships and athletic awards!!!



For the fourth consecutive season, the Dutch Fork High football program reigns supreme in South Carolina. The Silver Foxes took down Dorman 34-31 in overtime to clinch the 5A state championship December 7 at Williams-Brice Stadium. Since the South Carolina High School League expanded to five classifications in 2016, Dutch Fork is the only team to win the championship in the state’s biggest division. The Silver Foxes have now played 40 straight games without a loss.



Faye Norris Inducted into the SC Basketball Coaches Hall of Fame



Coach Knotts is HS Football America/National Coach of the Year



Coach Waites SC BCA Coach of the Year





**State Scholarship Totals, Class of 2018**

Hope/Life	Palmetto Fellows	% of Seniors
237	45	76

**National Merit Finalists**

14-15	15-16	16-17	17-18	18-19
1	2	6	10	5



**40 students named Palmetto Fellows**

- DFHS participation and passage rate on AP exams was the highest in the district and one of the highest in the state
- DFHS End of Course passage rate in all courses exceeded the state average



The STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) program at DFHS is an honors magnet program that accelerates and enriches learning experiences for students who are academically gifted in and have an interest in a STEM related major and career. Students are accepted into the program based on their standardized test scores, middle school teachers' recommendations, and interest in STEM related fields. Since 2005, our program has been a local answer to the national STEM initiative. Presently there are over 200 students in the program from the ninth through the twelfth grades.

**THE PURPOSE OF STEM IS TO:**

- accelerate traditional curriculum to allow students to take more STEM related courses
- promote inquiry style learning across the curriculum
- provide unique opportunities in and out of the classroom
- develop literacy in STEM disciplines
- promote a learning community which extends beyond the school

STEM accelerates learning experiences enabling them to pursue AP and Honors courses, research, and/or internships in their field(s) of interest. The curriculum for STEM students is designed to accommodate the interests and abilities of the individual while integrating the STEM principles.

Upon completion of the STEM program, students are highly qualified for admission in the most rigorous and competitive university programs. Those students meeting the requirements will be recognized at graduation and receive the STEM program designation for recommendations and applications for colleges and scholarships.

**DFHS STEM Honors Academic Magnet program. Currently ranked 25th best in the nation by Newsweek, our STEM program is open to qualifying rising 9th graders from any school.**





Congratulations to students Lauren Chen and Caitlin Kunchur (both in the Dutch Fork High School STEM Magnet Program) for being recognized as Society for Science & the Public Regeneration Science Talent Search Scholars! It is the nation's oldest and most prestigious science and math competition for high school seniors. Chen and Kunchur were selected from 1,993 entrants. Once they head to Washington D.C. they will be competing for

**Lauren Chen, Dutch Fork High School** Project Title: Serum miR-134 predicts and potentially promotes breast cancer recurrence. Project Summary: Lauren determined that the presence of high levels of a particular microRNA molecule in the blood of post-treatment breast cancer patients could potentially provide an early warning of tumor recurrence and progression.

**Caitlin Kunchur, Dutch Fork High School** Project Title: Evaluating Room Acoustics for Speech Intelligibility Project Summary: Caitlin studied the physics of a room's acoustical properties on speech intelligibility and sound. She measured three factors in three different rooms: a bathroom, foyer and bedroom. Her work has the potential to help inform acoustic designs for small areas like classrooms where speech intelligibility is paramount. Get more information at :<https://www.societyforscience.org/regeneration-sts/2020-finalists/>



Dutch Fork High School has been named a Finalist for Palmetto's Finest. This prestigious title is given to SC schools after extensive evaluations from other educators and former Palmetto's Finest winners by the South Carolina Association of School Administrators. According to DFHS School Principal, Dr. Gary, DFHS exemplifies key characteristics of being the total package (as outlined in an article on MSN.COM):

- Great Academics
- Award Winning Fine Arts
- Championship Athletics
- Culture
- Supportive Community
- Leadership

See full article at : <https://www.msn.com/en-us/sports/more-sports/dutch-fork-high-named-finalist-in-palmettos-finest-school-award/ar-BBZiUSh>

## Student Achievement Data

### Advanced Placement (AP)

	14-15	15-16	16-17	17-18	18-19
# of exams	1472	1303	1276	1411	1380
# of students	768	668	667	659	618
Pass Rate	69.6	70.3	71.5	78	79

### ACT & SAT School Averages

	15	16	17	18	19
ACT	23.0	20.8	20.7	20.9	20.8
SAT	1052	1069	1126	1162	1107

### End of Course Test Pass Rate (in percent)

	17-18	DFHS	District	State
Algebra		86.1	78.3	75.1
English		88.3	85.6	77.0
US History		86.4	81.5	67.9
Biology		90.2	82.4	73.8

### Graduation Rate (in percent)

	14-15	15-16	16-17	17-18	18-19
	88.7	88.8	87.6	89.2	85.6

### Dutch Fork H.S. Graduating Class of 2019

Total # of Seniors	% attending 4 year college	% attending 2 year college	% enlisted in the Military	% Work/ Other
370	60	27	5	8