

# **Mullins High School Report to the People 2021**

Mullins High School utilizes the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate as the driving force to provide our students the required knowledge, skills, and characteristics needed to truly become college, career, and citizenship ready.

During the 2020-2021 school year, our school faced many challenges brought on by the COVID-19 virus. Many of our students and teachers were forced to adapt to virtual learning in a very short time span. Regardless, the school continued to focus on our goal of establishing and strengthening two of the four Cs which were critical thinking and collaboration. Teachers worked diligently to plan and create instructional content that promoted and assessed critical thinking skills through STEP team meetings and professional learning opportunities. In return, high standards and expectations continued to be implemented and students were challenged to perform at higher DOK levels. Rigorous standards and objectives continued to allow teachers to prepare students for common assessments, benchmarks, and standardized testing regardless of the platform used for instruction. Teachers consistently practiced data tracking methods to determine pacing and instructional scaffolding. Teachers were provided professional development opportunities and training on virtual platforms, data tracking, argumentative writing, digital literacy, and blended learning. Collaboration and teamwork between student and staff was encouraged and strategies were provided. Teachers collaborated in professional learning communities as well as weekly STEP team meetings to discuss student data, best practices, pacing, data tracking, and technology. Students were provided opportunities to measure their progress throughout the year with the use of data cards to track, set goals, and predict standardized scores. Students were provided new opportunities through blended learning and rotational model even during hybrid learning experiences. Teachers utilized small groups to further vary instruction and assessments to target individual student needs.

Throughout the 2020-2021 school year, collaboration amongst all stakeholders was encouraged. Mullins High School provided multiple opportunities for professional development on digital tools like Microsoft Teams, Whiteboard.chat, and Nearpod to better assist our classrooms in cultivating collaboration on a virtual level. Resources were established and provided for the use of any classroom teacher to participate in. Our students had guest speakers, visited various colleges, conducted work-based internships, and continued to strive for excellence in our school programs. These programs consisted of Teacher Cadets, JAG, National Honor Society, Beta Club, Boys State, Girls State, Math Competition Team, and Academic Challenge.

Overall, Mullins High School continued to create an engaging and innovative learning environment where collaboration, technology and project-based learning continued to create a critical thinking rich environment. Teachers built relationships with their students that fostered a love for learning to take place. Opportunities for critical thinking were provided to challenge all students towards a growth mindset. Their mastery of content and professional development

allowed our teachers to test out new teaching strategies while utilizing data tracking to create an individualized learning experience for each child.

At Mullins High School learning goes beyond the textbook. It is a place of engagement, collaboration, and high expectations. Our goal is to instill a passion for learning and to foster a love for learning that will be carried outside of this building. We want to ensure that all students are molded into well rounded individuals who understand, respect, and contribute to the world around them. The goal is to utilize the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate in order to provide our students with a global perspective and encourage critical thinking skills. We strive to teach our students strong work ethics and problem-solving strategies to ensure that they can succeed not only within our school but the world outside. Each classroom creates a family-like atmosphere to ensure every child is encouraged to grow. The saying, "Once an Auc, Always an Auc," isn't just a saying but a way of life here at Mullins High School. Mullins High School is not simply an educational institute but a representation of a set of ideals that holds each teacher and student accountable to high expectations.

Sincerely,

*Michael Stone*

Michael Stone  
Principal  
Mullins High School