

Pendleton High School Annual Report to Parents

2011-2012

Pendleton High School has many highlights to share from the 2011-2012 school year. Efforts by our students, parents, community volunteers, School Improvement Council (SIC), faculty, and staff continue to produce a quality educational environment and program for our students. Pendleton High School works to be a data driven school with the continuous focus on 21st century learning and student achievement.

Strategic Plan

Technology integration is a vital component of society and our educational system. This year Pendleton High School has worked to increase technology access for our students. Fifteen laptop carts were added to the instructional program for students to have daily access to instructional technologies in the classroom. Digital microscopes were also incorporated into our science curriculum and Kindle readers were added to our media center collection for student check out.

The faculty also worked on the development of three schools of study with majors in each school of study: The School of Arts, Communication, and Humanities, The School of Health, Human Development, and Public Service, and The School of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics. These three schools of study include twenty-two majors. The intent of the schools of study and majors is to strongly encourage and develop goals and plans for the transition from high school to post-secondary endeavors. As a student progresses through high school, the schools of study provides guidance with a more focused selection of courses and helps provide a greater sense of connectivity between the student's education program and their post-secondary options.

High Schools That Work (HSTW)

Pendleton High School fully implements the High School That Work (HSTW) school reform model. HSTW uses research-proven strategies to help high schools be a place where all students learn at high levels. The HSTW 10 Key Practices serve as a platform for changing what is expected of students, what they are taught and how they are taught. The HSTW 10 Key Practices are:

- High expectations
- Programs of study
- Academic study application to relevance
- Career/Technical studies
- Work-based learning
- Teachers working together
- Students actively engaged in the learning process
- Guidance system that actively involves students and parents

- Extra help
- Culture of continuous improvement

At Pendleton High School we work programmatically to implement the 10 Key Practices. We have an Advisor/Advisee program that focuses on our Olweus – Bully Prevention Program. Each student and their parent meet with their guidance counselor to complete and update their Individual Graduation Plan (IGP) in order to be able to make more informed decisions for course selection and career choice. We examine student data in efforts to direct curriculum, instruction, and assessment. Teachers meet monthly in Professional Learning Communities to seek and examine means for continuous school improvement and ongoing educational initiatives.

Student Achievement

We are very proud of the achievements of our students and our school. On the South Carolina School Report Card, Pendleton High School received an Absolute Rating of Excellent. This past year our students continued to score higher than the state average on the SAT above the state average on the ACT. The average SAT score for the PHS class of 2011 was 1444 while the state average was 1436. The average ACT for the PHS class of 2011 was 20.6 while the state average was 20.1.

In an effort to recognize students for a wide array of achievements, the Pendleton High School SIC continued the Student of the Month program. Each month has been sponsored by a community partner and each curricular department selects a student of the month for their respective department. This year over 60 students were recognized for their continuous achievements and improvements in the instructional programs at Pendleton High School.

Pendleton High School students continue to increase the rigor in their courses of study. Advanced Placement courses continue to experience a steady increase in enrollment while the dual credit program with Tri County Technical College has continued to expand as well. Career and Technology Education (CATE) course enrollment continues to increase, including the addition of new programs and courses. By taking college level and CATE courses, our students are better prepared for the transition to their post-secondary education and careers.

Pendleton High School continues to work on maintaining a learning environment where all students can be successful. We believe the three R's – rigor, relevance, and relationships – are important in each student's education and we believe we must continue to provide our students with meaningful education opportunities. Pendleton High School is very proud of the initiatives and programs we are implementing for our students. We are also very proud of the accomplishments of each of our students. We will continue to work diligently to further these achievements by challenging minds, building character, and preparing young people to be our future.