

## WHS School Profile

Enrollment Grades 9 -12: 965 as of April 1, 2015 Number of Teachers: 52 Professionals School Mascot: Razorbacks School Colors: Purple and White Percentage of Students on F/R Lunch: 52% AP Course Enrollment: 21.1% On-Time Graduation Rate: 88.4%

## WHS School Improvement Goals

This year's focus is on the 3Rs: Rapport, Rigor and Relevance. WHS will utilize data to measure our implementation of 3R PD meetings and staff development activities related to focus areas: (1) Defining and Quantifying Relevance, Rigor, and Rapport (2) Data Analysis

## From the Principal and School Improvement Council

This year has been one of great challenge and success at Walhalla High School. Our focus for the 2014-2015 school year has been to "live our mission" and to concentrate on the 3R's: Rapport, Rigor, and Relevance. One of the ways we are focusing on Rigor is to analyze where we are in student achievement. We have developed a School Data Team which is focusing on looking below the surface of our student data in order to implement a plan that really targets knowledge gaps and causes.

WHS is also in the midst of great change. The new campus is approaching completion and we have begun the task of moving schools. This has created challenges for our staff and students, yet everyone is very excited about the new facility. The Walhalla Community and Oconee County are to be commended on the planning and preparation that is required to complete a facility that will serve the students and parents for many years to come. The WHS School Improvement Council has worked to become established as a cooperative support for the education of students at WHS and the support of teachers. The council is working hard to be parent and community led and driven in order to build rapport among stakeholders and to complement the school.

Walhalla High School students continue to achieve in the classroom, as well as in extracurricular activities. WHS achieved an 88.4% graduation rate, which is the highest in eight years and the second highest in the School District of Oconee County. We are also proud of our students taking German who participated in the Clemson University Declamation Contest for the first time, placing 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> in German, Level 1. Many of the graduates of 2015 will be continuing their education at Universities with the assistance of academic and athletic scholarships. Others will be focusing on career and technology degrees in order to compete in the global economy. We are confident that our teachers are preparing our young people for the future. With the support of our parents, community, and district office, we are working each day to develop life-long learners through rigorous, relevant instruction.

Steve Garrett, Principal Lucy Barnett, SIC Chair for 2014-2015



# WALHALLA HIGH SCHOOL

"To Dream, To Believe, To Achieve"



WHS is fully accredited by AdvancED, SACS, and SC State Dept. of Ed. SREB High Schools That Work Site Since 1988

## **REPORT TO THE PARENTS 2014 - 2015**

Steve Garrett, Principal Assistant Principals: Robert Kelly, Erin Phillips, Corey Willimon Counselors: Greg Bearden, Director; Sonya Cote', Patricia Wooten Career Specialist: Tricia Mayer 151 Razorback Lane, Walhalla, SC 29691 Phone: 864-886-4490 Fax: 864-886-4488

## WHS Mission Statement

Together, we are empowering students to become life-long learners by building rapport and providing relevant, rigorous instruction.

## <u>SC Report Card Absolute Rating for 2014: EXCELLENT</u> 2013 Palmetto GOLD Recipient recognized by State Department of Education

#### **School Improvement Council Members**

Lucy Barnett, Chairperson Kaylee Alvarez, student Terry Buckallew, teacher Mike Crenshaw, community Dee Dee Culbertson, parent Michelle Deem, parent Tammy Fodor, teacher Steve Garrett, Principal, ex-officio Mike Jensen, teacher Darlene Kerr, community Lori Kelley, parent Robert Kelly, AP, ex-officio Alicia Keys, parent Christie Lee, parent

Charles Long, parent Cindy Long, parent Reese Matalik, student Julie Moore, parent Rosemary Myers, parent Vanessa Penton, community Erin Phillips, AP, ex-officio Sandy Prather, parent Tori Robert, student Blair Stoudemire, community Kathryn Stoudemire, student Anna Wholey, parent Corey Willimon, AP, ex-officio

## SDOC Student Advisory Council Members

Mackenzie Long, Senior	Harper Abbott, Junior
Reese Matalik, Senior	Kaylee Alvarez, Junior
Jackson Pappalardo, Senior	Logan Bodiford, Junior

The School District of Oconee County does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age or handicap in admission to, access to, treatment in or employment in its programs and activities. Earnestine Williams, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resource Services (Title IX), Marge Bright, 504/ADA Coordinator, and Ginger Hopkins, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction (Title II) has been designated to handle inquires or complaints regarding any discrimination matter. Their offices are located at 414 S. Pine St., Walhalla, SC 29691.

#### WHS Spring 2014 State Testing Performance

High School Assessment Program (HSAP); Students in 2nd Year of High School				
Passed English/Writing	90.0%			
Passed Math	78.6%			
Passed both portions first attempt	77.5%			

SC End of Course Exams	(% of students scoring 70 or above)		
Algebra I/Math Tech 2	81.2		
English I	75.7		
Biology I	80.6		
US History	70.1		
Percent Students passing all EOC Tests	76.8%		

SAT Scores	Composite	ACT Scores	Composite	AP Scores	Pass Rate
WHS	1517	WHS	22.6	WHS	66%
SC	1443	SC	20.4	SC	57%
US	1497	US	20.9	US	57%

HSAP passage rate by Spring 2014 of 97.8%; WHS Average SAT score exceeded the national average and ranked 23rd in the State; WHS Composite ACT score exceeded the national average and ranked 24th in the State; EOC passage rate for Biology 1/Applied Biology 2 and US History exceeded the State passage rate; WHS exceeded the state and national AP pass rate and led the District with an AP pass rate of 66%.

#### **RAZORBACK PRIDE**

- WHS is Rated 28th out of 100 Best Public High Schools in South Carolina in 2015 (NICHE)
- Palmetto Gold for increased student achievement performance for the past two years
- Razor Robotics Team placed 16<sup>th</sup> in the Nation Ford State Qualifier
- Graduation Rate for the Class of 2014 was 88.4% which is better than the state average and 2<sup>nd</sup> highest in the School District of Oconee County
- HSTW Platinum High Achievement School 2012-2014; "Top Fifty School" HSTW Network
- New American High School Showcase Site; Red Carpet School since 2007
- "America's Best High School" US News & World Report
- Award Winning JROTC Program: JROTC Honor Unit with Distinction 25 years; JROTC Rifle Team qualified for Nationals
- WHS FFA Silver National Chapter Award; Awarded 100%+ membership award
- Strings Solo & Ensemble Festival—31 Superior ratings and 23 Excellent ratings; Region Orchestra—1 student made Region; All-State Orchestra—1 student made All-State; GAMAC (Greater Anderson Musical Arts Consortium)—2 students selected to play in honorary Celebration of Youth concert event
- Chamber Ensemble received Excellent Rating 2014
- Marching Band received Excellent Rating in Class 3A in 2014; 15 band students participated in Oconee All-County Band; 8 band students participated in SC Region 1 Honor Band; 1 band student participated in SC All-State Honor Band
- 28 Men's and Women's Competitive Athletic Teams 3A Playoffs in six sports; 3A Individual State Championship in the 220 lb. weight class; 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the high jump at the State Track Meet; 21 student athletes were recognized as 3A All-Region; Western 3A Boys Soccer Player of the Year
- WHS is one of the first high schools in SC to have a competition Sporting Clays Team in cooperation with the SC Department of Natural Resources and 4H Club

#### WHS SENIOR CLASS OF 2014

226 Graduates, \$3.8 million in Scholarships,
1516 Average SAT score, 22.6 Average ACT score,
14 AP Scholars, 6 State Academic Diplomas,
12 Palmetto Fellows, 115 Life Scholarships, 8 Hope
Scholarships, 84% Platinum Seal Recipients,
27% @ 4-year institutions, 53% @ 2-year college,
6% military, 12% workforce, 2% trade school



## **HIGHLY QUALIFIED STAFF**

4 Administrators, 3 Counselors, Career Specialist,
2 Media Specialists, School Nurse, SRO, 52 Teachers,
10 National Board Certified Teachers, 8 Classified Support Staff,
44% of Teachers are GT Endorsed, 75% of Faculty has Master's Degree or Above

#### WHS STUDENT PROGRAMS

Agriculture Program, AP & Honors Courses, APEX Credit Recovery, Attendance Retrieval Program, Dual Enrollment Courses, Entrepreneurship, F-Troop Program, Hamilton Career Center Courses, HS 102 Freshman Focus Course, Hybrid Courses, JROTC Program, Platinum Seal Program, Project Lead The Way Pre-Engineering Program, RAZOR Advisor/Advisee Program, Service Learning, Teacher Cadets

## **STUDENT EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

28 Athletic Teams (18 Varsity, 10 JV) - 12 Sports, Student Government, Beta Club, National Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta, National Art Honor Society, FFA Student Chapter, Orchestra, Chorus, Band, Future Educators of America, JROTC Drill Team, Archery Team, Rifle Team & Raiders, Robotics Team, CU Declamation Contest, CU Biology Merit Exam, Special Olympics, Poetry Coffee House, Interact Club, Leo Club, Anchor Club, Book Club, Chess Club, FAD Club, Karaoke, Recycling Club, Scrapbooking Club, Soccer Club, Pep Club, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Craft Club, History Club, Gaming Club, Ghost Hunt Club, Guitar Club, Origami Club, Sports Performance Club, Travel Club, Classic Car Club, Crochet Club, Dead Poets Society, Nature Photography Club, Talent Show, School Play, Pageant, Yearbook

## **RAZORBACK COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

School Improvement Council, Razorback Booster Club, Band Booster Club, Alumni Forum, Literary Legacy, Athletic Hall of Fame, Relay for Life, Senior Blood Drive, Rotary Student of the Quarter, WHS Student of the Month, Rotary Scholar Awards, Career Shadowing, Annual Alumni Soccer Game, Alive at 25, Young Life, White Christmas, Canned Food Drives, FAFSA Night, Ralph's Trophy Shop Student Athletes of the Month Award, Senior Financial Aid Night, Annual Freshman Rally, Special ED Career Fair, SGA Haunted House, FFA Farm Day, FFA Greenhouse Sale

## **SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

Spanish teacher, Dorothy McCoy, received the WYFF Golden Apple Award Math teacher, Tammy Fodor was selected as WHS Teacher of the Year Nurse Linda Smith was recognized as the Support Employee of the Year Former WHS Principal, Evie Hughes was chosen as Friend of Walhalla WHS Administrative Intern, Robbie Morris was recognized as WHS Volunteer of the Year

Additional information is available on the school web-site: <u>http://www.oconee.k12.sc.us/whs</u> Follow WHS on Twitter @WalhallaHS