

Annual Report to Parents 2017

In conjunction with the OCSD4 Board of Trustees, Superintendent Dr. Newman and our School Improvement Council, Edisto High School has worked diligently to focus on increasing student achievement across all grade levels. To do this, numerous initiatives were implemented and continue to be refined with a simple goal to always do “what’s best for students.”

One-to-one technology was a sizable initiative this year, with each student receiving a Chromebook in mid-October. In support of this, teachers went through a variety of training sessions, learning the art of “blended instruction”, a mix of traditional, face-to-face instruction with technology. Mastery Connect is now used to measure and monitor student growth, providing instantaneous feedback to teachers to help guide future instruction and/or remediation. Hapara has been introduced as a IMS, or Instructional Management System, to help teachers and administrators better monitor student technology use, while a pilot run of Canvas is underway to help transition our teachers, students and parents into a new “virtual space”, where everyone will communicate and interact with regard to assignments, grades and academic progress.

Data teams were adjusted this year, tasking teachers with common courses to collect and interpret their student data, develop SMART goals, select instructional strategies, determine results indicators and reflect on their student’s learning. The data was collected based on, but not limited to, common formative assessments, MAP scores, district benchmarks and summative assessments. These teams meet on a bi-weekly basis with the simple goal of improving their instruction to meet the needs of every student.

Read-to-Succeed is another major initiative driven by a new state law that was created in 2015 to address literacy performance in South Carolina and put in place a comprehensive system of support to ensure SC students graduate on time with the literacy skills they need to be successful in college, careers and citizenship. Each of our students who have tested below grade level through MAP assessment are enrolled in a specialized program during enrichment time to focus their efforts in improving both reading comprehension and fluency. At the end of each semester, students who have demonstrated grade-level proficiency will “graduate” from the program, while continuing to receive additional classroom supports.

Community, in alignment with the district office, has been a major focus as well. We were incredibly proud of the outstanding turnout for open house, and our School Improvement Council, led by Mrs. Cathy Parker, has been invaluable in their responsibility to help shape and guide the direction and culture of the school. With the installation of Canvas, we hope to make the exchange of information easier and more efficient as we continue to strive to include the community in all that we do at Edisto High School.

All faculty and staff are committed to the growth and development of every child for the duration of their attendance at EHS and beyond. We will continue to seek new and innovative ways to educate, while holding true to our belief in family, community and tradition.

Cathy Parker, SIC Chairperson

Michael Ames, Principal