

## Annual Report to Parents 2018

In conjunction with the OCSD4 Board of Trustees, Superintendent Dr. Newman and our School Improvement Council, Edisto High School has been working diligently to focus on increasing student achievement across all grade levels by continuing to enhance educational technology, expanding the work of data teams, creating new student programs, and building upon community relationships. To do this, numerous initiatives were implemented and continue to be refined with the goal to always do “what’s best for students.”

One-to-one technology continues to be a major focus, with EHS fully implementing a blended instruction model across all content areas. During the first semester of the year, teachers had two days of tiered training a month in the use of our technology. Teachers were given Beginner, Intermediate, and Advanced training in MasteryConnect, Canvas, and Google Classroom, led by our new Instructional Technology Support Coach. MasteryConnect is still being used to provide instantaneous feedback to teachers and students where they can identify student growth and areas of improvement in order to adjust instruction. Canvas, which was adopted at the end of the 2016-2017 school year as our district wide Learning Management System (LMS), has been fully implemented and allows teachers to access MasteryConnect, share documents with students, create learning modules, and to have message board discussions with students. While teachers are at different levels in their technology implementation, all have met the district’s expectations for the year.

Data teams continue 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. Their data is 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 goal of improving their instruction to meet the needs of every student.

To build upon the positive effect of data teams, Edisto High School developed two new programs; the Next Gen Magnet School and the Silver Collar Internship Program. Through cross-curricular collaboration, the Next Gen Magnet School offers high school students an innovative career pathway program fortified with real world, contextual experiences that capture direct workforce and college ready skills. Using relevant project based learning, the program exceeds the requirements found in the Profile Of the High School Graduate, promoting deep understanding of key twenty-first century skills. Teachers in the program are meeting multiple times a week to compare data, share ideas, and create PBLs that include community partnerships with local businesses. Students are learning about perseverance, communication skills, creative thinking, and public speaking through collaboration, community service, and real-world problem solving, while at the same time, deepening our relationship with community partners.

Our second new program, the Silver Collar Collaborative, focuses on senior internships as a way of learning soft skills and building students’ resumes while they are receiving both high

school credit and generous compensation for entering the workforce. Soft skills are a focus in early instruction, followed by professional interviews, and job offers from community businesses that match the professional interests of the students. Numerous area industries have become involved, from advanced manufacturing to the culinary arts, as we look forward to continued growth, geared at transforming our students into productive local citizens.

Lastly, under new direction and the support of the state department, our School Improvement Council has become more active, as they have committed to a school beautification initiative. A strong team of parents, teachers, students, and community members, through much deliberation, are focusing their efforts on improving the conditions of the buildings and surrounding grounds by procuring donations, grants, and manpower from outside agencies to beautify the school's entryway and landscape the front of the building.

Edisto High School faculty, staff, and community members are all 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. Our continued improvement in the use of educational technology, along with efforts to build and maintain teacher and community collaboration, helps us to ensure that we are always doing what is best for our students, as they grow to become tomorrow's leaders.

Cathy Parker, SIC Chairperson  
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