



Pickens County School District

Pickens High School

“Integrity, Service and Excellence”

Mission Statement

Pickens High School provides challenging academic and career opportunities to equip and prepare students for college, career, and citizenship.

Special points of interest:

- PHS Graduating Class of 2016 accepted more than 7.5 million dollars in scholarships
- PHS has 11 National Board Certified teachers
- 53% of the Graduating Class of 2016 were eligible for LIFE/Palmetto Fellowship Scholarships

We believe:

- In the pursuit of excellence.
- Learning and education are life-long processes.
- All students must have equitable educational opportunities.
- All people can learn and contribute to society.
- Education is a shared responsibility.
- Students are our first priority.
- Education is the key to success.
- In a safe, caring learning environment for all students and staff.
- Cultural diversity promotes full development of the individual and society.
- The “parent” is a child’s first teacher.
- Today’s schools shape tomorrow’s workforce.
- Everyone deserves sensitivity, respect, and fair treatment.
- Encouragement, motivation, and a standard of excellence promote success.
- The home, school, and community environments directly impact the student’s success.
- In setting high expectations and in helping all students to meet them.

Pickens High School has three over-riding goals which direct all programs offered to our students: improving student learning, improving student involvement, and improving communication. We strive to provide each young person with opportunities to be successful as we prepare our students to become life-long learners and productive citizens. PHS students are able to take advantage of cutting edge technical programs offered through B.J. Skelton Career Center. As a member of the Southern Regional Education Board, we set high expectations for achievement and success. Pickens High has a highly qualified faculty committed to meeting the various needs of our students. Our administrators and support staff join them in providing a safe, nurturing environment in which learning can occur. Located in the most beautiful area of the state, Pickens High School demonstrates what can be accomplished when everyone—students, school personnel, parents, and community—works together. We are united in our vision of excellence!



School Data

- AdvancedEd Accreditation
- Southern Region Education Board affiliated
- 10 Advanced Placement courses offered

SIC Members:

Eden Cassell	Holley Gaston	Patty Roach	Elizabeth Ward
Melissa Crowe	Davey Hiott	Crystal Stancell	
Tristan Crowe	Jennifer Lassausaie	Kelly Turner	
Chloe Dunaway	Don Lundquist	Jacci Wood—Chair	
Tom Faithful	Dena Revis	Karen Williamson	

Facilities

- Brick, two-story building
- Handicapped accessible
- 41 Permanent classrooms
- Gymnasium (seats 1200)
- Lighted Football Stadium (seats 1200)
- 12 Science Labs/Classrooms
- Media Center
- 4 Computer Labs
- Weight Training Room
- Wrestling Room
- New Facility In 2011

Student Data

Enrollment: 1364

- Student Attendance Rate: 93.7%
- 18.6% enrolled in Advanced Placement programs
- 91% of students are White; 3% of students are Black; 3% of students are Hispanic; 3% other.
- 40% of students are eligible for free and reduced lunch

“We believe in the pursuit of excellence”

Faculty Data

Administrators: 4

Certified Staff: 77

Support Staff: 53

Teacher Attendance Rate: 99.8%

Teachers with Advanced Degrees: 68.5%

Principal's years at school: 1 year

Extra Curricular Activities

- Mu Alpha Theta - Math
- Governor's School of Arts
- Boys' and Girls' State
- Beta Club
- Science Club
- JROTC Activities
- Service Learning
- Interact
- Newspaper Staff
- Drama Club
- Fellowship of Christian Athletes
- Art Honor Society
- Athletic Team Competition —Teams
- Band
- Chorus
- Strings



Data

WorkKeys

At Pickens High School we continually analyze data to improve our school. One area we are addressing is the WorkKeys test. Our school goal is for students to score a Silver or better on this test.

2015 - 2016 SDPC WorkKeys Certificates

	No Certificates		Certificate		Bronze		Silver		Gold		Platinum		Silver and Above		Gold and Above		# Students Tested	
	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016
District	8.2	11.2	91.8	88.8	21.1	18.1	41.8	50.9	27.8	19.4	1.1	0.5	70.7	70.8	28.9	19.9	1187	1156
State	12.1	13.2	87.9	86.8	25.1	21.7	40	47.7	22.1	17.2	0.8	0.2	62.9	65.1	22.9	17.4	48,613	50,076
Pickens	9.7	10.5	90.3	89.5	20.6	20.2	45.5	56.6	23.7	12.3	0.6	0.3	69.8	69.2	24.3	12.6	321	332

EOC Tests

Students are required to take English 1, Biology 1, Algebra 1 (Fundamentals/Intermediate Algebra), and US History. These courses have End-of-Course tests which count as 20% of the course grade. The percentage of students that took the EOC tests in 2016 and made a passing score: English 1—80.7%, Algebra 1—69.5%, Biology 1—66.4%, and USH—71%. The goal for PHS is for students to not only pass their EOC tests, but, score at least a C or better.

Graduation Rate

The driving force for all programs at PHS is graduation rate improvement. Our graduation rate decreased from 82.5% to 79.1% in 2016. PHS recognizes making students aware of the relevance of classroom learning to their present and future interests is a powerful tool in keeping them motivated to succeed in earning a diploma. The goal for PHS is to increase graduation rate to 100% by the year 2018 and decrease dropout rate to 0%. The drop-out rate in 2016 was 2.5% a drop from 3.7% the previous year.

SAT/ACT

Pickens High School students had a composite score of 1504 on the SAT in 2016. The state average for this test was 1458 and the national average was 1484. ACT results from 2016 showed Pickens High School students had a score of 18.3. This was the first year that the Junior class scores were included in our overall scoring. The state average for this test was 18.5 and the district's average was 19.2. Although we are very pleased with the ACT scores, it is our aim to score at or above the state and national average for both the SAT and ACT.

Highlights

School

SREB's High Schools That Work Affiliation
Charter National Service Learning Leader High School
Palmetto Fellows Recipients
South Carolina Teaching Fellows Recipients

Student Council

Winner of Meals on Wheels Food Fight Bowl: raised over \$10,000 for MOW
Participated in Service Learning Project: Readers to Leaders Program, Country Santa,
Adopt a family, buckets for Haiti, and Valentine's party for TMD students

2016-2017 Athletics

Six student athletes signed scholarships to various colleges
Service Learning Projects: Reading with the Blue Flame, Elementary Field Days, Azalea Festival

Band

PHS Marching Band—SC 3A Upper State Champions
PHS Marching Band—SC 3A Upper-State Marching State Champions
Outstanding Performance Award 2016 - 15th time in school history!
Jazz Ensemble—Superior Rating/perfect score at SC State Jazz Festival
Pickens Winds—Superior Rating at SC State Concert Festival in Division V
Students participated in the Winthrop University Honors Band Clinic, All-County Band, All-Region Band, All-State Band, and the SC State Solo and Ensemble Festival, All-State Jazz

AJROTC

2015 National Honor Unit of Distinction
George C. Marshall JROTC Leadership Symposium — 3rd in State/Top 12 in Nation
Academic Team—Level II
Raiders placed 1st in meets at Walhalla and Dorman, 2nd in meet at Landrum, and 3rd at Liberty



Community Involvement

School Improvement Council
Band Boosters
Athletic Association
Parent Volunteers
Blood Drive
School Newsletter
Charitable Donations
Reading with the Blue Flame
Fine Arts Concerts and Events
Service Learning
Career-based Internships
Job Shadowing