

School Improvement Council Annual Report to Parents



2024-2025 SIC MEMBERS

Kimberly Bright- *Chair*
Caroline Smith- *Vice Chair*
Milton Clark, *Secretary*
Dr. Ashley Butler-*Grad Coach*
Ivey Stone-*Student*
Sean Bagwell-*Student*
Addison Bradberry-*Student*
Tracy Moody-*Parent*
Kim Clevenger-*Community Partner*
Jonathon Morris-*Community Partner*
Chad Smith-*Parent*
Jill Ellenburg-*SIC Coordinator*
Lauren Corn-*Principal*

As we close out the 2024–2025 school year, I’m proud to share the progress we’ve made at Pickens High School. From academic growth to community partnerships, this year has reflected our shared commitment to student success and continuous improvement.

Our SIC has focused on expanding membership, encouraging student involvement in the Pickens community, strengthening communication with current and prospective families, and supporting college and career readiness. This report highlights key achievements, celebrates our students and staff, and outlines plans for continued progress.

Thank you for your continued support of PHS.

-Ms. Jill Ellenburg, PHS SIC Coordinator

At Pickens High School, we are proud to be TRUE BLUE—a guiding philosophy that shapes the way we learn, lead, and grow together.



- Believe in yourself and the power of education to change lives.
- Learn every day.
- Unite as a community of students, families, educators, and partners.
- Excel in academics, character, and service.

ROLE & MISSION OF SIC

In South Carolina, a School Improvement Council is an advisory council to the principal and school on issues related to school improvement. By law, every K-12 public school in South Carolina must have an SIC that is made up of parent, teacher, student (grades 9-12), and community member representatives.

The mission of the PHS SIC is to partner **parents, students, and community members** with the school’s **administration and teachers** to achieve results that better the education and educational environment of the school.



SIC GOALS & PROGRESS

Goal 1: Demonstrate growth in the number of SIC members and meeting participants

Goal 2: Increase partnerships & involvement of PHS students in the community

Goal 3: Improve communication with current and prospective families

Goal 4: Continue to improve literacy skills and college and career readiness of PHS students

Literacy Rates

- 69.7% of English 2 students earned a “C” or better on EOC exam
 - higher than both district & state

College & Career Readiness

- 83% of students considered career ready
- 400+ students took WIN test
- 888 Students enrolled in CTE courses at PHS
- All non-diploma track students earn WBL through vocational training
- 300+ students enrolled in CTE programs at Career Center
- 90 juniors attended at least one tour
- Work Based Learning Partnerships
 - Dream Center, Pickens Rec, Pizza Inn, Bridge Brothers, Cannon Hospital, Pickens PD, SDPC
- 10 AP Courses offered at PHS
- 44% of students attended a 4 year college this Fall
- 58% of students qualified for LIFE scholarship

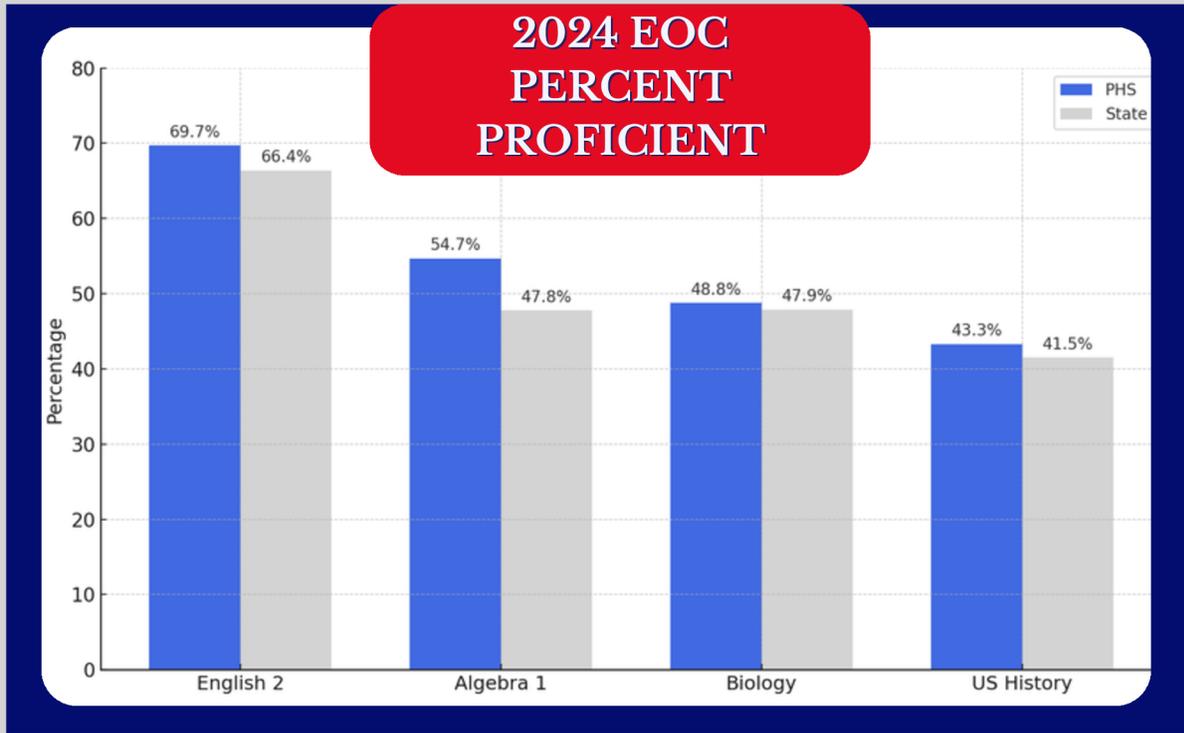
Communication & Community Engagement

- 21 social media sites, 2 newsletters, and regular Schoology messages
- Academic, Artistic, and Athletic events
- Developed partnerships with feeder schools, community organizations, Special Olympics, and others





TRUE BLUE ACADEMICS



Graduation Rate
83.4%

AP EXAM Pass Rates

2D Art & Design	100.00%
Drawing	100.00%
Calculus AB	66.67%
English Lang & Comp	58.82%
AP Modern World	57.89%
US GOV & Politics	53.06%
Human Geography	46.15%
AP USH	38.89%
Macroeconomics	30.43%
Psychology	25.00%
Physics 1	11.11%
Statistics	0.00%

College Readiness Assessment Averages

SAT: 1091

ACT: 19



TRUE BLUE ARTS & PERFORMANCE

Performing Arts



- SCBDA Outstanding Performance: 2023- Present
- SCBDA 2nd place: 2023, 2025
- Top 5 State Marching Band: 2015-Present
- CWEA Winterguard 2nd Place: 2025
- Chesnee Eagle Classic- Grand Champions
- SCBDA Concert Band: Superior w/ Distinction
- Jazz Band Assessment Excellent Rating

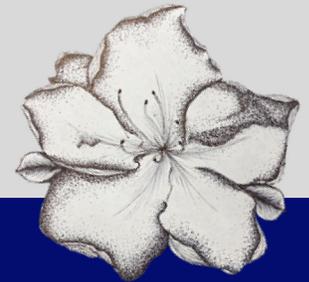
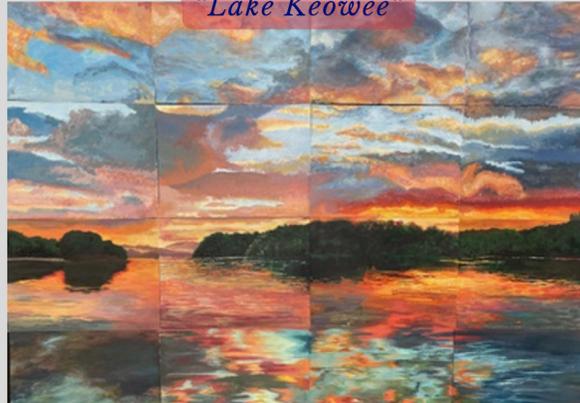


Groups: Marching Band, Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, Jazz Band, All County Band, Region Band, All State Band, Winter Guard, Percussion Ensemble, Theatre

Visual Arts

- 20 members of National Art Honor Society
- SDPC Youth Art Exhibit
 - Photography: 1st place
 - Painting: 1st Place
 - Drawing: 1st Place
 - 2-D Design: 1st Place

PHS National Art Honor Society Collaborative Painting "Lake Keowee"



Daphne Misseijer
2025
*Azalea Festival
Contest Winner*

"As part of the Blue Flame Battalion's Service Learning Campaign of "Respect For Our American Flag", cadets Sean Bagwell, Maddison Elkins, Brooklyn Warden, Annika Weis and Connor Thomas provided instruction to Pickens Elementary School "Flag Patrol" students. Hands-on instruction included raising, lowering, and folding National and State colors per US Flag Code."

Lt. Col. (Ret.) John Rainville,
Senior Army Instructor- PHS



JROTC

- Competition Teams:
 - Raiders
 - Air Rifle
 - Drill Team
 - Ceremony
- Ceremonies & Special Programs:
 - Veterans Day
 - Flag Day
 - Memorial Day.
- Flag protocol with PES students
- Service to Pickens Senior Center.