

2023-2024

RIDGE VIEW HIGH SCHOOL

4801 Hard Scrabble Road, Columbia, SC 29229

School Improvement Council ANNUAL REPORT



Dr. Brenda Mack, Principal

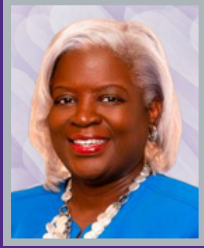
We prepare today for success tomorrow.

RIDGE VIEW HIGH SCHOOL

Parent Update



Brenda Mack, Ed.D.
Principal



Yasha Becton, Ed.D.
SIC Chairperson

Mission Statement: Ridge View High School, A Med Pro Magnet, offers a premier learning environment by providing authentic, collaborative, engaging, and meaningful learning experiences and opportunities that prepare students for the 21st century challenges and responsibilities of global citizenship.

Ridge View High School: Med Pro Magnet, a National Certified Demonstration Magnet School, uses STEAMM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math, and Medical) integration and AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) best teaching strategies as access points to fostering a challenging, engaging, healthy, safe, and supportive approach to learning. Students can customize their high school journey with one of the eight smaller learning communities:

District Magnets

Allied Health Sciences Magnet
BioHealth Sciences Magnet
Scholars Academy Magnet
for Business and Law

Schools-Within-A-School

Advancement via Individual Determination (AVID)
Blazer Academy
Carolina Alliance for Technology (CAT)
School for the Arts (SFA)

District Program

Richland 2 AVID
Early College

This personalized approach allows students to focus on their interests and strengths, ensuring a supportive and enriching educational experience. Our motto, It's all AT THE VIEW, and the tradition of We expect success in the 4 A's: Academics, Activities, Arts, and Athletics, reflect our vision: We prepare today for success tomorrow. Some of our notable accomplishments for the 2024 - 2025 school year include:

ACADEMICS

- Ridge View received the College Board AP Computer Science Female Diversity Award for a third consecutive year.
- Ridge View High School: Med Pro Magnet earned Magnet Schools of America National Award of Merit School of Excellence.
- Institute of Health Sciences Magnet (Allied Health and BioHealth) and Scholars Academy Magnet for Business and Law earned Magnet Schools of America National Award of Merit Top School of Excellence.
- In May, 438 Advanced Placement (AP) exams will be administered to students.
- AVID Early College graduated 20 students with their Associate Degree from USC Sumter, before receiving their high school diploma.

ACTIVITIES

- Student Council won three awards at the South Carolina Association of Student Council (SCASC) State Convention.
- Ridge View donated 7,987 items to Harvest Hope Food Bank and 807 toiletries to Sistercare.
- The JROTC Archery Team won 2nd Place in the 3D/IBO portion of the 4th Brigade Archery Best of the Best competition.
- VEX and Robotics Team competed in multiple competitions, showcasing their innovation, teamwork, and problem-solving skills.

Parent Update Continued

ARTS

- The Theatre Program was chosen as a Disney on Broadway School of Excellence program and performed at the Richland Two Performing Arts Center.
- Blazer Chorus, Band, and Orchestra earned Superior and Excellent ratings on the Concert Performance Assessment.
- The Ridge View Chamber Choir, led by Ms. Alexandria Thompson, performed at the inaugural SC American Choral Directors Association Luncheon, held during the SC Music Educators Association Professional Development Conference.
- Multiple visual arts students won regional awards at the Scholastic Arts Competition.

ATHLETICS

- Varsity Boys Basketball ranked in the top 25 nationally by ESPN and won the 5A State Championship (6th State Championship in 8 years)
- Varsity Girls Basketball team was 5A Region Co-Champions
- Two Lady Blazers participated in the Women's State Wrestling Championship
- Athletics hosted six high-level community events this school year, with teams coming from as far as Finland. Some of the events include: Blazer Battle Cheer Competition, First Four Girls Basketball Preseason Tournament, The Bash (Boys Basketball), Blazer Twilight Track and Field Invitational, Blazer Golf Opening, and The Blazer Ball.

Ridge View High School's School Improvement Council (SIC) meets monthly to collaborate around goals and supportive-initiatives to support the administration's vision, family engagement and overall student achievement.

During the 2024-2025 academic year, the SIC accomplished three primary goals and is poised for even greater success during the 2025-2026 school year. The first goal the SIC accomplished was ensuring that the RVHS SIC members received "The Basics" training from the SC-SIC central office based at the University of South Carolina. During this training the legislation and primary objectives of the SIC were outlined and reviewed.

The second goal accomplished this school year was the hosting of the first "Blazing Conversations" initiative. This initiative was designed to promote healthy dialogue about important student issues. Representatives from LRADAC, SC Mental Health, Ridge View High School Administration, the Coroner's Office, as well as elected officials participated in the event along with teachers, parents, and students.

The third goal was to increase participation in the Educator's Parent Survey in order to support ongoing improvement and to elevate parent voice.

We appreciate the parents, faculty, and community members who contributed this year and invite all student and parent organizations to be part of next year's SIC. Together, we ensure that intentional collaboration between school and parents remains purpose-driven so our students are future-ready.

Sincerely,

Dr. Yasha Becton, SIC Chairperson

Dr. Brenda Mack, Principal

ACADEMICS

BIOLOGY

End of Course Tests

pass rate

INCREASED

11%

US Presidential Scholarship Candidates



Oluwatoni Ariyo



Carter Phelps



India McQuirter, AVID Early College Junior, participated in the Caregiving Youth Leadership Conference sponsored by The Wounded Warrior Project and The Military Child Education Coalition.



Mrs. Polly Sheppard, survivor of the 2015 shooting at Mother Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, SC, spoke to 200 students in African American Studies and JROTC courses.

84 Dual Enrollment courses offered to students.



The 2023-2024 Cancel Hunger project was featured at the SC Computer Science/STEM Summit in September. The project is in partnership with Webgrylz Code. In addition to the 10th and 12th grade Scholars students, Mrs. Brown's Webpage class and Dr. Chigoba's AP Computer Science class worked on the project.

ACTIVITIES



National Gold Council of Excellence

Ridge View StuCo won three awards at the South Carolina Association of Student Council (SCASC) State Convention.

- 1st Place: #NextLevel Rallies
- 1st Place: It's Time to Lock-In
- 3rd Place: Haunted Hallway

Junior, Elijah Lawson, was selected District 4 Chairman.



The JROTC Archery Team won 2nd Place in the 3D/IBO portion of the 4th Brigade Archery Best of the Best competition. They qualified for the Eastern National Archery Competition.

Student Body President Tatiyana James was inducted into the SCASC Terry McCoy Hall of Fame.

The 2024 Homecoming Court raised \$5,952 for the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

Contestants for the Miss Ridge View Pageant raised \$3,800 for scholarships.

Raised over \$1,500 for American Red Cross in response to the devastation caused by Hurricane Helene.

Winter Wishes, RV's annual service project achieved the following: 19 pints of blood donated, \$1500 donated to Epworth Children's Home, 753 toiletries donated to Sistercare, sponsored 25 people with Families Helping Families, and collected 10,132 canned goods.



GIVING \$12,700+

25

Individuals supported through Families Helping Families

10,132

Canned Goods collected for Harvest Hope

19+

Pints of Blood donated during Winter Wishes

753

Toiletry Items donated to Sistercare

ARTS

8 students were invited to attend the University of South Carolina Honor Band Clinic.

Choral Performance Assessment



Blazer Chorus rated Superior with Distinction

2025 All-State Orchestra



India McQuirter

The Theatre program was chosen as a Disney on Broadway School of Excellence.



Rachel Campbell, Alydia Chatmon, Emily Jefferson, and Janiyah Webster won regional awards at the Scholastic Art competition. Visual Art students also won two Gold Keys, four Silver Keys, and three Honorable Mentions.

ATHLETICS

5 signees: 3 football - Jordan Gidron, Josh Ladd, Cleve Tellery, and Ephraim Ukata; 1 track and field - Kamora Washington-Outen

Cleve Tellery and Joshua Ladd were selected to play in the North-South All-Star football game.

Anasia Harvey was named Top Senior in 5A Division 1 and played in the NC/SC All-Star Game.

Girls Basketball Team - 5A Division 1 Co-Region Champions

Boys Basketball Team - 5A Division 1 State Champions

Korie Corbett was named Region 5- 5A Player of the Year.

Yale Davis was named 5A All-State Player.

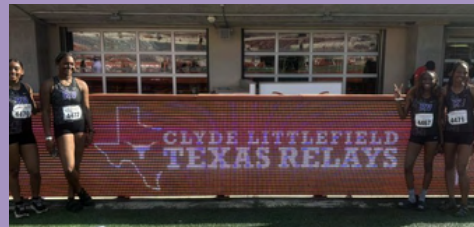
Malachi Cooper named North/South All-Star by SC Basketball Coaches Association

Jazmine Williamson and Samaiya McAllister participated in the Women's State Wrestling Championships.

Cheer hosted the 4th Annual Blazer Battle Cheer Competition.

Several RVHS boys and girls Track and Field athletes participated in the New Balance Nationals in Boston, MA and Texas Relays in Austin, TX.

Boys Golf team hosted the Fifth Annual Blazer Open.



FACULTY AND ALUMNI ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Michael Halbrook, Class of 2015, played at Carnegie Hall in NYC.



Jennifer McLeod and Curtis Bates appeared on Soda City Live to promote Cuts for Gabbiee.



Coach Josh Staley
5A Region 5
Coach of the Year



Girls' Basketball Head Coach, Terrance Gibson, received the Legacy Award from Unity on the Hardwood Alumni Game.



Orchestra Director Phillip Pagal served as a guest clinician for the Lexington School District 2 Honor Orchestra.



K'nique Eichelberger, Class of 2017, starring as Marshall in the traveling live stage production of Paw Patrol Live.

SCACA's Inugural Tomorrow's 25 Coaching Fellowship



Coach Brian Rosefield



Coach Josh Staley

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Cuts for Gabbiee

Back to School hair-cuts for the community to support an annual scholarship.

Trunk or Treat

Community trunk or treat sponsored by the National Beta Club.

Moments for Mom/March Dadness

An appreciation of mother and father figures in the Fall and Spring.

Veteran's Day Celebration

JROTC honors our veterans in the community and school with a schoolwide celebration.

Winter Wishes

4 schoolwide service learning projects to give back to the community.

The Bash

International basketball showcase supported by Richland County Council.

Blazer Spring Soirees

6 weekly events to engage the staff in fun leading to Spring Break.

Showcase of Learning

Tour of what learning looks like in today's classrooms.

Blazer Summit

A mentoring event hosted by S.M.O.O.T.H. and Purple R.E.I.G.N. focused on developing your best self.

I.M.P.A.C.T. Day

Influence Many, Provide Aid, Change Together: service learning day all freshmen volunteer in the community.



THEME-BASED LEARNING COMMUNITIES

WHOLE SCHOOL DISTRICT MAGNET

Ridge View High School Med Pro Magnet: A school-wide focus of STEAMM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math, and Medical) integration and AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) best teaching strategies as access points to fostering a challenging, engaging, healthy, safe, and supportive approach to learning.

SMALLER LEARNING COMMUNITY DISTRICT MAGNETS

Institute for Health Sciences Magnets

- **Allied Health Sciences Magnet:** A hands-on curriculum where students learn the science and skills of medicine through career-based case studies focused on the human body, physical therapy, and pharmacology.
- **BioHealth Sciences Magnet:** In conjunction with the national Project Lead the Way Biomedical Sciences™ curriculum, the program aims to engage students in a challenging and competitive educational environment through case-based scenarios focused on science, mathematics, and technology.

Scholars Academy Magnet for Business and Law: An energetic learning community of highly motivated students committed to achieving the goals of a challenging academic curriculum focused on Law and Business through a four-year Honors/AP track.

SMALLER LEARNING COMMUNITY SCHOOLS-WITHIN-A-SCHOOL

Achievement Via Individual Determination (AVID): Based on a national program, identifies students who have been performing at average levels, presents them with the tools to move successfully to high-level courses, and prepares them for college.

Blazer Academy: A community for all ninth-grade students that focuses on developing student agency, empowering students to feel a sense of ownership over their learning as they transition from middle school to high school

Carolina Alliance for Technology (CAT): A computer science and engineering project-based learning curriculum with career-based field studies, job shadowing, and mentoring through local businesses.

School for the Arts: Designed for students who have special talents and a serious interest in the arts fields - band, dance, chorus, creative writing, orchestra, theatre, and visual arts.

DISTRICT PROGRAM

AVID Early College: A district-wide program housed only at Ridge View High School, designed for families with a realistic and more affordable pathway to a four-year college degree, who may consider college expenses out of their reach.

Priorities for 2024 - 2025

- Ridge View will maintain or increase the current on-time graduation rate of 91.4% by tracking student progress to earn 6 credits by the end of their first year, 12 credits by the end of their second year, 18 credits by the end of their third year, and 24 credits upon graduation.
- Increase the percentage of students who are College and Career Ready.
- Increase the number of Dual Enrollment offerings available to students.
- Increase the percentage of students passing all End of Course Exams (EOC).
- Ridge View will sustain the school-wide distinction by the AVID Center.
- Continue to provide socio-emotional support to students and staff through Conscious Discipline to reduce chronic absenteeism.

