



# Ridge View High School

Annual Parent Update

2016-2017

**Ridge View High School**  
**4801 Hard Scrabble Road**  
**Columbia, SC 29229**  
**803.699.2999**  
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## Mission Statement

Ridge View High School, an active partner with its growing and diverse community, guarantees each student the opportunity to achieve excellence in academic knowledge, critical and creative thinking skills, and personal management resulting in life-long learning and responsible citizenship.

## School Demographics

Asian: 22  
 African-American: 1071  
 Hispanic/Latino: 73  
 Native American: 2  
 Pacific Islander: 3  
 Two or More Races: 42  
 White: 139

## Enrollment

9th Grade: 372  
 10th Grade: 363  
 11th Grade: 308  
 12th Grade: 309  
 TOTAL: 1352

## Annual message from Brenda Mack-Foxworth, Ed.D., Principal & Nikesha Tilton, SIC Chairperson

At Ridge View High School, Home of the Blazers, the learning experience is tailor-made for each student. Ridge View's School Improvement Council (SIC) and administration's collaborative efforts have resulted in continuous improvement for our students via enduring support for the teaching and learning environment. We began the year with SIC supporting efforts which ensured that students have an adult advocate. An advocate could be a staff or community member who advises students on their academic pathway as well as life and career skills. Additionally, SIC supported service learning community projects such as Winter Wishes and our annual Career Fair where community business leaders volunteered to speak to students about their professions and their road to success. Our faculty and staff continued implementation of Project Based Learning (PBL), an instructional strategy for personalized learning. Ridge View is hosting the district's MED Two seminar series that's open to all Richland Two high school students. Students are learning from healthcare experts about careers in medicine. Ridge View is the hosting site for MED Two because of the success of our Allied Health and Bio-Health magnet programs in the Institute for Health Sciences. Ridge View Students are academically competitive. Our Quiz Bowl team is heading to the nation's capital soon! The team won first place in the Academic World Quest competition and advanced to the national competition in April. Additionally, Richland Two Early College AVID program is housed at Ridge View. Students completing this program will receive an associate's degree. Scholars Academy students received recognition for their efforts to get "Sierra's Law" passed. Senators Mia McLeod and Katrina Shealy have sponsored this bipartisan bill. This would allow minors to get an order of protection against an abusive partner. Ridge View's Student Council received the Gold Honor Council Award and 4-A Video Project Award in March at the state convention. Fine Arts students received 10 awards at the Scholastic Art and Writing Southeast Region Competition. Hezekiah Branch, senior in the Institute Of Health sciences Magnet, is a semifinalist for the U.S. Presidential Scholar Candidate. Additionally, Student Body President, Megan Reardon, enrolled in two magnet programs, Scholars Academy for Business and Law and BioHealth will attend U.S. Naval Academy. Blazer athletic programs are on the rise! Ridge View had 10 football players, the largest number of athletes in the Midlands, sign letters of intent on National Signing Day in February. Our graduation rate improved on the 2016 Report Card to 88.5 percent, which is higher than state and district averages.

At Ridge View, education is personal. Our students are making some terrific strides. We tailor the learning environment to include, blended learning, project based learning, which helps ensure that our Blazers are prepared for success! Please don't take my word for it. This is your hall pass to visit our campus. If a scheduled school tour doesn't excite you, then come to BlazerFest on April 29th. This community event is a collaborative effort of SIC and PTSO, and is packed with fun, food, games and entertainment which showcase the talents of our students and the elementary and middle schools within the Ridge View cluster.

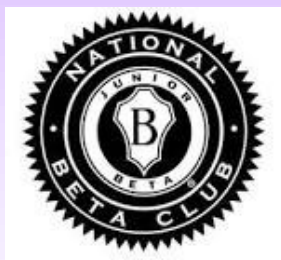
## Inside this issue:



SIC Membership	2
Accomplishments	2
Accomplishments	3
Ridge View History	4
Community	4
Priorities	5
4 A's of Blazer Life	6
LIFE Scholarships	7

## Accomplishments for 2016-2017

- ◆ 50% increase in number of AP Scholars with Distinction from 2015-2016
- ◆ 41 AP Scholars, 3 AP Scholars with Honors, and 9 AP Scholars with Distinction, and 2 National AP Scholars
- ◆ Named a School of Distinction by the National Beta Club
- ◆ 11 HOSA students placed in the Top 3 at the State Conference with 5 students receiving Gold medals, 1 student receiving a Silver medals and 5 students receiving Bronze medals.
- ◆ Scholars Academy Magnet for Business and Law students (Class of 2017 )presented to a SC Senate subcommittee in favor of a bill to protect students from relationship violence.
- ◆ Hezekiah Branch is one of a short list of candidates for the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program
- ◆ Tobi Ariyo has selected for a summer internship at the National Institute for Health
- ◆ Megan Reardon appointed to U.S. Naval Academy
- ◆ Hunter Houston earned a Platinum rating on the WorkKeys Assessment
- ◆ Ridge View won first place in the state in the Economics Challenge, sponsored by SC Economics and held at the Darla Moore School of Business.
- ◆ Ridge View accepted into TransformSC's network of innovative schools .



- ◆ 16 Clinical Studies students successfully completed program as national Certified Nursing Assistants
- ◆ Over 60 Health Science students were certified as Basic Life Support Care providers by the American Heart Association
- ◆ 9 DECA students placed in the top 10 at the State Conference with Kaylan Cooper and Devin Holder placing 1st in “Principles of Business Management and Administration” and “Virtual Business Challenge—Personal Finance” respectively.
- ◆ Mr. David Haas awarded two grants totaling \$2000 for the Blazer Food Pantry which is used to feed students.
- ◆ Dr. Gordon Maynes awarded \$1000 Sparkleberry Fair Grant for new sensors for titration experiments.
- ◆ AP World History students V’dell Carter, Jakayla Cornish, Portia Daniels, Otiana Thompson, and Caitlyn Wilson placed 2nd in Senior Group Performance at the 2017 National History Day Competition. These students will represent South Carolina at the National Competition in June.
- ◆ Student Council receives National Gold Council of Excellence Award for the eleventh consecutive year.



## Accomplishments for 2016-2017

- ◆ 8 Fine Arts students won 10 awards through the Scholastic Art and Writing Southeast Region Competition
- ◆ 4 Fine Arts students won awards at the South Carolina State Fair
- ◆ SC Arts Commission grant recipient totaling \$10,799 for Arts in Basic Curriculum (ABC)
- ◆ 7 students placed at the NCAAP ACT-SO Columbia Competition
- ◆ Blazer Rifle Team receives a grant from the NRA Foundation



- ◆ Twenty-second consecutive year for Blazer Marching Band making state finals
- ◆



- ◆ Congratulations to the Football Team for progressing into Round Two of AAAA playoffs this season.



- ◆ Boys Basketball made the 3rd round of South Carolina High School League playoffs (Region III-AAAA Champions)
- ◆ Girls Basketball made the 3rd round of South Carolina High School League playoffs (Region III-AAAA Champions)
- ◆ Let's Move Active Schools National Award winner



- ◆ Two Ridge View HOSA students (Savannah Talledo & Erin Walker) received \$1,000 Scholarships at the 2017 SC HOSA State Leadership Conference.
- ◆ Our Public Relations Committee won 7 South Carolina National School Public Relations Association awards.



## SIC Members

### Elected Members

Tilton, Nikesha (Chairperson)

### Parent Members

Abel, Sandra  
Banks, Jamie  
Barnett, Deborah  
Brown, Lahassanda  
Cornish, Sophia  
Cunningham, Myra  
Davis, Anthony  
Farr, Junnieka  
Hawkins, Bridget  
Herbert, Tulya  
Hough, Stacey  
Jeffcoat, Joanie  
Jones, Angela  
Knighting, Cathy  
Lee, Tarolyn  
Lesesne, Kent  
McFarlan, Sonja  
Merriwether-Hawkins, Sonja  
Muller, Cleve  
Muller, Michelle  
Nelson, Rogie  
Payne, Rolonda  
Robertson, Kira  
Shepard, Zilphia  
Temple, Jennifer  
Williams, Leroy

### Student Members

Kane, Christopher  
Reardon, Megan  
Thompson, Otiana

### Faculty Members

Campbell, Wendy  
Dawson-House, Dawn  
Gordon, David  
Maynes, Gordon  
Myers, Melissa  
Thomas, Marlon  
Upchurch, Allen  
Wimmer, Wendi

### At-Large Members

Allen, Nancy  
Argo, Melissa  
Belfanti, Jenna  
Brown, Regina  
Call, Lisa  
Chapman, Kathy  
Collins, Thomas (SRO)  
Cross, Dr. Darren  
Cupstid, Rebecca  
Heathcoe, Pat  
Howard, Carlos  
Jefferson, Wayne  
McKie, Amelia  
Mintor, Anthony  
Nabors, Danny  
Richardson, Val  
Washington, Al



**Through our Summer Reading Celebration program, students connect to lifelong literacy by discussing books that they selected to read over summer break.**

Since Ridge View High School opened its doors in 1995, the continuous growth of the Northeast area has led to twice splitting our student population with the openings of Blythewood High School in 2005 and Westwood High School in 2012. Our focus on the Four A's (Academics, Arts, Activities, and Athletics) has continued to demonstrate that Ridge View High is dedicated to our community, and to the concept of lifelong learning.



**Ridge View High School History**

## Ridge View High School Aims

- ◆ Excellence in Student Learning
- ◆ Meeting Diverse Student Needs
- ◆ Safe and Secure Environment
- ◆ Quality Teachers and Personnel
- ◆ Effective Leadership and Management Resources
- ◆ School, Parent, Student and Community Partnerships

## Community Involvement



**Feast for Fathers 2016**



**Trick or Trunk 2015**



**Career Day 2016**



**Representative McLeod Visits**



**Mother Daughter Tea**



**Giving Bowl 2015**



**Black History Program 2016**



**Principal for a Day—Mr. Shadd**

## Schools-Within-A-School and Magnet Programs

**Achievement Via Individual Determination (AVID):** This program, 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 a four-year college.

**Institute for Bio-Health Sciences and Allied Health Sciences:** The Bio-Health Sciences Magnet program at Ridge View High School, in conjunction with the nationally recognized Project Lead the Way Biomedical Sciences™ program, offers highly achieving students a dynamic curriculum that uses real world experience and hands on learning. Students with interest in exploring the variety that health sciences offers will find PLTW's Biomedical Sciences™ program to be a fantastic doorway for medical professions.

**Scholars Academy Magnet for Business and Law:** The Ridge View Scholars Academy Magnet for Business and Law is 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.

**School for the Arts:** The School for the Arts is designed for students who have special talents and serious interest in the arts fields - visual arts, band, orchestra, chorus, dance, creative writing, and drama.

**Carolina Alliance for Technology (CAT):** The Carolina Alliance for Technology (CAT) program is a small learning community that promotes project-based learning with career-based field studies, job shadowing, and mentoring through partnerships with IT and Engineering based busi-

## Priorities for 2016-2017

- ◆ Continue to expand internship opportunities for all students
- ◆ Continue to improve the achievement of students on state and national measures
- ◆ Improve programs designed to ensure repeaters get back on track to graduate
- ◆ Reduce discipline referrals, suspensions and recommendations for expulsion
- ◆ Increase percentage of students participating in more than one club or organization
- ◆ Continue to increase the graduation rate
- ◆ Expand professional development opportunities that focus on student achievement

***“Our aim is to build each student’s experiences towards a better future.”***



**National  
Honor Society  
Induction**



## The 4 A's in a Blazer Life

### Academics



Student of the Month



Career Day 2016



National Honor Society

### Activities



Homecoming 2015

Miss Ridge View



Costume Contest



Winter Wishes 2015



"The Dating Game"  
Freshman Parent Information Night

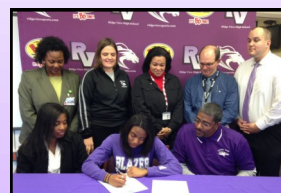
### Arts



Blazer Football @ RCE



Bojangles Bash 2015



Signing Day 2016

### Athletics

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**South Carolina LIFE Scholars**



Ridge View High School  
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The Legislative Incentive for Future Excellence (LIFE) Scholarship is a merit-based scholarship administered by the financial aid office at each eligible public and independent institution in SC. Students attending a 4 year public school may receive up to \$5000 per year for four years.

The purpose of the LIFE Scholarship is to:

- ♦ Increase **ACCESS** to higher education
- ♦ Improve **EMPLOYMENT** of South Carolina's students
- ♦ Provide **INCENTIVES** for students to be better prepared for college
- ♦ Encourage students to **GRADUATE** from college on time

Find us on the web at  
[www.richland2.org/rvh](http://www.richland2.org/rvh)

*Ridge View  
High School  
proudly  
celebrates more  
than 20 years  
of serving the  
community.*

*LIFE Scholarship General Eligibility Requirements*

To qualify for a South Carolina LIFE Scholarship, a student must meet any two of the following three criteria:

- ♦ Earn a 3.0 cumulative grade point average on a 4.0 scale
- ♦ Score an 1100 on the SAT or an equivalent 24 on the ACT
- ♦ Graduate in the top 30% of the graduating class

Ridge View High School proudly announces that 141 graduating seniors from its class of 2014 qualified for the LIFE Scholarship.

For additional information on the LIFE Scholarship, go to the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education website at <http://www.che.sc.gov/>

