

Chesnee High School

2024 Annual Report to the Community



Principal

Erik Gerstenacker

Administrative Team

Michael Allen, Steven Olejnik

Athletic Director

James Hyatt

Instructional Coaches

Holly Barrett, Jessica McAbee

School Counseling Team

Ashley Height, Lindsey Steven, Donna Tucker

School Improvement Council

Holly Barrett, Amy Rae Breitenbach, Erik Gerstenacker, Dawn Lipscomb, Page McDowell, Latasha Miller Carter, Rachel McKinney, Dawn Scruggs, Kris Showen, Pennie Stacey

A Message from our Principal

Chesnee High School is dedicated to the success of our students. Education is our passion and we work to ensure our students have the knowledge, skills and characteristics necessary for them to be successful in their future endeavors, whether that be college, career or military. We are a school embedded in excellence and committed to high standards in academics, athletics and the arts.

The administration, faculty and staff consider it a privilege to work with your children every day and want to help them be the best they can possibly be. We know that in order to accomplish this, there must be a strong partnership involving the school, the student and the family. Working together, we can truly maximize each student's potential.

Chesnee High School Mission Statement

Our mission is to provide total commitment in an exceptional educational environment by maintaining the highest standards for **all** students while simultaneously protecting and nurturing them to succeed, to enable them to become socially responsible citizens, and to prepare our students to excel globally in college and careers.

School Community Achievement

Academic

- ACT: Our school composite score increased to 19.1 from 18.1 the year prior. Our subscores in each area (English, Math, Reading and Science) increased from the prior year. The percentage of our juniors scoring a score of 20 or higher increased to 43.92% from 32.2% from the prior year.
- SC Career Readiness Assessment: 58.6% of juniors earned 3 or higher on the WIN Career Readiness test, an increase from 38.6% the previous year.
- College/Career Readiness: The percentage of 2023 senior students who were either college or career ready decreased from 80.3% to 66.9%.

- Advanced Placement Courses: CHS offered 2 AP courses, AP Drawing and AP 2D Design. The pass rate remained 100%.
- Dual Enrollment courses on campus include ENG 101, ENG 102, CPT 101, MAT 110, MAT 120, BIO 101, BIO 210, ASL 101, SOC 101, PSY 201, SPC 205, MUS 105, HIS 102- Spartanburg Community College, and Teacher Cadet-USC Upstate.
- The Class of 2023 earned over 8.4 million dollars in college scholarships.

Fine Arts

- **Art:** There were many artworks displayed at the Chapman Cultural Center, Youth Art Month County Art Show, Spartanburg District Two Art Show, and the Piedmont Interstate Fair. Many artworks were accepted into the Converse College Emerging Young Artists Juried Art Show and Focus on Youth Juried Show. In addition, students had their artwork displayed in the Spartanburg District Two Administrative Office.
- **Band:** State Finalist (4th at state, 3rd at Upper State), Superior and Excellent Rating for Marching Band, Excellent Rating for Concert Band, Superior and Excellent ratings at Solo and Ensemble, 4 students selected for District 6 Region Band, 2 Student All-State callback, 2 students in Spartanburg Youth Philharmonic Orchestra, JV Winterguard – bronze medalist at State Winter Ensemble Championships, JV Winterguard – silver medalist at CWEA Circuit Championships
- **Orchestra:** Seven students selected to the Region One Honors Orchestra, Fall Concert Performance, Winter Concert Performance, Spring Concert Performance, 21st Consecutive Superior Rating at SCMEA Orchestra Division Concert Performance Assessment, 52 Superior Ratings and 5 Excellent Ratings at the SCMEA Orchestra Division Solo & Ensemble Festival, Superior Rating at Carowinds Music Festival, “Jukebox” Senior Concert, Performed with the Concert Band at graduation.

Athletics

Football: 6 All-Region players **Cheerleading:** First in region and first in the 2A division in the state of South Carolina, Through a tie breaker, our team placed 2nd in the 2A State Championship **Volleyball:** 1 All-State Player, 2 All-Region Players **Wrestling:** Region Champions, 9 State qualifiers, 2 State Champions, 4 All-State **Boys Basketball:** 2 All-Region **Girls Basketball:** 2 All-Region **Soccer:**

2 All-Region **Girls Golf**: 2nd Consecutive State Championship, 4 All-State Players, Individual State Champion **Boys Golf**: 2 All-Region **Softball**: 5 All-Region, Region Player of the Year, CAWS AA Player of the Year, 1 All-State, 1 North-South All Stars, Region Champions, , District Champions, Celebrated 30 years of Chesnee Softball

Faculty and Staff

- Sylvia Landrum was selected as the 2022-2023 Teacher of the Year for Chesnee High School and earned the District Teacher of the Year honor as well.
- Susan Brooks was selected as the 2022-2023 Ambassador of the Year for Chesnee High School.

Performance Goals

- By May 2024, we will increase the percentage of seniors who are college or career ready from 64.3% to 78.2%.
- By the end of the 2023-2024 school year, all teachers will help at least one student score a C or higher on an EOC.

Updated Activities

- Professional development sessions have focused on small-group instruction, teacher clarity, and success criteria. Teachers have participated in multiple learning walks and differentiated PD.
- TLTs have focused on incorporating research-based instruction and personalized learning for all students.
- The school counseling department will work to continually update our scholarship newsletter on the school webpage so students and parents are provided information regarding funding for higher education.
- Automated phone calls, emails, and social media will be utilized to keep families informed of opportunities and of student progress.

Updated Needs Assessment

- To further encourage success among our at-risk students, we will continue to utilize Structured Learning Time (SLT) which is our hour lunch period where students and teachers can partner together to increase student success.
- To continue our efforts to ensure that our graduates are college and career ready, we will:
 - Utilize a 9GR spreadsheet to help target students who need to retake the South Carolina Career Readiness test
 - Take a schoolwide approach to test prep
 - Emphasize students taking dual credit courses to take at least 6 hours
 - Continue to offer dual enrollment courses to 10th graders