



OCTOBER 09 - 13, 2023

THE BLAZE

Official Newsletter of HCS Early College High School

"Endless Possibilities"

from the desk of Ms. Williams...

Trailblazers,

As students settle into the routine of school, it is important they develop a plan for how to organize their time for school work, extracurricular activities, and possibly employment. I encourage all students to do the following:

- use their school provided agenda books to write down all assignments and upcoming events to assist with organizing their time
- have a dedicated space at home to complete work without distractions
- create a work schedule/plan based on their assignments in their agenda book for completing work and studying for tests
- take structured breaks while working (for example, after working on assignments for 30 minutes, take a 10 minute break)
- organize their binder with completed assignments to ensure paper assignments are ready to turn in the following day, if the assignment does not require a digital submission
- communicate with teachers if they are unclear on how to complete the assignment
- do not believe that all work can be completed at school or during AVID
- participate in the homework assistance program (face-to-face or virtual)
- monitor grades for instant feedback on progress in each class

The ECHS Homework Assistance program is available to all students Tuesdays and Wednesdays after school (2:30 - 4:30) for math and English. Virtual help is available on Tuesdays and Wednesdays 4:00 - 7:00 for all subjects.

I encourage parents to please check PowerSchool frequently for updates to high school grades. For our students enrolled in HGTC college courses, I encourage parents to have their students log in to D2L weekly and show their progress. Parents can also download the Pulse App (see link below) and have their student log into D2L to check college grades. Please note Professor Powley, Professor Calos, and Professor Dr. Carroll are instructors for our in house college courses and their grades will not show in PowerSchool.

Please read below for additional important updates and reminders.

Upcoming Events

Annual Blood Drive

- October 12
- 7:00 - 1:00

PSAT ~ Sophomores

- October 13
- 8:00 - 11:30

Key Club Leadership Rally

- October 13 - 15

CCU Theater - Cinderella

- October 20 @ 10:00
- 9th Grade

Homecoming Dance

- October 20
- 7:00 - 10:00
- Tickets- \$10.00

Advisory Trunk or Treat

- October 27
- 1:30 - 2:20

Important Trailblazer Links

[Lunch Menu](#)

[Student Handbook](#)

[Homework Assistance](#)

[Scholarship Website](#)

[ECHS Website](#)

Safety Protocols ([English](#) / [Spanish](#))

Transcript Request ([ECHS](#) / [HGTC](#))

[Facebook](#),

[Twitter](#),

[Instagram](#)

Advisory: Friday, October 13, 2023, will be a PM Advisory and a Tuesday/Thursday day.

Homecoming Dance: The second annual homecoming dance is Friday, October 20 from 7:00 to 10:00 PM in the Trailblazer Cafe. Tickets are \$10.00. The theme is a “Night Under the Stars”. Permission slips are required before tickets can be purchased. The last day to buy tickets is October 18, 2023.

Homecoming Court Nominations: Nominations for Homecoming Court are open. Students can nominate any male and/or female for the Homecoming Court October 6 -13, 2023. Voting on the Court nominees will be October 16-18. Winners must be at the dance!

Nominate Your Teacher and Support Staff of the Year: We are excited to announce that the process to select the 2023 Teacher of the Year and Support Staff of the Year has begun! Any ECHS Trailblazer or member of the community may nominate a candidate to apply to be ECHS’s Teacher of the Year and Support Staff of the Year. The nomination form is linked below. **Nominations for both Teacher of the Year and Support Staff of the Year are due by Friday, October 20, 2023, at 2:30 PM.**

PSAT Test: The PSAT is a practice SAT test, which is a required test for college acceptance. All sophomores will take the PSAT on Friday, October 13, 2023. Students should get a good night's rest and eat a healthy breakfast the day of their test.

CCU Theater Production: All Freshman students will be attending the CCU Theater Department production of Cinderella on Friday, October 20, 2023, at 10:00 AM. Students are to wear comfortable walking shoes for the trip. Permission slips must be returned by

Parking Decals: All ECHS student drivers are required to register their vehicles with HGTC Public Safety and submit an information form to the ECHS front office secretary. Students will be given a student placard for ECHS and an HGTC parking sticker by Public Safety. Both items will need to be on display in the car.

"To provide a small, personalized learning community that accelerates our diverse student population to become responsible citizens who are strong critical thinkers, collaborators, and communicators who can successfully meet and face the challenges of competing in an ever-changing global society."

THE MISSION OF ECHS



Title I

HCS-Early College High School receives federal funding through Title I. A copy of the Title I school wide plan can be reviewed in our main office. Parents are encouraged to provide feedback with regards to our school wide Title I initiatives.

TRAILBLAZER

DAILY LUNCH SPECIALS



Monday 10/9/23

No School

Tuesday 10/10/23

No School

Wednesday 10/11/23

Bosco Sticks

Breaded Chicken Salad



Thursday 10/12/23

Baked Ziti with Garlic Toast

Turkey & Cheese Lunchable



Friday 10/13/23

Cheeseburger

PB&J Meal



Blood Drive

October 12

7:00 Am - 1:00 PM

Mobile Unit



THE BLOOD[®]
CONNECTION

Your Community Blood Center

To donate you must be:

16 or older

weigh 120 pounds or more

PSAT Test

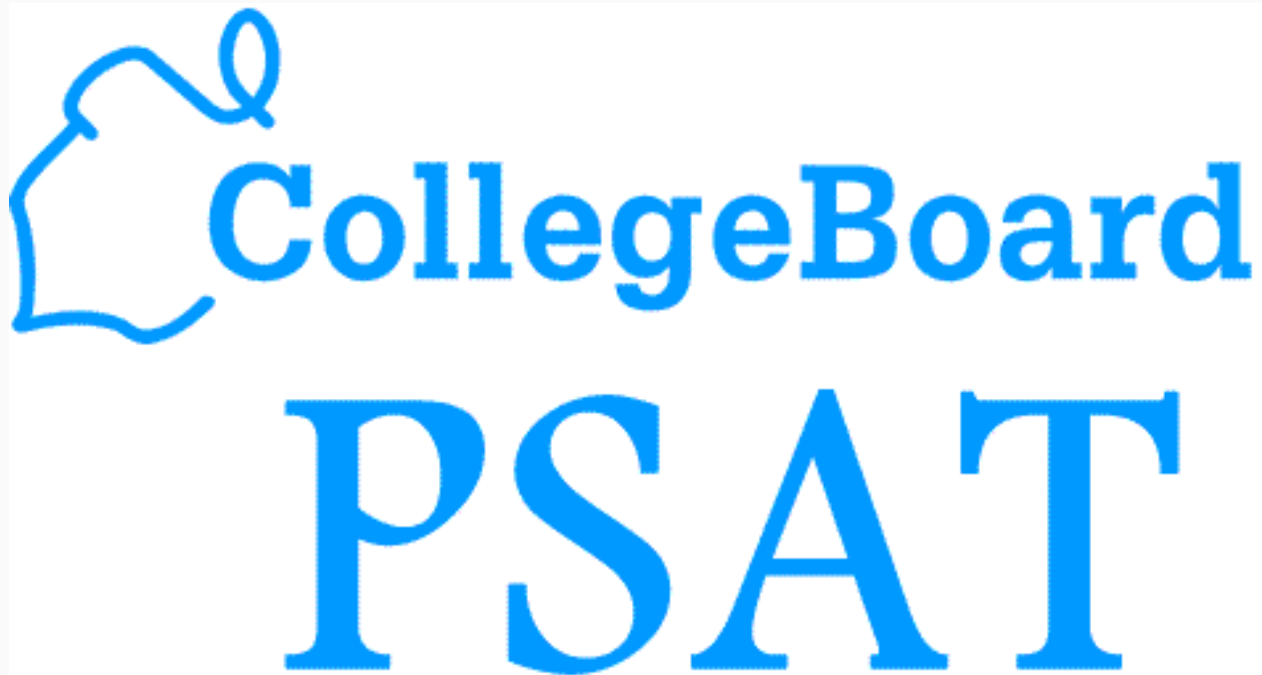
10th graders

Friday, October 13

8:00 - 11:30

ECHS Rooms: 152 & 153

Bldg 300: Room 110



ECHS 2023-2024 Teacher of the Year & Support Staff of the Year



NOMINATE

ECHS Teacher and Support Staff of the Year

Please nominate one teacher for Teacher of the Year, and one staff member for Support Staff of the Year. All nominations are due by 2:30 PM October 20, 2023.

**Last Day to Nominate one Teacher
and one Staff Member is
Friday, October 20, 2023
at 2:30PM.**

[Nominate](#)



Nominate a student (male and/or female) for the Homecoming Court.

Nominations: October 6 -13, 2023.

Vote for the Court: October 16-18.

Winners must be at the dance!

Nomination



Window World October Teacher of the Month

Click her to [Vote](#) Everyday

Vote for Mrs. Farmer

<https://myhorrynews.secondstreetapp.com/October23-Teacher-of-the-Month/gallery/>

SPONSORED BY
Window World

TEACHER OF THE MONTH

VOTE EVERYDAY!

Make your nominations for the October 2023 Teacher of the Month!
Vote & Nominate EVERYDAY!

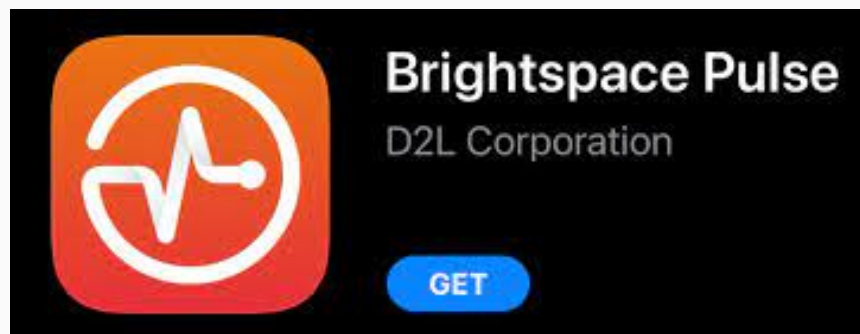
The teacher with the most votes will win a plaque, prize from **Window World** and a follow up story in our local papers!

Vote & Nominate: October 1 - October 31
Winner Contacted: November 1



Parent Access to College Grades

- Download Brightspace Pulse to your phone.
- Have your students log into their myHGTC account.
- You can view grades & upcoming assignments.



[Brightspace Pulse](#)

Congratulations to our September Students of the Month

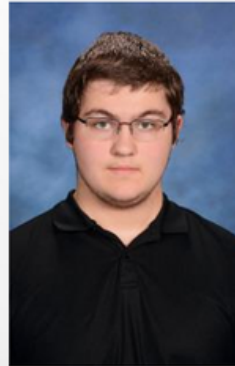
September Students of the Month



9th Danna
Jimenez Chamu



10th Alexia Stathes



11th William
Reemsnyder



12th Sadie Woodberry

September Teacher of the Month

Dr. Kristy Floyd



SEPTEMBER TEACHER OF THE MONTH DR. FLOYD

"Dr. Floyd is amazing. She engages with all her students, makes it very easy to learn while still adding difficult tasks. She's a phenomenal teacher. I've never really liked science, but stepping into Dr. Floyd's class changed everything. She makes me look forward for physical science. She's just the best."

Nominating Student



EARLY COLLEGE

Homecoming Spirit Week 2023



2023

HOMECOMING WEEK

SPIRIT DAYS

Monday (10/16) - Decades Day

12th Grade - 1980s

11th Grade - 1990s

10th Grade - 2000s

9th Grade - 2010s

Tuesday (10/17) - College Colors Day

Wear your favorite college's colors!

Wednesday (10/18) - Country v. Country Club Day

Pick one. Dress the part.

Thursday (10/19) - I Need a Vacation Day

Dress like you are going to the tropics or
the mountains!

Friday (10/20) - PINK OUT

Homecoming Dance, 7-10 p.m.

**Points will be awarded to the class with
the greatest participation each day.**

Will your class take the crown?

OCTOBER 16-20

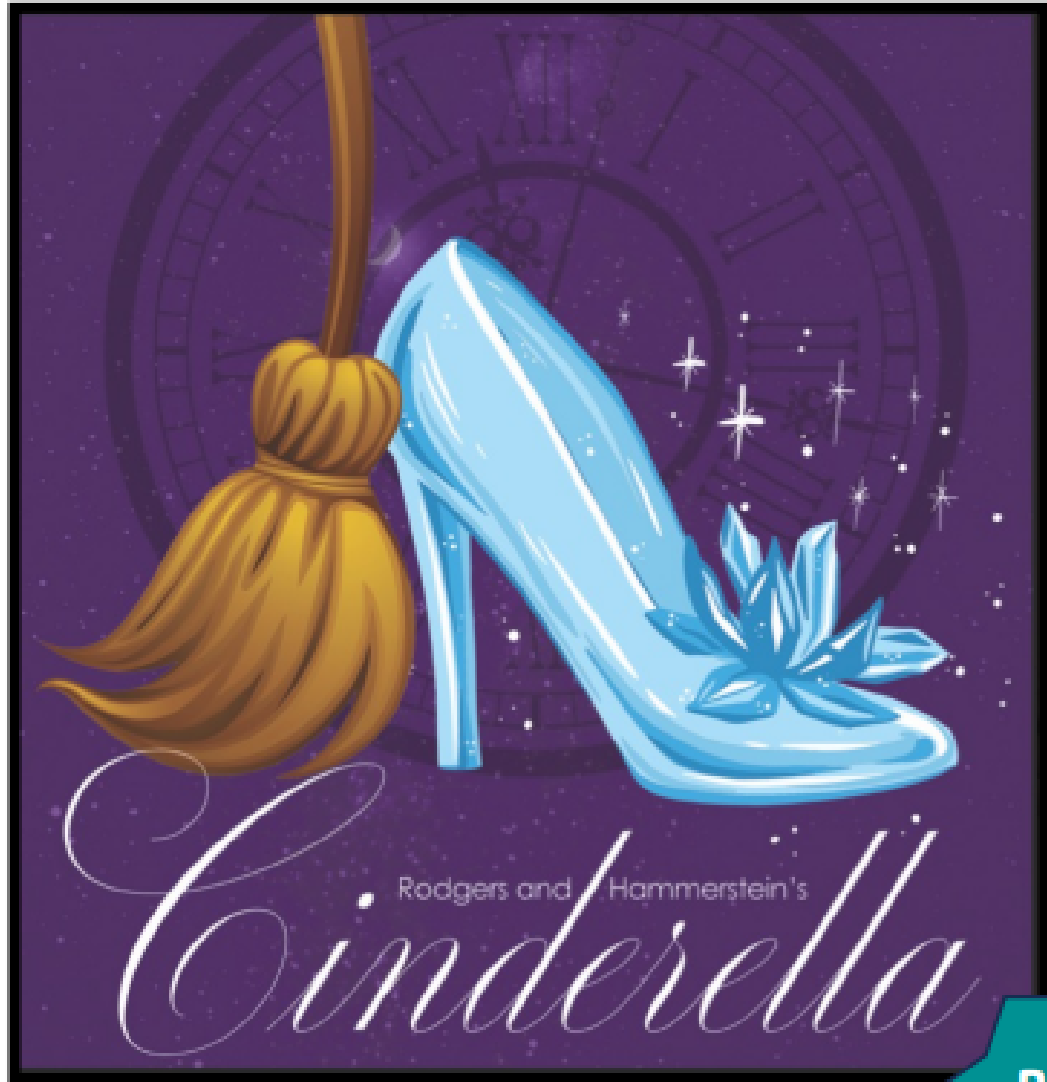
More Information :

843-349-3131





THE CCU THEATRE DEPARTMENT *presents the...*
Student Matinee Series!



Friday, October 20, 2023

10:00 CCU's Wheelwright Auditorium

9th Graders

Wear comfortable walking shoes

College of the Week



COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA

A College of Charleston education is a personalized education. We offer 67 majors and 81 minors. At the College, you'll have the freedom to mix and match your academic interests to create a unique, intellectually stimulating course of study.

ECHS Students & Parents

Events Calendar

All dates are tentative and could change based on need

[Link to Calendar](#)

OCTOBER 2023	
Week of October 1-7, 2023	
Monday, October 2	Blue Day for Anti-bullying Florida Trip Fundraiser - Lunch
Tuesday, October 3	Rho Kappa Meeting Florida Trip Fundraiser - Lunch
Wednesday, October 4	Florida Trip Fundraiser - Lunch
Thursday, October 5	Florida Trip Fundraiser - Lunch Deadline to register for November SAT Club Day (Key Club, Recycling, InvenTeam, Battle of the Books)
Friday, October 6	AM Advisory - M/W Florida Trip Fundraiser - Lunch Juniors Tour CCU Campus Hispanic Heritage Month - <u>Gimkit</u> (Lunch)
Saturday, October 7	SAT National Testing-Seniors
Week of October 9-14, 2023	
Monday, October 9	No School - ECHS only
Tuesday, October 10	No School- ECHS only / Teacher Workday ~ ML Year 3
Wednesday, October 11	
Thursday, October 12	Club Day (Student Council, Recycling, InvenTeam, Dungeons and Dragons) ECHS Blood Drive - 7:00 - 11:00 (mobile bus)
Friday, October 13	PM Advisory - T/Th PSAT Testing-All 10th Grade Students Key Club Leadership Rally - Carowinds



Principal Approved Absences

Successful completion of high school courses results in the issuance of Carnegie units needed for a high school diploma.

Since our high schools and program schools operate on a 4 x 4 block schedule, it is crucial that students miss as few days as possible.

Based on this information, it is not feasible for our secondary schools and program schools to grant principal-approved days effective this year. Religious-based camps, retreats, trips, and conferences are not excused.

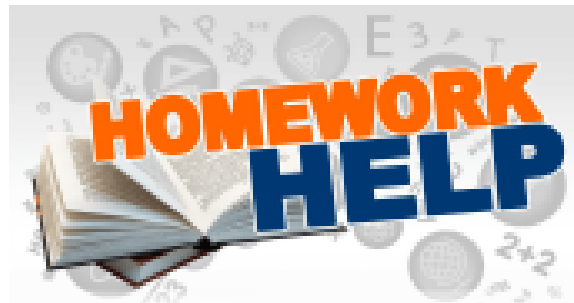
Absences due to major religious holidays are excused. Please send notes to the attendance office regarding absences for religious holidays.

Homework Assistance

Tuesdays & Wednesdays
4:00- 6:00 (after school)
4:00 - 7:00 (Online)



**HCS EARLY COLLEGE
TRAILBLAZERS**



Homework Help Guidelines:

- **In Person Help** is available after school on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 2:30 - 4:30.
- Students will meet the teacher at the designated location and remain there until they are picked up.
- Students must be picked up by 4:30
- **Virtual Help** is available on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 4:00 - 7:00.
- Students will use the links below to join the virtual group.

After School Assistance			
English			
Room 230	Ms. Robinette	Tuesdays & Wednesdays	2:30 - 4:00
Math			
Room 207	Mrs. Bishop	Wednesdays	2:30 - 4:00
Room 223	Ms. Woodard	Tuesdays & Wednesday	2:30 - 4:30

Online Assistance		
All Subjects (except math)		
Ms. Benton	Tuesdays	4:00 - 6:00
Link	https://meet.google.com/lookup/bentontutor	
Math		
Mrs. Kelly	Tuesdays & Wednesdays	5:00 - 7:00
Link	https://meet.google.com/lookup/kellytutor	

WFXB FOX TV PRESENTS



BEST Teacher_ EVER

UNITING STUDENTS AND
PARENTS IN CELEBRATING EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATORS

THIS INITIATIVE AIMS TO HONOR THE HARD WORK, DEDICATION, AND POSITIVE IMPACT THAT TEACHERS HAVE ON THE LIVES OF THEIR STUDENTS. THROUGH A COLLABORATIVE EFFORT BETWEEN THE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, STUDENTS, AND PARENTS, THE PROMOTION SEEKS TO CELEBRATE AND ACKNOWLEDGE THE REMARKABLE TEACHERS WHO GO ABOVE AND BEYOND.

EACH MONTH PARENTS AND STUDENTS WILL VOTE ON A BEST TEACHER EVER IN HORRY COUNTY. ONE WINNER WILL BE SELECTED. EACH MONTHLY WINNER WILL BE PUT INTO A DRAWING FOR AN END OF THE YEAR GRAND PRIZE!

HEAD OVER TO **WFXB.COM** TO NOMINATE YOUR
"BEST TEACHER EVER" OR SCAN THE QR CODE!



WFXB **FOX TV**

Parking Decal for Student Drivers



Drivers must register their cars with HGTC Public Safety and complete the information form for ECHS.

Registered drivers will receive an ECHS placard to place in the window on the dash near their HGTC parking decal.





**PARENTS AND GUARDIANS,
DO YOU WANT TO SERVE?**

**DO YOU WANT TO HELP
EARLY COLLEGE BE THE
BEST IT CAN BE?**

AVID Site Team	Title I Planning Team	School Improvement Council
Meets three times per year; Mondays at 2:30	Meets three times per year; Weekday at 3:00	Meets once per month ; Weekday at 3:00
Learn about instructional best practices	Review the Title I and Parenting Budget	Review long term plans
Ensure that progress is being made toward our AVID yearly goals		Look for ways to improve the school



STANDARD RESPONSE PROTOCOL

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

Our school has adopted The "I Love U Guys" Foundation's Standard Response Protocol (SRP). Students and staff will be training, practicing, and drilling the protocol.

COMMON LANGUAGE

The Standard Response Protocol (SRP) is based on an all-hazards approach as opposed to individual scenarios. Like the Incident Command System (ICS), SRP utilizes clear common language while allowing for flexibility in protocol.

The premise is simple - there are five specific actions that can be performed during an incident. When communicating these, the action is labeled with a "Term of Art" and is then followed by a "Directive." Execution of the action is performed by active participants, including students, staff, teachers and first responders. The SRP is based on the following actions: Hold, Secure, Lockdown, Evacuate, and Shelter.

HOLD

"In Your Classroom or Area"

Students are trained to:

- Clear the hallways and remain in their area or room until the "All Clear" is announced
- Do business as usual

Adults and staff are trained to:

- Close and lock the door
- Account for students and adults
- Do business as usual



SECURE

"Get Inside. Lock outside doors"

Students are trained to:

- Return to inside of building
- Do business as usual

Adults and staff are trained to:

- Bring everyone indoors
- Lock the outside doors
- Increase situational awareness
- Account for students and adults
- Do business as usual



LOCKDOWN

"Locks, Lights, Out of Sight"

Students are trained to:

- Move away from sight
- Maintain silence
- Do not open the door

Adults and staff are trained to:

- Recover students from hallway if possible
- Lock the classroom door
- Turn out the lights
- Move away from sight
- Maintain silence
- Do not open the door
- Prepare to evade or defend



EVACUATE

"To a Location"

Students are trained to:

- Leave stuff behind if required to
- If possible, bring their phone
- Follow instructions

Adults and staff are trained to:

- Bring roll sheet and Go Bag (unless instructed not to bring anything with them, dependent on reason for evacuation.)
- Lead students to Evacuation location
- Account for students and adults
- Report injuries or problems using Red Card/Green Card method.



SHELTER

"State Hazard and Safety Strategy"

Hazards might include:

- Tornado
- Hazmat
- Earthquake
- Tsunami

Safety Strategies might include:

- Evacuate to shelter area
- Seal the room
- Drop, cover and hold
- Get to high ground

Students are trained in:

- Appropriate Hazards and Safety Strategies

Adults and staff are trained in:

- Appropriate Hazards and Safety Strategies
- Accounting for students and adults
- Report injuries or problems using Red Card/Green Card method.





STANDARD RESPONSE PROTOCOL

PARENT GUIDANCE

In the event of a live incident, parents may have questions about their role.

SECURE

"Get Inside. Lock outside doors"



Secure is called when there is something dangerous outside of the building. Students and staff are brought into the building and the outside doors will be locked. The school might display the Building is Secured poster on entry doors or nearby windows. Inside, it will be business as usual.

SHOULD PARENTS COME TO THE SCHOOL DURING A SECURE EVENT?

Probably not. Every effort is made to conduct classes as normal during a secure event. Additionally, parents may be asked to stay outside during a Secure event.

WHAT IF PARENTS NEED TO PICK UP THEIR STUDENT?

Depending on the situation, it may not be safe to release the student. As the situation evolves, Secure might change to a Monitored Entry and/or Controlled Release.

WILL PARENTS BE NOTIFIED WHEN A SCHOOL GOES INTO SECURE?

When a secure event is brief or the hazard is non-violent, like a wild animal on the playground, there may not be a need to notify parents while the Secure is in place.

With longer or more dangerous events, the school should notify parents that the school has increased their security.

LOCKDOWN

"Locks, Lights, Out of Sight"



A Lockdown is called when there is something dangerous inside of the building. Students and staff are trained to enter or remain in a room that can be locked, and maintain silence.

A Lockdown is only initiated when there is an active threat inside or very close to the building.

SHOULD PARENTS COME TO THE SCHOOL DURING A LOCKDOWN?

The natural inclination for parents is to go to the school during a Lockdown. Understandable, but perhaps problematic. If there is a threat inside the building, law enforcement will be responding. It is unlikely that parents will be granted access to the building or even the campus. If parents are already in the school, they will be instructed to Lockdown as well.

SHOULD PARENTS TEXT THEIR STUDENTS?

The school recognizes the importance of communication between parents and students during a Lockdown event. Parents should be aware though, during the initial period of a Lockdown, it may not be safe for students to text their parents. As the situation resolves, students may be asked to update their parents on a regular basis.

In some cases, students may be evacuated and transported off-site for a student-parent reunification.

WHAT ABOUT UNANNOUNCED DRILLS?

The school may conduct unscheduled drills, however it is highly discouraged to conduct one without announcing that it as a drill. That's called an unannounced drill and can cause undue concern and stress.

Parents should recognize that the school will always inform students that it is a drill during the initial announcement.

It's important to differentiate between a **drill** and an exercise. A drill is used to create the "Muscle Memory" associated with a practiced action. There is no simulation of an event; this is simply performing the action. An exercise simulates an actual event to test the capacity of personnel and equipment.

CAN PARENTS OBSERVE OR PARTICIPATE IN THE DRILLS?

The school welcomes parents who wish to observe or participate in drills.



RECYCLING

WE ARE ASKING ALL STUDENTS TO HELP WITH RECYCLING DURING LUNCH.

STUDENTS SHOULD SORT THE ITEMS ON THEIR TRAYS PRIOR TO DUMPING TO ENSURE THEY ARE PLACED IN THE CORRECT BINS.

PLEASE DO NOT PLACE NON COMPOSTABLE ITEMS IN THE COMPOST BIN BECAUSE IT WILL CONTAMINATE THE BIN AND IT CANNOT BE USED FOR COMPOST.

WHAT TO COMPOST

DO COMPOST



- Food scraps
- Fruits & vegetables
- Meat & bones
- Non-liquid dairy (e.g. cheese)
- Grain products (e.g. bread)
- Pizza & pizza boxes
- Coffee grounds & paper filters
- Tea & paper tea bags
- Napkins & paper towels
- Paper to-go boxes (non-coated)
- Items labeled BPI Certified Compostable or ASTM D6400 Certified

DO NOT COMPOST



- Plastic of any kind
- Foam or Styrofoam
- Metal
- Glass
- Liquids
- Foil or plastic-coated products
- Saran wrap & plastic film
- Hazardous & medical waste
- Used facial or toilet tissue
- Plastic bags
- Hand & face wipes
- Dental floss & Q-tips
- Cotton balls & pads



Qualify for the SC LIFE AND PALMETTO FELLOWS SCHOLARSHIP with your ACT® test score!

Changes that will apply beginning
with the class of 2023:



LIFE

3.0

SC UGP

1100

SAT

-or-

22

ACT

TOP 30%

RANKING

Students must meet **2 out of 3**
(to receive LIFE at an eligible four year institution)

PALMETTO FELLOWS

3.5

SC UGP

1200

SAT

-or-

25

ACT

TOP 6%

RANKING IN 10, 11, OR 12 GRADE

ALTERNATIVE CRITERIA

4.0

SC UGP

1400

SAT

-or-

31

ACT



[Superscore Calculator](https://act.org/superscore)
act.org/superscore



[FREE ACT Test Prep](https://www.act.org/freetestprep)
www.act.org/freetestprep



[South Carolina
Student Resources](https://act.org/southcarolina)
act.org/southcarolina

Bus Transportation

Students planning to ride the bus can contact the bus office for their attendance area to get information on route numbers and pick up times.



Bus Transportation Office

Aynor	843.488.7125
Carolina Forest	843.236.0705
Conway	843.488.6094
Green Sea Floyds	843.392.3134
Loris	843.390.6822
Myrtle Beach	843.445.2041
North Myrtle Beach	843.399.8575
Socastee	843.293.6941
St. James	843.650.1937

District Transportation Office
843.488.6957

