

Lakewood High School

Home of the Gators



**“This Is Gator Nation,
Where Academic Excellence
Is The Standard”
Student/Parent Handbook
2025-2026**

Lakewood High School

350 Old Manning Road
Sumter, S.C. 29150
803-506-2700
Guidance Fax 803-506-2710
Main Office Fax 506-2712
Website Address: lhs.sumterschools.net

Where Academic Excellence is the Standard

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to provide a rigorous curriculum, infused with real world experiences that will engage and equip our students with skills needed to be college and career ready.

VISION STATEMENT

In partnership with all stakeholders, Lakewood High School is committed to building positive relationships while creating safe learning environments. LHS will establish and maintain a reputation of academic excellence. We will prepare our students to be socially responsible and productive global citizens.

Student/Parent Handbook 2025-2026

Dr. Maggie Wright, Principal

Maggie.Wright@sumterschools.net

Mr. Cedric Anderson, Assistant Principal

Cedric.Anderson@sumterschools.net

Mr. Troy Cato, Assistant Principal

Troy.Cato@sumterschools.net

Ms. Natasha Grigg, Assistant Principal

Natasha.Grigg@sumterschools.net

Mr. Troy Henegan, Assistant Principal

Troy.Henegan@sumterschools.net

Mrs. Sheriet Washington, Assistant Principal

Sheriet.Washington@sumterschools.net



SUMTER SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Shawn T. Ragin, D.Min.
Chairman
District 5
3835 Quiet Court
Sumter, SC 29150
803-464-6859
Shawnragin89@gmail.com



Matthew "Mac" McLeod
District 6
2985 Bruce Circle
Sumter, SC 29154
(803) 938-2701/Cell
mac.mcleod@sumterschools.net



Brian Alston
Vice Chairman
District 1
3385 North Kings Hwy. 261
Rembert, SC 29128
(803) 572-1938
brian.alston@sumterschools.net



Phil Leventis
Area 8
935 Andiron Drive Sumter, SC
29150
(803) 968-6185
phil.leventis@sumterschools.net



Dr. Gloria Rose Lee
Clerk
District 7
Dr. Gloria R. Lee
(803) 464-6414
Gloria.lee@sumterschools.net



Bonnie S. Disney Esq.
District 9
Swan Lake Dr.
Sumter, SC 29150
803-983-0268
bonnie.disney@sumterschools.net



Brittany English
District 2
6760 Spring Hill Rd.
Rembert, SC 29128
803-968-8899
brittany.english@sumterschools.net



Deborah MacQueen
School Liaison Program Manager
20th FW
Shaw AFB, South Carolina
Office: (803) 895-3398
Deborah.macqueen@us.af.mil



Ralph Canty, Sr. D. Min
District 3
104 S. Salem Ave.
Sumter, SC 29150
803-983-1469
Ralph.canty@sumterschools.net



Dr. William T. Wright, Jr.
Superintendent
1345 Wilson Hall Road
Sumter, SC 29150
803- 469-6900, ext. 100
william.wright@sumterschools.net



Tarah Cousar-Johnson
District 4
4770 Narrow Paved Rd.
Lynchburg, SC 29080
843-412-4811
tarah.cousarjohnson@sumterschools.net



Chauntae Scott
Administrative Manager
to the Superintendent and Board
1345 Wilson Hall Road
Sumter, SC 29150
803- 469-6900, ext. 100
chauntae.scott@sumterschools.net

LAKWOOD HISTORY

Lakewood was founded in 1996, as the result of a \$28.5 million bond referendum passed by the voters of Sumter County to build two new high schools in Sumter School District Two. Lakewood united students from the former Hillcrest, Furman and Mayewood High Schools, as well as Ebenezer Jr. High School. Gator was selected as the school's mascot because of the school's proximity to Alligator Branch, which is located in the southern part of Sumter County. The school colors are green and white with purple as an accent color representing unity among Sumter School District Two students. The school has an approximate enrollment of 1,050 students in grades 9-12.

CONTACTS

Area	Person	Phone 506-2700+ ext.
Athletic Director	Mr. Donald Flippin	7114
Attendance	Ms. Kara McKnight Mrs. Natasha Rouse	7147 7107
Secretary	Mrs. Christina Dennis	7110
Bookkeeper	Mrs. Felicia Scott	7136
Custodial Services/Facilities	Mr. Troy Henegan	7105
Food Services		7111
Guidance Records Clerk	Ms. Cherisa Wilder	7117
Guidance Receptionist	Mrs. Sarah Johnson	7137
Health Room (Assistant) Nurse	Mrs. Shamika Rose Mrs. Roxanne Holloway	7108 6154
Media Center	Ms. Sonja Howard	7134 7127
AFJROTC	Col. Regina Samuels Sgt. Jamie Dixon	7154

**Lakewood High School
Interim and Open House Dates for 2025-2026**

OPEN HOUSE	INTERIMS	REPORT CARDS
October 22, 2025	September 3, 2025	October 17, 2025
March 24, 2026	November 12, 2025	January 21, 2025
	February 6, 2026	March 24, 2026
	April 22, 2026	May 21, 2026

Lakewood High School Bell Schedule

Class Period	Times
Begin release from Gym for Breakfast	8:20
1st Block	8:45-10:15
2nd Block	10:20-11:51
Release PM Career Center to Lunch	11:45 (No Bell)
Tardy Bell, Hall Clearance, Attendance	11:57-12:02
1st Lunch (2000 & Gym)	12:02-12:32
Tardy Bell & Clear Halls	12:37-12:40
2nd Lunch (1000 & 3000)	12:40-1:10
Clear Halls	1:15-1:18
3rd Lunch (4000, 5000, & 6000)	1:18-1:48
Tardy Bell	1:53
3rd Block Continued	1:53-2:10
4th Block	2:15-3:45

AM & PM students will attend the Career Center.

Lakewood High School 1/2 Day AM Bell Schedule

Class Period	Times
1st Block	8:45-10:30
2nd Block	10:35-12:30

AM Career Center students will attend the Career Center.

Lakewood High School 1/2 Day PM Bell Schedule

Class Period	Times
3rd Block	8:45-10:30
4th Block	10:35-12:30

PM students will attend the Career Center.

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

GRADING SYSTEM

A	90-100	Excellent
B	80-89	Good
C	70-79	Average
D	60-69	Below Average
F	59 and Below	Unsatisfactory
I		Incomplete
FA		Failure due to attendance

EXAM EXEMPTION POLICY

Students are NOT allowed to exempt a State Mandated End-of-Course Exam

Seniors/Jr. Marshals (Spring)

Seniors and Jr. Marshals (Spring) may exempt any Teacher-made exam for which they meet the criteria in **ALL** of the following three categories:

- A. No State mandated End-of-Course exam in the course the student wishes to exempt.
- B. Minimum semester average of **60**

UNDERCLASSMEN

Underclassmen students may exempt exams if they meet the criteria in **ALL** of the following circumstances. **Underclassmen may not take an exam early.**

- A. No State mandated End-of-Course exam in the course the student wishes to exempt.
- B. The student has a minimum average of 90.

INCOMPLETE GRADES

Students will receive an incomplete (I) in any subject if the requirements for the course have not been met. Incompletes must be resolved in a timely manner. Failure to complete course requirements will result in the (I) becoming an (F).

FAILURE DUE TO ATTENDANCE

Students with more than five (5) unexcused absences for a semester course may not receive credit and will earn an FA. In order for a student to earn a grade back from an FA, the student must make up time in the content area in which the FA was given.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

High School Courses and Requirements

South Carolina Board of Education (SBE) Regulation 43-234 lists requirements for public high school students to graduate with a South Carolina High School Diploma.

Once legislative approval is granted to amend Regulation No. 43-234 DEFINED PROGRAM, GRADES 9–12 AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS, the graduation requirements beginning with the entering freshman class of 2023–24 will be as follows:

Subject Area	Credits
English	4
U.S. History	1
Economics	.5
Government	.5
Other Social Studies	1
Mathematics	4
Sciences	3
Computer Science	1
Physical Education or JROTC or Marching Band with PE	1
World Language or Career and Technology Elective	1
Personal Finance	.5
Electives	6.5
Total	24

For a complete explanation of all graduation requirements, provisions for granting high school credit and dual credit, please refer to SBE Regulation 43-234: Defined Program, Grades 9-12 and Graduation Requirements.

HONOR GRADUATE PROGRAM

The Sumter School District Honors Program recognizes and rewards students who complete a rigorous, challenging curricular program and maintain good discipline records. This course of study exceeds the minimal requirements established by the South Carolina Department of Education for a regular high school diploma.

Honor Graduate Criteria

- A. Have a GPA of 3.75 or above;
- B. Complete 28 Carnegie Units in CP or Honors courses;
- C. Must have a minimum of 2 AP, IB or dual enrollment courses.

LIFE SCHOLARSHIP

Students must meet any two of the following criteria to be eligible for a LIFE Scholarship:

1. 3.0 GPA or above on a 4.0 scale at high school graduation
2. An SAT score of 1100, or an ACT score of 24, or rank in the top 30% of their graduating class. A combination of any two is required.

HOPE SCHOLARSHIP

The South Carolina HOPE Scholarship program is a merit-based scholarship for first time freshmen attending an eligible four-year institution.

1. 3.0 GPA upon high school graduation on the SC Uniform Grading Scale upon high school graduation.
2. Be a S.C. resident at the time of high school graduation and college enrollment.
3. Not be a recipient of the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship, LIFE Scholarship or Lottery Tuition Assistance
4. Meet all general criteria.
5. There is no application required for the SC HOPE Scholarship. The eligible institution will notify students if they qualify for the Scholarship.

VALEDICTORIAN/SALUTATORIAN CRITERIA

Requirements for Valedictorian:

- A. Meet all requirements for Honor Graduate;
- B. Have the highest GPA in the graduating class by completion of the first semester of the senior year.

Requirements for Salutatorian:

- A. Meet all requirements for Honor Graduate;
- B. Have the second highest GPA in the graduating class by completion of the first semester of the senior year.

JUNIOR MARSHAL CRITERIA

- A. Have a GPA of 3.75 or higher;
- B. Have six or more Honors credits, including at least one AP or dual-credit class

CHIEF JUNIOR MARSHAL CRITERIA (one chosen)

- A. Meet all requirements for Junior Marshal.
- B. Have the highest GPA in Junior class.

Note: A Limited number of Junior Marshals are chosen using this criteria.

ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE PROCEDURES

Supervision for students begins at 8:00 a.m. and ends at 4:00 p.m. Students should **not** be on campus before or after these times unless in supervised activities. Students arriving after 8:45 a.m. will be tardy. Dismissal time is 3:45 p.m.

ASSEMBLIES/Activities at the FAC

Students will report to assemblies in an orderly fashion. Students will sit with their class in assigned seating, unless otherwise directed. **No food or drink is ever allowed in the FAC.**

Attendance Regulations

In accordance with the Compulsory School Attendance Law and S.C. Code of Regulations, uniform rules have been adopted to ensure that students attend school regularly. Students are expected to attend school each day and are counted present only when they are actually in school, on homebound instruction, or are present at an activity authorized by the school principal.

The school year consists of 180 days. To receive credit, students must attend at least 170 days of each 180-day year course, as well as meet the minimum requirements for each course. Accrued student absences may not exceed 10 days during the school year. The first 10 absences may be lawful, unlawful, or a combination. Any absence in excess of 10 may cause the student to lose credit for the year. To receive credit for a 90-day/semester course, students must attend at least 85 days of the course. In a 45- day/quarter course, students must attend at least 42 days of the course as well as meet all minimum requirements for the course. The first 5 absences may be lawful, unlawful, or a combination for the 90- day/quarter course. The first 3 absences may be lawful, unlawful, or a combination for the 45- day/semester course. Any absence in excess of 5 may cause the student to lose credit for such a course. All absences beginning with the sixth must be lawful.

All excuses for absences must be turned in to the Attendance Office within three (3) days upon returning to school. When the student has three (3) consecutive unlawful absences or a total of five (5) unlawful absences the parents/guardians will be required to attend an intervention conference.

Failure Due to Attendance

Students with more than ten (10) absences for a semester course may not receive credit and will earn an FA. In order for a student to earn credit back for an FA, the student must make up time in the content area in which the FA was given.

Types of Absences

Lawful Absences

Absences caused by a student's own illness* and whose attendance in school would endanger his or her health or the health of others. *Verified by a statement from a physician within two days of the student's return to school. Absences for CHRONIC or EXTENDED illness will be approved only when verified by a physician's statement.

Absences due to an illness or death in the student's immediate family verified by a statement from the parent within two days of the student's return to school.

Absences due to a recognized religious holiday of the student's faith when approved in advance. Such requests must be made to the principal in writing.

Absences for students whose parents/guardians are experiencing a military deployment. A principal

may grant up to five days of excused absences provided that 1) the absence is preapproved, 2) the student is in good standing, 3) the student has a prior record of good attendance, and 4) missed work is completed and turned in within the school's allotted time period. Absences due to activities that are approved in advance by the principal. This would include absences for extreme hardships. Such approval should be prearranged when possible.

Unlawful Absences

Absences of a student without the knowledge of his or her parents.

Absences of a student without acceptable cause with the knowledge of his or her parents.

Suspension is not to be counted as an unlawful absence for truancy purposes.

All absences require a written explanation from the parent/guardian within three (3) school days of return from the absence. Written explanation of absences must include the student's name, *parent/guardian's full name, date(s) of absence(s), documentation of the reason for absence, and a parent/guardian's signature.* All documentation required by the school is subject to review and must be approved by the principal.

ATHLETICS

There are 20 different sports at Lakewood. This school year, approximately 300 students will participate on some type of athletic team.

Athletic Eligibility: Students participating in competitive sports must meet all requirements specified by the South Carolina High School League. Following is a summary of these eligibility rules.

1. A contestant must furnish the athletic director with a certified copy of his/her birth certificate, updated physical dated after April 1, 2025 and parent permission signature.
2. A contestant must be under 19 years of age. (See athletic director for exceptions to this rule.)
3. A contestant must not participate under an assumed name.
4. A student, while participating, must be a full-time student. To participate in interscholastic athletic activities, students in grades 9-12 must achieve an overall passing average in addition to the following.
 - a. To be eligible in the first semester a student must pass a minimum of five Carnegie units applicable toward a high school diploma during the previous year. At least two units must have been passed during the second semester or summer school.
 - b. To be eligible during the second semester the student must meet one of the following conditions.
 1. If the student met first semester eligibility requirements then he or she must pass the equivalent of four, ½ units during the first semester.
 2. If the student did not meet first semester eligibility requirements then he or she must pass the equivalent of five, ½ units during the first semester.
 - c. Students must satisfy eligibility requirements in the semester preceding participation.
5. A contestant must not have received a high school diploma or its equivalent.
6. A contestant must be academically eligible as mandated by SCHSL.
7. A contestant will be ineligible at the end of the fourth school year from the time that he or she first entered the ninth grade.
8. A contestant must not violate his or her amateur status.
9. A contestant must not have transferred as a result of recruiting or undue influence.

These rules apply to boys and girls as well as Varsity, JV, B, middle school and junior high teams. If there is any question concerning your eligibility for interscholastic activities, please consult the athletic director, principal or write:

South Carolina High School League
PO Box 211575
Columbia, SC 29221
(803)798-0120

BUS INFORMATION

Questions regarding transportation services should be directed to the Bus Office. Students are expected to ride **ONLY** the bus to which they have been assigned. Failure to obey bus rules will result in a discipline referral and a possible bus suspension. Lakewood buses are in Area 3 and the Area Supervisor is Mr. Brian Jones. The office is housed at Furman Middle School (803)481-3168 or (803)481-3169.

CAFETERIA

All food and drinks are to be consumed in the cafeteria or courtyard. Students may not carry food or drink into halls, classrooms, computer labs or the media center. Students may bring their own lunch. **Outside deliveries will NOT be accepted.** Free breakfast and lunch will be available to all students. Breakfast is served from 8:15 a.m.- 8:40 a.m. Students arriving after 8:40 a.m. will not be able to eat breakfast unless they arrive on a late bus.

CELL PHONE POLICY

Effective January 6, 2025, students are prohibited from accessing their personal electronic devices during the school day. The purpose of this policy is to create a phone-free school environment that fosters a positive learning experience free from electronic distractions. Sumter School District is not responsible for loss, theft, or destruction of electronic communication devices brought onto school or district property or in a student's possession while he/she is attending district or school-sponsored activities or events. See policy link attached below.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1n5ay9FTga2qWhkFlcEU_Bene-BFoALKY/view?usp=sharing

DELIVERIES

Flowers, food, gifts or balloon deliveries interfere with the learning process and therefore are prohibited.

DRESS CODE

Students will dress and groom in a clean and neat manner which does not distract or interfere with the operation of the school. Student attire should not be destructive to school property or be immodest or revealing and should comply with requirements for health and safety. Clothing that will cause or is likely to cause disruption of the learning process of others may not be worn.

The following are not to be worn by students:

- hats, bandannas, scarves, gloves, shower caps, hair combs, picks, curlers or hairnets and sweatbands, or any other unauthorized head covering
- sunglasses or goggles (inside building), except prescription sunglasses upon medical orders
- cut-off clothing unless it is cuffed or hemmed
- gang-related paraphernalia/colors, jewelry, or insignia
- gym shorts, sheer shirts or blouses, tank tops, halters, cut or torn clothing, strapless tops, t-strap tops, tops which show the abdomen, midriff area; see-through garments or underwear worn as outer clothing (proper undergarments will be worn at all times)
- footies, pajamas, house shoes, shower shoes, or bedroom slippers (students must wear appropriate footwear at all times; shoes will be worn for safety and health reasons; no person should be barefoot at school)
- lycra or spandex clothing or any excessively tight clothing (leggings may be worn under shorts or dresses provided that the shorts or dresses meet the length standards)
- any clothing or accessories with profanity or distasteful depictions; advertising for drugs, beer, or tobacco companies; or “political statements” advocating violation of law
- any attire deemed by the administration to be unsuitable or disruptive to the educational or cultural climate of the school

Hats and gloves may be worn to school, but not inside the school building.

Shorts, short skirts, skorts, etc., must be no shorter than three (3) inches above the knee.

Boxer shorts may not be worn as outside clothing.

Biker shorts may not be worn.

Jeans or pants with holes may be worn only when the holes are not deemed indecent.

All pants should be worn at waist level and not sagging,

All clothing must be sized appropriately. Clothing must be decent, clean, and properly worn at all times. Tattoos that display inappropriate language or images should be covered.

Staff members have the authority to confiscate inappropriate items such as hats or sunglasses worn in the building. These items will be held by the school and the school is not responsible if the items are damaged, stolen, or lost.

Any student found to be in violation of the dress code will be required to report to the office to call someone to bring an appropriate change of clothes and/or to receive disciplinary action.

EARLY DISMISSAL

A student leaving school early must present a written request to the attendance office with a parent phone number. The request must be presented when the student arrives at school. The note will be verified. Students must sign out in the office before leaving. No student will be allowed to sign out after 3:00 p.m. Dismissal time must be between classes. See bell schedule.

Bookkeeping/Fees

Item	Cost
Freshmen Dues	\$10.00
Sophomores Dues	\$10.00
Junior Dues	\$10.00
Senior Dues	\$10.00
ID Card	\$7.00
ID Lanyard	\$2.00
ID Cover	\$1.00
ID Set	\$10.00
Parking	\$35.00 per school year \$15.00 for 4 th Quarter only
Lost Parking Decal	\$35.00
Athletic Fees	\$20.00
Yearbook	\$75.00
Band/Guard	\$165
Ceramics/3-D Art/Photography	\$25
AFJROTC Fee	\$25

FEES

All fees must be paid before students are allowed to make any additional purchases.

NOTE: Report cards may not be given to students who owe fees, and they may not be allowed to participate in extracurricular activities.

HALL PASSES

Students are not permitted out of class during instructional time unless they are accompanied by a teacher or have an agenda or hall pass signed by an authorized staff member and an **ID displayed**. Administrators may also call for students, but every effort will be made to protect the instructional time to keep students in class.

HEALTH ROOM SERVICES

If a student does not feel well enough to attend classes, he/she should request a pass from a teacher to report to the health room. The health room attendant will call the student's parents. The health room is staffed for minor first aid and to monitor students for a short period of time until a parent arrives. Students needing to take medications at school must see the health room attendant to complete a permission form. **The health room opens at 8:45 a.m. Students should not be sent to the health room after 2:45 p.m. unless there is an emergency.**

IDs

~ID's must be worn at all times and properly displayed ~

ID Violation 360 - Failure to possess or properly display school-issued identification as required by school regulations-

1st Offense- Parent Contact And School Counselor Referral And ISS (1-5) Days

2nd Offense: Parent Conference And OSS (1-5) Days And Intervention Plan

3rd Offense: Parent Conference And OSS (1-5) Days

IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS

In accordance with State Regulation 61-8, students must provide proof of required immunizations. Failure to do so will warrant suspension from school.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

When inclement weather forces cancellation or early dismissal, notification will occur on local TV and radio stations.

IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION (ISS)

ISS is intended to provide discipline while keeping students in school. The program is primarily based on social isolation. Within ISS each student's behavior will be monitored. Rules and consequences are listed and explained to each student. ISS helps students realize that they are responsible for their actions, excuses are not acceptable and consequences follow inappropriate behavior consistently. A student who is absent from school and misses an assigned ISS day must report to ISS the first day he/she returns to school. Students who disrupt ISS or refuse to attend may be sent home and/or rescheduled for ISS the next day. Students will be held accountable for their work while in ISS.

MEDIA CENTER

HOURS: The Media Center will be opened Monday-Friday 8:10 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.

PASSES: During regular class time, students need a pass to enter the Media Center and are required to sign in. Students do not need passes to use the Media Center before or after school and during lunch.

STUDENT CONDUCT: Students are expected to work quietly in the Media Center and to act appropriately. Disruptive behavior will not be allowed.

SCHOOL ID CARDS: ID cards are required for access to the Media Center and are required to check out all Media Center materials and to use the Internet.

INTERNET ACCESS: A policy describing acceptable user behavior and prohibited actions regarding the use of computers and network services is in place at LHS. Students are required to return a copy of this policy signed by the student and his or her parent/guardian before he/she is allowed to access any computer program on the school network. If students do not adhere to the guidelines, disciplinary action may be taken.

LIBRARY BOOKS AND FINES: All materials in the Media Center are free for students to use. Library books may be checked out for two weeks at a time and may be renewed twice. Library fines are 10 cents per day. Students with overdue material will not be able to check out other materials until the overdue items are returned and the fines are paid.

PHOTOCOPIES: The Media Center has a copier for student's use. **Computer printouts cost \$.10 per page.** Ask permission from the Media Center staff before you print.

FOOD OR DRINK: No food or drink is allowed in the Media Center.

COMPUTERS: Computers are available for student use before school, during lunches and classes with a pass, and after school.

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

Parents and/or community volunteers who are willing to donate time and energy to assist teachers and staff with various tasks which result in the effective operation of the school day are needed. Parents and or community volunteers must fill out a volunteer packet which includes a criminal record check required per Board Policy. Active district personnel and active military are exempt from the SLED check, but not from filling out the packet. This is required of all volunteers who participate in the classroom, on overnight trips or off campus field trips, and mentors. Please contact Mrs. Dennis at 506-2700 ext. 7110 for other information.

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

During each quarter parents are invited to meet with teachers and attend Open House. Check the school calendar on our website or in our newsletters for dates. Conferences with teachers may be scheduled by contacting the guidance office at 506-2700 ext. 7137.

RESPONSE TO INTERVENTION (RTI)

The intent of this program is to assist students before they get into academic or disciplinary difficulties. Referrals can be made by staff or parents. Self-referrals are also accepted.

PROM

The Junior-Senior prom will be held in the spring. Outside guests invited to attend the prom cannot be over 21 years of age and must pass a criminal background check. Prom tickets can be purchased with cash only.

SCHOOL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM

Police on campus: Police may be invited to the school at the request of the principal at any time.
The questioning of students: LHS officials will cooperate fully with police officers during an investigation.

Searches: Pursuant to state law, persons entering school property are deemed to have consented to search of their person and property (ACT 373 of 1994). This includes teachers, students, parents, and all other persons on school property.

STUDENT INFORMATION

It is the responsibility of the parent to keep the school informed of changes in address, telephone number, emergency contacts, medical information, etc. **Only adults 21 years of age and above listed on the emergency card may perform functions such as sign-in and sign-out or to make emergency decisions. Sign-outs with persons other than parent or guardian will be verified with the parent before the student is dismissed.**

STUDENT PARKING

Parking permits are a privilege, not a right. Before a student drives to school he or she must complete a registration form and pay for decal. All licensed student drivers are eligible for a driving decal. JROTC will be managing our student parking lot this year.

Students who use their vehicle to cut school, arrive late or drive recklessly could lose their parking privileges for an extended period of time. **Students are not allowed to park in the front parking lot. Parking privileges will be revoked if a student's car is parked in the front. Cars parked illegally may be towed.** Parking fees are non-refundable with **no exceptions**.

Students who violate our parking rules and guidelines will be issued the following consequences:

- 1st Offense- Warning
- 2nd Offense- Parking Ticket- \$25 & parent contact
- 3rd Offense- Parking Privileges revoked
- 4th Offense- Vehicle Towed at owner's expense

STUDENT SOLICITATION

Students are not allowed to sell any food or other items that are not directly related to a school approved fundraiser. Items will be confiscated if students are found in violation of this rule.

TARDINESS

A strict policy concerning tardies will be enforced. Late arrivals to school will count as tardy. During the day when the tardy bell rings, teachers will close their doors. Any student who has not arrived to the classroom at the time will receive a referral for being tardy.

1st Offense: Warning conference or in-school suspension

2nd Offense: in-school suspension and school counselor referral

3rd Offense: one (1) to three (3) class days out-of-school suspension and parent/legal guardian conference – Returned to school with parent

4th Offense: three (3) to five (5) class days out-of-school suspension – Returned to school with parent

5th Offense: five (5) to seven (7) class days out-of-school suspension – Returned to school with parent

6th and Other Offenses: recommendation for expulsion

Late Arrivals – Students arriving tardy to school will be excused only if a parent signs them in with an acceptable excuse or sends a note with an acceptable excuse. If late because of a doctor or dentist appointment, please bring a medical note. Being tardy due to legal reasons will also be excused with documentation. All other late students must report to the main office to receive a tardy pass.

TELEPHONES

The office phones and teachers' phones are for staff members only. The Attendance Clerk or Health room attendant will call home if a student should become ill. Students should not call from the classroom. Students will not be called out of classes to answer phone calls. Students are permitted to use a front office phone only during lunch and must have the **permission of an administrator**.

Telephone Consumer Protection Act 2015

Under a federal consumer protection law, schools need parent/guardian permission to receive automated or prerecorded calls to a cell number. At the beginning of each year, you provide contact information. If you include a cell phone number to which these automated calls can be directed, the school will use this number to keep you informed. Should you choose to revoke consent to receive automated calls/texts on your cell phone, you may do so by notifying the school of your revocation. Please contact Jennifer Ard at 803-506-2700, Ext. 7106 for that purpose. If you revoke consent for automated and prerecorded calls to your cell number, you may not receive time-sensitive information.

The school requires that you provide notice of any changes in contact information (physical address and telephone numbers) to the District within 5 days. This includes any change in the cell number you provided to the school. Correct contact information is needed so that the school may provide you with information regarding school operations and any specific concerns related to your student. Should you fail to provide the school updated contact information, including notification that a cell phone number you have given the school has been disconnected or reassigned, please be aware that the school/district disclaims liability for any alleged damages resulting from your failure to do so.

A form will be sent home during the first five (**5**) days of school for your completion and signature. The signature of the owner of the cell phone is required.

TESTING

PSAT: Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test.

SAT: The Scholastic Aptitude Test is often required for admission to many colleges and universities. It measures the verbal and mathematical abilities that a student has acquired. Information, applications and bulletins are available in Guidance.

ACT: The American College Test is often required for admission to many colleges and universities. It measures the verbal, mathematical and science abilities that a student has acquired. Information, applications and bulletins are available in Guidance.

ASVAB: The ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery) is a tool used by the Armed Services to place recruits in appropriate jobs. It is also a tool that can be utilized to help students explore careers in which they are interested outside of a military job.

WIN ASSESSMENT: WIN is a job skills assessment system measuring “real world” skills that employers believe are critical to job success. These skills are valuable for any occupation you are considering and at any level of education. When students use WIN to show they are ready for work, they have an advantage with employers who accept or require job applicants to have WIN scores. A growing number of states nationwide also are adopting WIN to ensure that all their workers have needed skills. WIN is a requirement for all juniors.

EOCEP: Algebra 1, English 2, Biology and US History.

TEXTBOOKS

Textbooks are provided by the State Department of Education at no cost to the students. However, students are required to pay in full for state-owned textbooks, which are not returned or are damaged beyond continued use.

South Carolina law prohibits school officials from issuing textbooks to students who owe for lost books.

Unreasonable damage to state-owned textbooks will result in fines. Textbooks will be issued to each student using a state bar coding system.

VISITORS

All visitors must sign in at the front office upon entering the school. Violators will be charged with trespassing.

SPORTSMANSHIP

Fans attend athletic contests to cheer for and support their team and coaching staff, to enjoy competition and to demonstrate appreciation for the athletes' skills. Fans should avoid booing, jeering, or making negative, antagonistic remarks to participants and other fans.

All viewing fans and participants in high school contests should:

- Show respect for the opponent at all times and treat them as guests.
- Show respect for the officials.
- Know, understand and appreciate the rules of the contest.
- Permit only positive behavior to reflect on LHS.
- Win with character and lose with dignity.
-

Athletic Discipline: Athletes must realize that they are high profile students. Therefore, they should not take actions that may cause embarrassment to themselves, their teammates, coaches, parents or LHS. Any act that occurs in or out of school in relationship to the above will be dealt with in the manner described below. The coach will determine team member disciplinary action above the policy in their team rules.

Athletes who are suspended for the most severe offenses and are returned to school by the district will not be allowed to participate in any athletic activities for the year unless participation is approved by the Superintendent or his designee.

Athletes who are suspended may be immediately dismissed from the team and not be allowed athletic participation for that season.

Any student who has been suspended from school (in or out of school suspension) cannot participate in interscholastic sports or extracurricular activities during their suspension.

The principal, athletic director or coach can administer disciplinary action **as needed**.



Sprigeo Information:
Sumter School District
Parents

We recognize that creating a safe learning environment is vital for students to achieve academic success. We prefer and encourage that your child report bullying and safety incidents immediately to a teacher or administrator, however, sometimes electronic reporting is more accessible when the opportunity to report directly is not available.

Sumter School District has an online system called Sprigeo that students can use to report school safety threats and bullying incidents. All information sent through the Sprigeo system goes directly to school administrators and school counselors through a secure online connection. Signs are in your child’s school promoting the use of Sprigeo (www.Sprigeo.com).

How does the Sprigeo system work?

Students can also access the reporting form directly through a link on your school’s web site by hovering over “PARENTS” on the top bar, dropping down to “Report Bullying and Safety Concerns”. Then with a click, the Sprigeo report is available. Students may also go to the Sprigeo.com web site. After completing the reporting form and clicking the “submit” button, the report details are sent in a secure email to our school administrators and counselors. We encourage students and staff to include names and give details so that our inquiries about the reports can be more effective.

Does the school receive false reports?

Over 95% of reports sent through the Sprigeo system have been confirmed as authentic requests for help with a bullying incident or school safety threat. Unlike text messages or Facebook posts that can be shared among students, all Sprigeo reports are viewable only by school administrators and/or school counselors.

Why is there a need for an online reporting system?

The number one reason why children do not report bullying or abuse is the fear of retaliation from their peers. The Sprigeo reporting form can be accessed from the privacy of a home computer or other internet equipped device, eliminating the possibility of being identified by another student. Paper copies of report forms are available upon request.

The Sumter School District administrators value your child’s safety and want to have every possible tool available for you to communicate safety concerns. Please contact your child’s principal if you have any concerns or questions regarding Sprigeo or reporting safety and bullying incidents.

ALMA MATER

Hail to thee our alma mater
Sing thy highest praise
With our loyalty and honor
For our cherished days.

When we earn the victory,
We shout joyfully!
We uphold our green and white
With pride and dignity!

The purple majesty's tradition
Is beyond compare.
Triumphs, joys and lasting friendships,
Memories we share.

From the Carolina bays
To the green pine lands,
Hail to thee our Lakewood High
In unity we stand.



Sumter School District 2025-2026

Modified Year Round Calendar

JULY

1.....First Day 233 & 240 Day Staff
 8.....First Day 215 & 220 Day Staff
 15.....First Day 205 & 210 Day Staff
 22.....First Day 195 & 200 Day Staff
 25.....First Day 185 & 190 Day Staff
 25.....School Professional Learning Day
 28.....Workday
 29.....Back to School Rally/District Professional Learning
 30.....Workday
 31.....Students Begin

AUGUST

29.....School Professional Learning 1/2 Day

SEPTEMBER

1.....Labor Day Holiday
 3.....Interims Issued

OCTOBER

2.....Last Day of 1st Quarter
 3.....First Day of 2nd Quarter
 9.....Conference Day 1/2 Day Students
 10.....Workday
 13-14.....Fall Break
 17.....Report Cards Issued
 31.....District Professional Learning Day

NOVEMBER

11.....Veterans Day Holiday
 12.....Interims Issued
 24-28.....Thanksgiving

DECEMBER

17-18.....High School Exams 1/2 Day (All Students)
 18.....Last Day of 2nd Quarter
 19.....District Professional Learning
 22-Jan 2.....Winter Holidays

JANUARY

1-2.....Winter Holiday
 5.....Workday
 6.....School Resumes
 6.....First Day of 3rd Quarter
 19.....Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday
 21.....Report Cards Issued

FEBRUARY

6.....Interims Issued
 13.....School Professional Learning 1/2 Day
 16.....District Professional Learning

MARCH

11.....Last Day of 3rd Quarter
 12.....First Day of 4th Quarter
 13.....Conference Day 1/2 Day Students
 24.....Report Cards Issued

APRIL

22.....Interims Issued
 3-10.....Spring Holidays

MAY

20.....High School Exams 1/2 Day (All Students)
 21.....High School Exams 1/2 Day (All Students)
 21.....Last Day of Student Attendance
 21.....Report Cards Issued
 21.....Last day 185 day Staff
 22.....Workday
 22.....Last day 190 day Staff
 25.....Memorial Day Holiday
 27.....Last day 195 day Staff

JUNE

3.....Last Day 200 & 205 Day Staff
 10.....Last Day 210 & 215 Day Staff
 17.....Last Day 220 Day Staff
 30.....Last Day 233 & 240 Day Staff

GRADUATIONS

TBD.....Sumter Career and Technology Center Graduation
 TBD.....Adult Education Graduation
 TBD.....Sumter High Graduation
 TBD.....Crestwood High Graduation
 TBD.....Lakewood High Graduation

Inclement Weather Days

October 10, January 5, April 3

July 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

August 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

September 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

October 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

November 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

December 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

January 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

February 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

March 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

April 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

May 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

June 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Workday

First Day of School - Students

District-Professional Learning

District-Professional Learning All employees

1/2 Day Students/ School Prof. Learning Staff

Fall Break/Holiday (233/240 staff work)

Holidays- No School