

Schidrich, Steven P <Steven.Schidrich@beaufort.k12.sc.us>



I hope everyone had a great weekend.

Thanks to all who came out Friday night to support our Football Team. It was an exciting game but came out with a loss. Our team had a great year. It was an awesome season and Coach Payne and his players should be proud of the season they had. They gave the Seahawk Community an exciting few months.

We have our movie night on the baseball field Tuesday night. See below for details.

Beginning on Thursday December 4th, students and visitors arriving at Hilton Head Island High School will be screened using a CEIA OPENGATE weapons detection system. This technology is designed to deter weapons from entering campus and to help staff identify attempts to bring prohibited items into the school. The devices focus on detecting weapons of mass casualty, including firearms, while allowing common personal items such as phones and keys to pass through without delay. We will have units at the following three areas for morning arrival: the front entrance, theater entrance, and the back door/bus arrival entrance. Delays in passing through the detection systems should be expected. Students should arrive earlier to school than they have in the past. Please talk with your students about this additional safety protocol. We appreciate your patience and cooperation as we implement this new system.

We are approaching the end of the semester. We are asking parents to check the PowerSchool Parent Portal to monitor their child's grades and attendance. Information on tutoring as well as seat time is below.

Please see below for the final exam schedule. Please plan your holiday travel accordingly.

Please see below for more news and information.

Hilton Head Island High School: An International Baccalaureate World School

HIIHS is an International Baccalaureate World School. Along with Hilton Head Island Middle School (grades 6 to 8), we feature the IB Middle School Years Program (MYP) in grades 9 and 10. We feature the IB Diploma Program (DP) in the 11th and 12th grade. The Diploma Program offers the highest rigor available to Beaufort County students in terms of preparation for college. For more information on our IB programs, please contact Ms.

White at: mary.white@beaufort.k12.sc.us



HIIHS is an IB World School and is the only IB Middle Years Program (MYP) high school in Beaufort County School District. All of our 9th and 10th graders are in years 4 and 5 of the IB MYP. This program is an internationally recognized program that aims to develop curious, independent, critical thinkers who are internationally minded and recognize their shared responsibility in developing a better world. Our MYP classes at HIIHS teach the SC College and Career Ready Standards through the concepts and philosophies of the

MYP. If you have questions about the IB MYP Program at HIIHS, please contact the IB MYP Coordinator, Michelle Hartman, at michelle.hartman@beaufort.k12.sc.us.

November and December Staff Meetings

November 25th – Smash Burgers for Staff during 3 lunches courtesy of ROTC

December 2nd – Leadership Meeting 7:15am

Week of December 8th – PLC Week

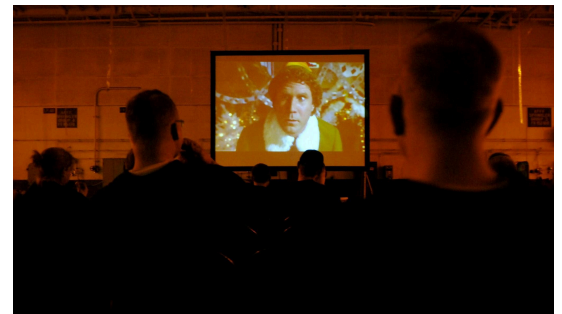
December 8th – Planning Period ParentSquare Training



There is no school November 26th Wednesday, November 27th Thursday, and November 28th Friday for Thanksgiving Break

Movie Night on the Baseball Field – Tuesday November 25th

The movie night that was scheduled during homecoming week (but cancelled due to rain) and then for Monday November 10th (but cancelled due to cold temperatures and high winds) **has been moved to Tuesday evening November 25th. The gate opens at 5:00pm. The movie starts at 5:30pm. The movie will be *Elf*.**



Weapons Detection System- High School Communication from Beaufort County School District

BCSD is launching a new safety initiative to enhance security across all high school campuses. Informed by district research on safety systems and best practices, high schools will begin using district-approved weapons detection devices to screen individuals entering our buildings the week of December 1st.

The schedule is as follows:

- Tuesday, Dec. 2- May River High School
- Wednesday, Dec. 3- Beaufort High School and Battery Creek High School
- **Thursday, Dec. 4- Hilton Head Island High School and Bluffton High School**
- Friday, Dec. 5- Whale Branch Early College High School

Students and visitors arriving in the morning or accessing the school during the day will be screened using a CEIA OPENGATE weapons detection system. These devices are designed to deter weapons from entering campus and to help staff identify attempts to bring prohibited items into the school. The technology focuses on detecting weapons of mass casualty, including firearms, while allowing common personal items such as cell phones and keys to pass through without interruption.

Please talk with your students about this additional safety protocol. **As with any new system implementation, please expect delays during arrival times.** We appreciate your patience and cooperation.

Multilingual Parent Meeting December 3rd

Come December 3rd to the HHIHS Media Center from 5:30-7:00pm for our MLL (Multilingual Learner) Parent Meeting. There will be an Immigration Specialist onsite for questions and a light dinner provided. We will cover BCSD expectations, finals exams, EOCs (End of Course) exams, attendance, ACCESS testing and more! Contact Ms. Rupert for more information. Kelly.Rupert@beaufort.k12.sc.us

Click on this link if you plan to attend:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdVWbWXn62hk8i8uVSy2xgJFFeq6ak5wWVRHJqtXPVh3vrrFw/viewform?usp=dialog>

Sophomore Student/Parent Meeting with IB Diploma Senior Students and Ms. White

- **When:** Monday, December 1
- **Where:** HHIHS Media Center
- **Time:** 5:30 - 6:30 PM
- **Who:** Any sophomore student/parent interested in learning more about the IBDP from the student's perspective (also appropriate for any younger student/parent wanting to learn more about the IB Diploma Program)

End of Course Exam Review (EOC Extravaganza)

December 9 from 3:45 – 6:30 pm.

Emails were sent Friday to all Parents/Guardians of students who are currently taking an EOC course (Biology, English II, US History, IB US History of Americas) regarding the EOC Extravaganza to be held December 9th from 3:45 – 6:30 pm. Students will receive hard copies of the letter and the link to the registration form in their EOC classes this week. Parents/Guardians should encourage students to attend this event to promote success on the EOC exams which account for 20% of the student's overall grade in the course. If you need more information, please contact Ms. Hartman at michelle.hartman@beaufort.k12.sc.us or 843-689-4992 or contact your student's teacher.

Seahawk Theatre: Midsummer Night's Dream

Midsummer Night's Dream Tickets are on sale online now! We have a limited number of tickets, so please order yours today!

Drama Club Winter Party will be December 18th from 3:30-5:30, please RSVP on the Band app and Sign up for your dish to share.

From the School Counselors: Newsletter and Sophomore IGPs

Sophomore IGP meetings will begin on December 1. School counselors have emailed parents with links and instructions for scheduling their child's IGP meeting. During these meetings, sophomores will finalize their course selections for junior year. Students have also been emailed directions on how to enter their course preferences ahead of their IGP meeting so counselors can prepare personalized guidance. Parents and students should check their email for these important details from the school counseling office.

The School Counseling Office is excited to share with you the latest edition of [***The Counselor's Compass: Guidance for Academic, College, and Career Direction***](#) , filled with updates and important information to support you and your student.



Studio Blue (HHIHS Art Club) put together the 1st Ever Turkey Trot

Studio Blue (HHIHS Art Club) put together the 1st Ever Turkey Trot for the school last week. Studio Blue designed and 3D printed 12 turkeys that were “adopted” by faculty and staff and hunted down by students in a scavenger hunt style game.

- Congratulations to Ms Ghaly and her team of turkey hunters for winning 1st place with her turkey “Ibis”.
- In 2nd place was “Volley Turkey” adopted by Coach T (our volleyball coach and CATE teacher).
- 3rd place went to “Tomasina” adopted by our new Assistant Principal Ms. Womble.

Studio Blue and Mrs. Smith would like to thank all those participating last week as we edged closer to Thanksgiving break. Stay tuned for the “Bunny Hop” this March!



Student Government Animal Supplies

Student Government is hosting a collection of animal shelter supplies for the Humane Society of Hilton Head. Donations can be brought to the brown brick area of HHIHS from December 1-17th. The pets featured in this post were rescued by members of the HHIHS staff. Thank you for your generosity this holiday season!

Final Exam Schedule for First Semester

Please review the final exam schedule below. Please make your holiday plans accordingly. It is our policy that **NO FINALS WILL BE GIVEN EARLIER THAN ASSIGNED DATES.**

12/1-12/5	English Writing EOC
12/15	Block 1 South Carolina End-of-Course and Final Exams
12/16	Block 2 South Carolina End-of-Course and Final Exams
12/17	Block 3 South Carolina End-of-Course and Final Exams
12/18	Block 4 South Carolina End-of-Course and Final Exams
12/19	Make-Ups
1/7	Make-Ups

Let's Go Public video

As a school district, we believe there is no better educational option in Beaufort County than our public schools. The choices and options for families are endless, especially on Hilton Head. Please check out the following video about HH public schools: [Here is a link to that video](#)

Please share this video to anyone interested in attending our schools on HH.

BCSD Choice program applications available online Nov. 10; deadline to apply is Jan. 15

BEAUFORT – The Beaufort County School District will soon be accepting Choice applications for the 2026-27 academic year, the 12th year of the district's expanded choice initiative. BCSD Choice allows students who live in Beaufort County to apply to participate in a Choice program at a school that's outside their attendance zone. **Choice applications will open on the district's website on Monday, November 10, 2025, and must be submitted online by Thurs, January 15, 2026, at 5 p.m.** Parents who don't have internet access may request application assistance at any district school. "We want parents to know that Beaufort County School District is the best choice for their children," said Superintendent Frank Rodriguez. "Our offerings are extensive, innovative, and engaging. There's something to match every student's interests and future career plans."

Curriculum options approved by the Board of Education include such instructional choices as Advanced Math, Engineering, and Science (AMES), Montessori, International Baccalaureate, arts integration, language immersion, Cambridge Academy, Early College, Medical and Technology pathways, and leadership programs. Expanded options for include [BCSD Tides](#), a dual enrollment partnership for rising 9th grade students, and select [Career and Technical Education \(CTE\) programs](#). To learn about each of the district's choice program offerings please see the BCSD Choice website page at beaufortschools.net/bcsdchoice. A lottery will be held if the number of choice applications at a school would cause the school to exceed its overall enrollment capacity, or if approved applications would push an individual choice program beyond its capacity. Beaufort County students who attend choice programs do not pay extra tuition, although families are responsible for their students' transportation if they live outside of school attendance zones.

Beaufort County School District Board of Education Technology Survey

Dear BCSD Families-

The Beaufort County School District Board of Education is asking for your input through a K–12 community survey to help shape district priorities for the next decade. The survey will gather perspectives from parents, students, staff, and residents on topics like technology use in classrooms, workforce readiness, and instructional innovation.

Over the next 5–10 years the Board aims to prepare students with future-ready skills — digital literacy, problem-solving, creativity, and AI fluency — while expanding personalized learning, strengthening teacher support, and building stronger school–family–community partnerships.

Please take a few minutes to share your views. Your voice will help guide BCSD’s strategic planning for all learners.

The survey is open until Dec. 5, 2025 at: connectbeaufortschools.org/board-of-education-parent-survey.

If you would like your middle or high school student to participate, they may take the survey at: connectbeaufortschools.org/board-of-education-student-survey.

Thank you in advance for your participation.

November Choir Newsletter

Click the link below to view the November choir Newsletter. November Choir Newsletter:
<https://secure.smores.com/n/gkp68>

NJROTC Thanksgiving Food Drive

Non-perishable Food Items will be collected from November 3rd through November 25th.
Donations will be accepted in the Brown Brick Area near the front office. Please support this good cause.

The food items will be given to the Deep Well Project on Hilton Head for distribution.

Students Parking at the Presbyterian Church across from the Elementary Schools

Parents- There are quite a few students who have been parking their cars at the Presbyterian Church across from the Elementary Schools. We heard from the church that they do not want students in their parking lots. This is largely due to students driving at high speeds, playing loud music, and exhibiting inappropriate behavior in their parking lot. If your child parks in this lot THEY WILL BE TOWED AT THE OWNERS EXPENSE. Please advise your student to not park there to avoid the cost and hassle of being towed.

Tutoring for the 2025-26 School Year

The in-person tutoring program for this school year begins this week on Tuesday September 23rd.

Math tutoring will be given by Mr. Willard every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 7:00am to 8:00am in Room B116. Students need to secure a pass from Mr. Willard the day before to enter the building.

If tutoring is needed in the other subjects or with other Math teachers, **all teachers have office hours Monday through Thursday from 3:30pm to 4:00pm.** Students should talk with their teachers about meeting them after school for additional assistance.

We also have an online tutoring program.

HHIHS Online Tutoring Program

We have an online virtual Peer Tutoring program. Members of our school's honor societies programs provide virtual tutoring opportunities to our students who typically cannot stay after school or come before school. Students can use the QR code to make an appointment. There are also posters around the school with QR codes for making appointments.



Athletics this Week

Tuesday November 25th – Boys Basketball Home vs. Benedictine 6:00pm

Tuesday November 25th – Girls Wrestling Away at Battery Creek 7:00pm



State-Wide Personal Communication Device Policy

The South Carolina State Department of Education instituted a Personal Electronic and Communication Device Policy in January of 2025. FOR ALL students in PreK through 12th grade the policy states that all personal and communication devices must be turned off and stored in a pocket, purse, backpack, or other non-visible secure location from the school start time to the school end time. Therefore, for all HHIHS students all personal and electronic and communication devices must be turned off and stored. They cannot be used from 8:30am to 3:30pm each school day.

To view the state/district policy: [Personal Devices - Beaufort County School District](#)

Attendance Policy for the 2025-26 School Year

It is important for your student to come to school every day, come to school on time, and to be on time for all their classes. There is a positive correlation between being in school and student achievement. The SC State regulation for attendance (seat time) requires a student to be present for at least 120 hours in a semester class or 60 hours in a quarter class in order for a student to receive credit for a class. That is equal to 80 class days for a semester class and 40 for quarter class. In other words, a student may miss up to 10 days per semester class and 5 per quarter class. It is also important to remember that for each time you are late (tardy) to a class, this is also a reduction in seat time. If a student does not meet the 120/60 hour seat requirement, they may receive an FA (Failure due to absences) for the course. Seat hours may be made up on Saturdays during the semester on scheduled make up days. For more on the attendance policy please go to:

<https://hhihs.beaufortschools.net/families/attendance-policy>

The school calendars can be found at: <https://www.beaufortschools.net/academics/academic-calendar>

Please plan your vacations accordingly to avoid issues with seat time.

Here is the Saturday seat time makeup days for first semester (Students can makeup time up to 30 days after the end of the semester):

Seat Time Days:

December 6th
December 13th
December 20th
January 10th

January 24th
January 31st : The last seat time for the first semester.

Attendance Notes

To submit absence notes, please send them to the following email address: hhihsattendance@beaufort.k12.sc.us

Early Release Requests

To submit early release requests, please send them to the following email address:
hhihsearlyrelease@beaufort.k12.sc.us

Here is the automatic reply when a parent requests early dismissal for the student:

“Thank you for submitting your early release request. No early dismissals 30 minutes prior to the end of the school day. For example: Half days, not after 12 pm and Regular days, not after 3 pm”

Please read the early release procedures below as some of the process has been updated.

- 1.) We receive & approve the request. **Requests must be submitted before noon each regular school day or 10:00am on half days.**
- 2.) **Please let the student know there is a dismissal request.**
- 3.) The student should show the teacher their early release pass which will be used as a pass out of class and to the front desk.
- 4.) For the safety of our students, we require that any person who will be picking up a student during the school day come into the building and show their ID. The person who is picking up a student will only be permitted to take the student with them if they are listed in PowerSchool. If a student is driving themselves, they will be permitted to sign out and leave at the time listed on their early release note.

PTSO (Parent, Teacher and Student Organization) Meetings for the 2025-26 School Year

The meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month. The meetings start at 12:30pm and held in the HHIHS Front Office Conference Room

December 9th

January 13th

February 10th

March 10th

No meeting in April for Spring Break

May 12th

SIC (School Improvement Council) Meetings for the 2025-26 School Year

The meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month. The meetings start at 5:30pm and are held in the HHIHS Library.

January 15th

February 19th

March 12th (moved to 2nd week of month due to Parent/Teacher Conferences on the 19th)

No meeting in April for Spring Break

May 21st

BCSD Board of Education

The BCSD Board of Education is the governing body for the school district. The Board's policies are the tools the Board uses to manage BCSD affairs on a cost-effective basis, authorize the Superintendent to serve as the BCSD leader, empower employees to perform and grow, and support all learners in developing their potential by providing excellent education in a safe and nurturing educational environment. Upcoming meetings of the Beaufort County Board of Education are held on the first and third Tuesdays of each month, beginning at 6 p.m.

Board meetings open to the public are held at the District Office and Hilton Head Middle School.

The Board meetings are aired live on the School Board's YouTube Channel at:

<https://www.youtube.com/@beaufortcountyschoolboard/featured>

Save the Date: Open House for the Spring Semester January 28, 2026

Save the Date: HHIHS 2026 Prom Saturday March 14, 2026

Save the Date: Spring Semester Parent/Teacher Conference Evening March 19, 2026

Save the Date: Graduation for the Class of 2026 Friday May 29th at 7:00pm



Hilton Head Island High School Facebook, ROTC Facebook and Athletic Facebook

Please check out our school Facebook page and follow us. It has a lot of cool stuff about what is happening in our school. The link to our sight is: <https://www.facebook.com/hhihighschool>

The link to the ROTC Facebook page is: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61556639114430>

The link to our athletic Facebook is: <https://www.facebook.com/HiltonHeadIslandHighSchoolAthletics>

Have a great week. Go Seahawks!!!

Steve Schidrich

Principal

Hilton Head Island High School

70 Wilborn Road

Hilton Head Island, SC 29926

Office: (843) 689-4858

