



HCS Scholars Academy



Annual School Improvement Council "Report to the Parents" 2023-2024



HCS Scholars Academy High School

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Purpose of the Report

This report is issued by the HCS Scholars Academy High School School Improvement Council in accordance with South Carolina law to share information of the school's progress in meeting various goals and objectives, the work of the SIC, and other accomplishments during the school year.

Scholars Academy Vision & Mission

Scholars Academy was founded to provide advanced learners with a quality education in a supportive learning environment. Its mission is to educate these students at a rate and with the level of academic rigor commensurate with their abilities so that they graduate as confident, responsible, lifelong learners who are prepared to succeed in higher education and in the world beyond.

SIC Goal

Support the recruitment and admittance of 50-60 freshmen each academic year and retain 90% of enrolled students from year to year.

Highlights Include:

- Provided input for recruiting process and timeline
- Provided feedback on the Informational Nights
- 71 Students Invited to the Class of 2028
- Will exceed the 90% Retention Goal for 2024

Key Academic Accomplishments

- 15 National Merit Semi-Finalists
- 13 National Merit Finalists
- 5 US Presidential Scholars Candidates
- 100% Passage Rate for Biology EOC
- Average PSAT 1301 (National Avg 920)
- Average SAT 1448 (National Avg 1028)
- Average ACT 26.7 (National Avg 19.5)
- 1423 Dual Credit Hours Completed
- 4418 Community Service Hours Completed
- \$10,745,972 in offered scholarships to the Class of 2023 (46 Students)

SIC Member List

Trena Kirby - Chairperson & Teacher Rep
 Leanna French - Secretary & Student Rep 9-10
 Ryan Carter - Teacher Rep
 Jennifer Kuperman - Parent Rep
 Hafez Hayek - Parent Rep
 Alli Satterfield - Student Rep 11-12

Courtney Todd - Community Rep
 Presley Leopard - Community Rep
 Stephanie Hightower - Community Rep
 Sara Hottinger - CCU Ad Hoc
 Norman McQueen - Principal



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School & Student Awards

- Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Nominee - Margaret Truluck & Parker Kohler
- Palmetto Boys State - Ashton Holt, Daniel Monkov, Sean Dobis & Cielo Gruber
- Palmetto Girls State - Cora Phillips
- Theodosia Burr Chapter NSDAR Good Citizen District Winner - Jacob Mijalli
- High School Mock Trial - Georgetown Regional Winner
- HCS Technology Fair:
 - Internet Applications 1st Place
 - Video Production 1st & 3rd Place
 - 3-D Modeling 1st Place
 - Passion Project 2nd Place
 - Audio Production 1st Place
 - Multimedia Applications 1st Place
- Technology Student Association Competition:
 - Board Game Design 1st Place
 - Music Production 2nd Place
 - Technology Bowl 1st & 3rd Place
 - Biotechnology Design 2nd Place
 - Structural Design & Engineering 1st Place
 - Transportation Modeling 3rd Place
 - Forensic Science 2nd Place
 - Audio Podcasting 3rd Place
 - Architecture Design 1st Place
 - Fashion Design & Technology 2nd Place
 - System Control Technology 1st Place
 - Children's Stories 3rd Place
- Math Competitions:
 - Clemson Calculus Challenge
 - 2nd Place Individual Competition (Division 1) & 3rd (Overall)
 - 4th Place Team Competition (Division 1) & 5th (Overall)
 - George E Schnibben, Jr. Mathematics Tournament
 - Written Competition 1st Place
 - Division III Math Jeopardy 1st Place
- The Aegis Yearbook - National Yearbook Program of Excellence - Silver Level

Staff Recognitions

- Mr. Kenneth "Bert" Dewitt - Support Staff of the Year 2023-24
- Mr. Norman McQueen - Member of the College Board Southern Regional Council
- Dr. Patrick Rabon - Completed Ph.D. in Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

School Events

- First Prom - "Meet Me At Midnight"
- Class of 2024 will be the first graduating class of HCS Scholars Academy High School
- Establishment of Content-Area Honor Societies - Science National Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta, Rho Kappa, National English Honor Society
- College Tour - College of Charleston, University of South Carolina, Furman University, & Clemson University
 - 28 Students Attended

Scholars Squad Events

- Minute-To-Win-It Games
- Spirit Days
- 12 Days of Giving
- Flag Painting Movie Night
- Field Day

Scholars Squad Events

- Halloween Party
- Student Celebrations
- "Under the Stars" Semi-Formal
- "Mission Appreciated" Teacher Appreciation Week

Club Activities

- Biology Club Beach Sweep
- NHS Trivia Night
- GSA Destress Crafting/Cocoa & Create
- Rho Kappa Movie Night
- NHS Open Mic Night