

St. James High School School Improvement Council (SIC) Meeting Minutes

Date: December 2, 2025

Location: St. James High School

Attendees:

Mr. Poston, Mrs. Johnson, and SIC members

1. Welcome

Mr. Poston opened the meeting and welcomed all attendees.

2. CTE Advisory Group

- The previous meeting was held recently.
- Mrs. Johnson announced that the next CTE Advisory Group meeting will be moved to a lunchtime session instead of an evening time to improve attendance.
- **New meeting date:** May 7, 2026, at **12:00 p.m.**

3. South Carolina School Report Card Overview

- Reviewed during the November meeting.
- St. James High School achieved an overall **score of 74**, marking a **2-point increase** from the previous year.
- Highlights include:
 - **Excellent** graduation rate and college readiness scores.
 - **Good** rating in U.S. History — the **highest ranking in the state**.
 - **College and Career Readiness (CCR): 87.**

4. Enrollment Update

- Horry County Schools' student enrollment is **down by 2,541 students**, primarily at the elementary level.
- **1,072 students** have withdrawn and moved out of the district.

5. Policy Discussions

- Potential **exam exemption policy** changes were discussed.
- Reviewed proposed **attendance policy** updates.
- Considered allowing students to wear **additional honor cords** at graduation.
- Discussion of **virtual school options** for students with unique circumstances.

6. Student and Community Engagement

- **Kindness Week:** An overview of planned activities was shared, highlighting the school's commitment to promoting a positive culture.
- **Student Involvement:** Mr. Poston met with **club presidents** to encourage greater participation and gather student-led ideas for future initiatives.
- **First Responders Lunch:** Scheduled for **Thursday, January 29, 2026**.
 - Invitations will be sent early, and calls made to **Fire, EMS, and Police** departments, including those outside the district.
 - Meals will be delivered with **stickers on containers**.
 - Flyer will be **edited** prior to distribution.
 - **Food:** Chicken bog prepared by Mr. Poston or possibly donated by **Sarah J's**, with potential **cupcake donations**. Approximately **150 meals** were served last year.
- **Help for Kids Drive:** The **Student Body President** is leading a schoolwide campaign to support *Help for Kids* through **monetary donations and volunteer hours**.

7. Approval of Previous Minutes

- The **October minutes** were reviewed and **approved**.

8. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned.

