HCS Early College High School

2050 Hwy. 501 | Conway, SC 29526 | Phone: 843-349-3131 | Demetrius Williams, Principal

Home of the Trailblazers!



Academic Opportunities

HCS Early College High School offers students the opportunity to complete the requirements for a SC High School Diploma and an associate degree from Horry-Georgetown Technical College (HGTC). Beginning in the first semester of the tenth grade, students can take dual-enrollment courses to earn high school and college credit. The partnership with HGTC, under the guidance of HCS, allows students to explore programs of study while earning the college credits needed for an associate degree from HGTC. Early College is a recognized Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) Site of Distinction. The AVID program provides Early College High School students with academic tutoring, college awareness preparation, and support with organization and study skills to help them succeed in both their secondary-level courses and their dual-enrollment college-level courses through HGTC. The Early College High School advantage includes 1) a small, personalized learning environment with increased access to teachers during the school day through Advisory, AVID, and Academic Coaching and 2) designated time available for peer support and collaborative work.

Entrance Requirements

The ECHS Selection Committee will review each applicant's grades, attendance, discipline reports, and scores on SC READY, the MAP and/or iReady tests, and other standardized tests. To be considered for admission, students may not be classified as gifted and talented and must be first-generation college students. ECHS accepts approximately 100 rising ninth-grade students per year.

ACADEMIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS & RECOGNITIONS

Early College High School had a 100% graduation rate in 2026. The Class of 2026 earned over $3 million in college scholarships. Students completed 3,813 college credits at HGTC. Fifty-nine percent of the Class of 2026 earned the Associate of Arts degree from HGTC. Early College High School recognitions include:.

- 2017 - National Blue Ribbon School
- 2018, 2019, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, & 2026 - SC Report Card Excellent Rating
- 2017, 2018, 2019, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025 - Palmetto Gold High Performance
- 2020 & 2026 - US News & World Report's Best High School
- 2021 - National ESEA Distinguished School
- 2024 - Ranked Third Best High School in SC by Niche















ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES

Early College High School students can participate in athletics at their attendance area high school.

FINE ARTS

Early College High School students may participate in performing arts opportunities at their attendance area high school. Orchestra students may participate in the Long Bay Youth Symphony.

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

- Art Club
- Battle of the Books
- Bible Study
- Book to Movie Club
- Chess Club
- Chick-fil-a Leader Academy
- Compassion Through Fashion
- Crochet Club
- Debate Club
- Key Club
- Next Steps Fitness Club
- Paparazzi Peeps
- Recycle Club
- Rubik's Cube/Math Club
- Share A Smile
- Spanish Honor Society
- Student Ambassadors
- Student Council
- Tollywood
- Trailblazer Travel Club
- Yearbook
- English National Honor Society
- National Honor Society
- Rho Kappa Honor Society
- Mu Alpha Theta Honor Society

COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS

100% of the Class of 2026 applied to a four-year college, and 97% were declared college- and career-ready. The students gained admission to one or more of the following schools:

- Charleston Southern
- Coastal Carolina University
- Converse College
- Francis Marion University
- Furman University
- Horry-Georgetown Technical College
- Johnson C. Smith
- Lander University
- North Carolina A & T
- Palm Beach Atlantic University
- University of the West Indies
- USC - Columbia
- USC - Upstate

Examples of HGTC Programs of Study pursued by ECHS students:

- Associate of Arts
- Associate of Science
- Auto Tech
- Baking & Pastry Arts
- Civil Engineering
- Computer Programming
- Cosmetology
- Criminal Justice
- Culinary Arts
- Cyber Security
- Diesel Engine Tech
- Digital Arts
- Early Childhood Education
- Human Services
- IT/Networking
- Machine Tool Technology
- Outboard Marine Technology
- Patient Care
- Residential HVAC Services Tech
- Welding

HCS EARLY COLLEGE TRAILBLAZERS

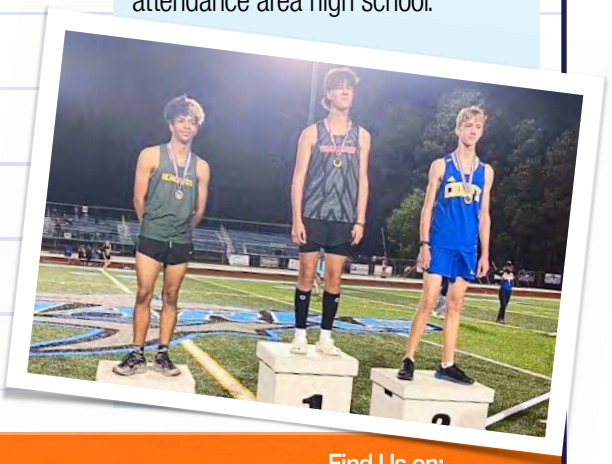
HCS Early College High School

Mission Statement The purpose of HCS Early College High School is 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.

Athletic Awards and Accomplishments

Early College has had numerous students who have participated in athletics at their attendance-area school and advanced to state-level competitions.

Additional Information HCS Early College High School is located on the Conway campus of Horry-Georgetown Technical College. Transportation is provided to and from ECHS. Pick-up times and locations vary with each attendance area high school.



Find Us on:

HCS Early College High School

Visit us online at: ech.horrycountyschools.net/

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HCS Horry County Schools

Inspiring Possibilities