

School Achievements



U. S. News & World Report ranked Wando #3 in the State of South Carolina based on data of 24,000 public high schools

in 50 states and the District of Columbia. Nearly 18,000 schools were ranked on six factors based on performance on state assessments and how well they prepare students for college. While ranked number three after two magnet schools, we were number one for comprehensive high schools.



Wando High School was among a select

group of high schools honored as a PLTW Distinguished High School for the fourth year in a row. Schools and Districts around the nation were honored who have committed to increasing student access, engagement, and achievement in their PLTW programs.



The Wando High School Athletic Program had another outstanding year winning the S.

C. Athletic Administrators Association Carlisle Cup for the best 5A athletic program.

SIC Members

Faculty

Erin Lowry
Caroline Merritt

Parents

Kimberly Barber
Rasheida Brown
Joy Carey
Pam Murray
Althea Setser

Students

Emmy Thayer
Isabelle Turner

Community

Tavia Buck
Darren Felty
Rebecca Imholz
Mathilde White

Ex-Officio Members

Sherry Eppelsheimer
John Farese
Pamela Jubar
Jen Mallin
Kristy Williams

Wando High School Annual School Improvement Council

“Report to the Parents”

2021-2022



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Initiatives and Strategies for School Improvement

Initiatives

- Our Ninth Grade Academy houses our freshmen in a “school within a school” where they take core courses. This smaller environment gives ninth graders the opportunity to build relationships and increase their sense of community.
- Our Smaller Learning Communities Initiative provides a reorganization of the Upper School, grades 10 - 12, into four smaller career-related “Schools of Study.” We believe using a career-related school approach to teaching and learning will help students see the relevance of their coursework and its connection to the future.
- Wando works within the *High Schools That Work* Alliance, a whole-school research-based reform effort. The *HSTW* model focuses on continuous school improvement through key practices including high expectations, allowing room in the curriculum for career and technical studies, increasing access to academic studies, offering students a challenging program of study, allowing opportunities for work-based learning, supporting

collaboration between teachers, actively engaging students in their learning, providing a guidance and advisement system, utilizing a program for extra help and using assessment and data to foster continuous improvement.

- We provide additional support for students with academic promise who will be first-generation college-bound.

Strategies

- Raise the graduation rate by establishing an intervention team offering academic/transition support.
- Expand the Golden Warrior Student Recognition and Awards Program.
- Expand Advanced Placement participation and support.
- Expand the use of data to differentiate instruction.
- Expand CTE and Fine Arts courses to meet students’ needs and interests.
- Expand on-line learning opportunities for credit recovery and initial credit.
- Provide professional development on building positive, productive relationships with students.
- Increase opportunities for entry-level workforce credentials and certifications for our graduates.
- Expand transition and inclusion

support for Exceptional Education students.

- Expand dual credit options.
- Implement a program to address the significant discrepancies in academic achievement due to the COVID 19 pandemic.

Past Notable Achievements

- Ninety percent of the 2021 graduating class planned to attend four-year colleges/universities, two-year colleges, or technical colleges.
- Members of the class of 2021 were awarded over 27 million dollars in scholarships.
- Seniors took 1,293 dual credit courses with a passage rate of 93%.
- Two senior students received appointments to the U. S. military academies: one to the U. S. Merchant Marine Academy and one to the U. S. Naval Academy.
- There are more than 509 members of the Advanced Placement Academy in grades 10 - 12. One hundred twenty-seven seniors in the Advanced Placement Academy received special Advanced Studies certificates at graduation due to earning at least six AP credits.

- Six seniors graduated with 15 or more Advanced Placement courses.
- Three state championships were won in Girls' Soccer, Girls' Swimming, and Volleyball.
- Seventeen region championships were won.
- Forty-two Wando athletes were named to All-Region teams.
- Sixty-two senior athletes were named Scholar Athletes by the South Carolina High School League.
- Twenty-five student athletes committed to play at the college level.
- Four Teacher Cadets received \$24,000 Teaching Fellows Scholarships.
- There were 95 Early Awards recipients for the South Carolina Palmetto Fellows Scholarship.
- To graduate from high school requires earning 24 course credits. Wando seniors earned an average of 30 credits.
- The average GPA of the Class of 2021 was 3.86.
- Three hundred sixty-four seniors in the Class of 2021 were named Charleston County School District Board Scholars.
- Wando High School's Student Council received two first place awards from the South Carolina

Association of Student Councils for Leadership and School Pride. They were also named a Gold Honor Council.

- The South Carolina Seal of Biliiteracy was awarded to 87 seniors.

School Profile

Wando High School with an enrollment of approximately 3,000 students is located on a 100 acre campus in Mount Pleasant, South Carolina.

Wando High School serves students in grades 9 - 12 with a comprehensive academic program offering more than 200 courses.

The student population is approximately 82% White, 10% African-American, 4% Hispanic, 2% Asian, and 2% other.

Faculty and Professional Staff

Professional staff members have an average of 15.3 years of educational experience.

76% of the faculty and professional staff hold masters or other advanced degrees.

Thirteen professional staff members are

National Board Certified Teachers.

Erin Lowry was named the Teacher of the Year. Martina Abbriano was named the Rookie Teacher of the Year and Lee Howes was named the Classified Professional of the Year.

Mission Statement

The mission of Wando High School, in partnership with parents and community, is to educate all students by providing a challenging program of study, to encourage lifelong academic and applied learning, and to graduate students prepared to meet the challenge of a rapidly changing and diverse global society.



Purpose of the Report

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