



Pickens County School District

Pickens High School "Above and Beyond"

Mission Statement

Grounded in a tradition of excellence, Pickens High School, sharing responsibility with parents and community, provides challenging academic and career preparation through diverse learning opportunities in a safe, caring, and technologically advanced environment to prepare students to be responsible and productive global citizens.

Special points of interest:

- PHS Graduating Class of 2012 accepted more the 6.1 million dollars in scholarships
- PHS has 11 National Board Certified teachers

Excellence Has a New Address

We believe:

- In the pursuit of excellence.
- Learning and education are life-long processes.
- All students must have equitable educational opportunities.
- All people can learn and contribute to society.
- Education is a shared responsibility.
- Students are our first priority.
- Education is the key to success.
- In a safe, caring learning environment for all students and staff.
- Cultural diversity promotes full development of the individual and society.
- The "parent" is a child's first teacher.
- Today's schools shape tomorrow's workforce.
- Everyone deserves sensitivity, respect, and fair treatment.
- Encouragement, motivation, and a standard of excellence promote success.
- The home, school, and community environments directly impact the student's success.
- In setting high expectations and in helping all students to meet them.

Pickens High School has three over-riding goals which direct all programs offered to our students: improving student learning, improving student involvement, and improving communication. We strive to provide each young person with opportunities to be successful as we prepare our students to become life-long learners and productive citizens. PHS students are able to take advantage of cutting edge technical programs offered through Career and Technology Center. As a member of the Southern Regional Education Board, we set high expectations for achievement and success. Pickens High has a highly qualified faculty committed to meeting the various needs of our students. Our administrators and support staff join them in providing a safe, nurturing environment in which learning can occur. Located in the most beautiful area of the state, Pickens High School demonstrates what can be accomplished when everyone—students, school personnel, parents, and community—works together. We are united in our vision of excellence!



School Data

2012 Annual School Report Card Rating: **Good**

School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Goal.

- Southern Association of Colleges and Schools accredited.
- Southern Region Education Board affiliated
- 12 Advanced Placement courses offered

Facilities

- Brick, one-story structure
- Handicapped accessible
- 55 Permanent classrooms
- Gymnasium (seats 1200)
- Lighted Football Stadium (seats 6000)
- 6 Science Labs
- Media Center (over 11,000 volumes)
- 4 Computer Labs
- Weight Training Room
- New - 2011

Student Data

Enrollment: **1368**

- Student Attendance Rate: 94.1%
- 13.2% enrolled in Advanced Placement programs
- 93.6% of students are White; 2.2% of students are Black; 1.8% of students are Hispanic; >.01% other.
- 40% of students are eligible for free and reduced lunch

“We believe in the pursuit of excellence”

Faculty Data

Administrators: 4
 Certified Staff: 84
 Support Staff: 30
 Teacher Attendance Rate: 94.6%
 Teachers with Advanced Degrees: 63.5%
 Highly Qualified Staff: 100%
 Principal’s years at school: 13 years

Extra Curricular Activities

- Mu Alpha Theta - Math
- Governor’s School of Arts
- Boys’ and Girls’ State
- Beta Club
- Science Club
- JROTC Activities
- Service Learning
- Interact
- Newspaper Staff
- Drama Club
- Fellowship of Christian Athletes
- Art Honor Society
- Athletic Team Competition 31—Teams
- Band
- Chorus
- Strings
- Bluegrass
- Future Business Leaders of America



Data

HSAP

At Pickens High School we continually analyze data to improve our school. One area we are addressing is the High School Assessment Program (HSAP). While our students continue to achieve above the state average, our goal is to perform at a 100% pass rate on first attempt by the year 2020.

HSAP First Attempt Passage - ELA/Math

	PHS	District	State
2008	85.2	85.7	80.0
2009	75.0	79.7	76.1
2010	79.5	82.6	78.6
2011	81.6	83.5	79.4
2012	79.3	84.2	80.1

EOC Tests

The Education Accountability Act of 1998 requires the development of end-of-course examinations in gateway or benchmark courses. The program is called End-of-Course-Examination Program (EOCEP). **The examinations, which count 20 percent of the students' final grade in each gateway or benchmark course, currently include Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2, English 1, U.S. History and the Constitution, and Biology 1/Applied Biology 2.** The final administration of the physical science end-of-course test was spring 2011. **Beginning with the 2010-11 school year, all students must have taken the Biology 1/Applied Biology 2 EOCEP test by the end of their second year after their initial enrollment in ninth grade.**

Graduation Rate

The driving force for all programs at PHS is graduation rate improvement. Although our graduation rate increased from 69.8% to 74.1% for 2012, we continue to work with our students, parents, staff, and district officials to develop a plan to increase to 85% or higher. PHS recognizes making students aware of the relevance of classroom learning to their present and future interests is a powerful tool in keeping them motivated to succeed in earning a diploma.

SAT/ACT

Pickens High School students had a composite score of 1522 on the SAT in 2012. The state average for this test was 1422 and the national average was 1498. ACT results from 2012 showed Pickens High School students had a score of 22.9. The state average for this test was 19.9 and the national average was 21.1. We are very pleased with the ACT and SAT scores, it is our aim to score at or above the state and national average for both the SAT and ACT.

Highlights

School

SREB's High Schools That Work Affiliation
Palmetto Fellows Recipients
South Carolina Teaching Fellows Recipients

Student Council

Meals on Wheels Food Fight Bowl: raised over \$23,000 for MOW
Country Santa—raised \$3100
Hosted Valentines party for TMD students

Band

Marching Band—3rd Place and Superior Rating in SC 3A Upper-State Marching Championships
& Advancement to State Championships;
6th Place in Class AAA out of 33 AAA Bands
Outstanding Performance Award 2013 - 11th time in school history!
Jazz Ensemble—Superior Rating at SC State Jazz Festival
Pickens Wind Ensemble—Superior Rating at SC State Concert Festival in Division IV
Winter Guard – SCBDA Regional A Class State Champions
Students participated in the Winthrop University Honors Band Clinic,
All-County Band, All-Region Band, SC State Solo and Ensemble Festival

AJROTC

Raider team placed 1st overall in 5 out of 6 upstate JROTC Raider competitions.
Drill team placed 1st in Dacusville Christmas Parade Competition and won 2nd and 3rd place trophies in Both Easley and JL Mann HS
JROTC Drill Competitions
New Rifle Team competed in 2 competitions where a cadet won 3rd place (kneeling position) nationally,
Both Leadership and Academic Teams advanced to Level II in College Options JROTC competition, all Cadets participated in the PHS
Veterans Day Ceremony and reception honoring 10 WWII Veterans in attendance.
Pickens JROTC Colorguard presented the national Colors at the City of Pickens first 9/11 Ceremony in downtown Pickens.



Community Involvement

School Improvement Council
Band Boosters
Athletic Association
Parent Volunteers
Blood Drive
School Newsletter
Charitable Donations
Peer—Tutoring / Tutoring Program for Elementary
Fine Arts Concerts and Events
Service Learning
Career-based Internships
Job Shadowing