



Thunderbolt Career and Technology Center

1069 Thunderbolt Drive
Walterboro, South Carolina

Grades	10-12 Career Center	
Enrollment	705 Students	
Director	Bob McKinnon	843-538-5538
Board Chair	P. A. Pournelle	843-549-5715
Superintendent	Charles W. Gale Jr.	843-782-4510



THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2008 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

RATINGS OVER 5-YEAR PERIOD

Year	Absolute Rating	Growth Rating
2008	Excellent	Excellent
2007	Average	At-Risk
2006	Good	Good
2005	Average	At-Risk
2004	Excellent	Good

DEFINITIONS OF DISTRICT RATING TERMS

- Excellent – District performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Good – District performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Average – District performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Below Average – District is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- At-Risk – District performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal

SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE GOAL

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the fastest improving systems in the country.

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF CAREER CENTERS*

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	At-Risk
34	2	1	0	0

* Ratings are calculated with data available by September 30.

School Profile

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Median Career Center
Students (n=705)			
With disabilities other than speech	11.8%	Up from 0.0%	9.3%
Career/technology students in co-curricular organizations	14.3%	Down from 20.1%	20.7%
Enrollment in career/technology courses	705	No Change	675
Students participating in work-based experiences	29.5%	Up from 21.4%	20.6%
Teachers (n=15)			
Teachers with advanced degrees	33.3%	No Change	27.2%
Continuing contract teachers	93.3%	No Change	71.9%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	6.7%	No Change	19.5%
Teachers returning from previous year	95.6%	Up from 91.1%	92.5%
Teacher attendance rate	92.6%	Down from 94.6%	95.6%
Average teacher salary	\$47,120	Up 4.8%	\$46,693
Professional development days/teacher	16.2 days	Up from 14.3 days	13.4 days
School			
Director's years at Center	7.0	Up from 5.0	4.0
Dollars spent per pupil*	\$2,332	Up 11.7%	\$3,234
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries*	61.1%	Up from 50.3%	55.1%
Percent of expenditures for instruction*	71.8%	Down from 75.5%	63.7%
Parents attending conferences	75.7%	Up from 67.4%	84.2%
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes

* Prior year audited financial data are reported.

Evaluations by Teachers, Students and Parents

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	17	83	44
Percent satisfied with learning environment	100.0%	96.4%	88.4%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	100.0%	97.6%	79.1%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	58.8%	90.2%	83.7%

* Only eleventh grade students and their parents were included.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A–Not Applicable N/AV–Not Available N/C–Not Collected N/R–Not Reported I/S–Insufficient Sample

Performance By Student Groups

	Technical Skill Attainment			Graduation Rate			Placement Rate		
	This Center		State Center Average %	This Center		State Center Average %	This Center		State Center Average %
	n	%		n	%		n	%	
All Students	608	80.6%	85.2%	111	91.9%	94.4%	286	97.9%	97.4%
Students with Disabilities on Diploma Track	10	80.0%	73.6%	7	71.4%	73.4%	0	N/A	97.6%
Gender									
Male	324	75.6%	82.4%	54	88.9%	93.2%	137	97.8%	98.2%
Female	284	86.3%	88.3%	57	94.7%	95.6%	149	98.0%	96.5%
Racial/Ethnic Group									
White	265	77.7%	88.5%	45	93.3%	96.4%	119	98.3%	97.9%
African American	315	83.5%	79.9%	60	91.7%	91.6%	161	97.5%	96.3%
Asian/Pacific Islander	10	100.0%	91.5%	4	I/S	94.3%	3	I/S	100.0%
Hispanic	10	60.0%	85.9%	1	I/S	92.2%	1	I/S	97.7%
American Indian/Alaskan	4	I/S	82.4%	1	I/S	78.6%	1	I/S	96.7%
Migrant Status									
Migrant	0	N/A	91.7%	N/A	N/A	100.0%	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
English Proficiency									
Limited English Proficient	13	76.9%	85.1%	53	88.7%	91.9%	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
Socio-Economic Status									
Subsidized meals	363	78.2%	80.7%	58	94.8%	91.7%	85	100.0%	95.8%

* n = number of students on which percentage is calculated.

Definitions of Performance Rating Terms

- * Technical Skill Attainment --- The percentage of students enrolled in career and technology courses at the center who earn a 2.0 or above on the final course grade.
- * Graduation Rate --- The percentage of 12th grade career and technology students who graduate in the spring.
- * Placement Rate --- The percentage of career and technology completers available for placement over a 3-year period who are actually placed in postsecondary instruction, military services, or employment.

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Report of Director and School Improvement Council

Students need to take advantage of ALL the opportunities that are available to them in high school. Today's careers demand that students prepare by using their minds and their hands to find success in the technology generation. Whether a student is going to a 2-or 4-year college, the military, or directly into the workplace after graduation the opportunities available at Thunderbolt Career & Technology Center will be beneficial. TCTC is fully accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

We believe that students need strong academic and technical courses before graduation from high school. Of the 24 units needed for a high school diploma, at least 4 may be electives focused on a specific career area of interest. This will earn the students a Completer Certificate and give them advanced skill preparation for their future careers while still in high school. In 2008, more than 98% of our program completers were enrolled in a 2-or4-year college, serving in the military, or employed when surveyed 10 months after graduation from high school.

All Career & Technology programs have a student organization for students to compete and participate in leadership development and community service projects. Each year students are provided the opportunity to compete in their skill area in district, state, and national events from our Center. In 2008 TCTC produced State Champions in SkillsUSA, FBIA, Pro-Start, and HOSA with a school record twelve (12) students going to National Competition.

Career and Technology Education is an important part of the total educational process for ALL students. Students need to be given opportunities to make connections between what they are learning in school and how they will apply it in the future. The SC Chamber of Commerce surveyed South Carolina's workplace and stated in Skills Work 2000 that "education is the key to a good job, but only skills unlock the door to success." Academic and technical coursework needs to be integrated so that students see connections and reach their highest potential.

Worked Based Learning, giving our students an opportunity to job shadow, mentor experience, co-op, or serve in an apprenticeship experience is encouraged for all students.

Our Career Guidance Department is ready to assist our students on their "Personal Pathways to Success" as they plan their career pathway and select a career cluster of study leading to a career major.

Join us at Thunderbolt Career and Technology Center where our students and instructors are "Focused on the Future and Building Careers for Success."

Bob McKinnon, Director
Danny Leshowitz, School Improvement Chairman

No Child Left Behind

School Adequate Yearly Progress

YES

* Definition: As required by the United States Department of Education, Adequate Yearly Progress specifies that the state rating for career and technology centers must be Excellent, Good, Above Average, Average, or Below Average.

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