



Aiken High

449 Rutland Drive
Aiken, SC 29801

Grades	9-12 High School	
Enrollment	1,615 Students	
Principal	Garen X. Cofer	803-641-2500
Superintendent	Dr. Elizabeth Everitt	803-641-2428
Board Chair	Dr. Christine Harkins	803-663-1703

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2009 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

RATINGS OVER 5-YEAR PERIOD

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING
2009	Average	Below Average
2008	Average	Good
2007	Average	Below Average
2006	Good	At-Risk
2005	Excellent	Good

DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

- Excellent – School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Good – School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Average – School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Below Average – School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- At-Risk – School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision

SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE GOAL

By 2010, SC'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.

SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE VISION

By 2020 all students will graduate with the knowledge and skills necessary to compete successfully in the global economy, participate in a democratic society and contribute positively as members of families and communities.

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF HIGH SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	At-Risk
2	8	27	0	0

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 03/25/2010.

High School Assessment Program (HSAP) Exam Passage Rate: Second Year Students

Percent	Our High School			High Schools with Students Like Ours		
	2007	2008	2009	2007	2008	2009
Passed 2 subtests (%)	82.8	79.0	76.5	79.5	81.4	77.6
Passed 1 subtest (%)	10.0	13.3	12.7	11.2	10.3	11.8
Passed no subtests (%)	7.2	7.7	10.9	9.3	8.6	10.6

HSAP Passage Rate by Spring 2009

Percent	Our High School	High Schools with Students Like Ours
	91.1%	94.4%

On-Time Graduation Rate

	Our High School	High Schools with Students Like Ours
Number of Students	410	292
Number of Diplomas	293	214
Rate	71.5%	74.4%

End of Course Tests

Percent of tests with scores of 70 or above on:	Our High School	High Schools with Students Like Ours*
Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2	55.2	74.6
English 1	52.9	63.5
Physical Science	56.9	56.1
US History and the Constitution	38.3	41.8
All Tests	50.8	58.4

* High Schools with Poverty Indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this school.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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

School Profile

	Our School	Change from Last Year	High Schools with Students Like Ours	Median High School
Students (n=1,615)				
Retention rate	4.7%	Up from 3.6%	4.4%	4.8%
Attendance rate	94.1%	Down from 94.4%	95.5%	95.5%
Eligible for gifted and talented	19.6%	Up from 19.3%	13.5%	9.2%
With disabilities other than speech	12.4%	Up from 12.3%	12.9%	12.6%
Older than usual for grade	10.0%	Up from 7.7%	7.9%	8.6%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	3.1%	Down from 4.6%	1.3%	1.2%
Enrolled in AP/IB programs	16.7%	Down from 20.5%	16.3%	13.2%
Successful on AP/IB exams	55.0%	Down from 65.6%	50.0%	55.6%
Eligible for LIFE Scholarship	35.7%	Up from 35.3%	33.1%	29.8%
Annual dropout rate	4.2%	Down from 4.4%	3.5%	3.5%
Career/technology students in co-curricular organizations	9.3%	Down from 9.8%	2.4%	3.0%
Enrollment in career/technology courses	866	Down from 938	606	523
Students participating in work-based experiences	2.6%	Down from 5.1%	16.2%	12.9%
Career/technology students attaining technical skills	73.4%	Up from 72.8%	79.9%	79.3%
Career/technology completers placed	93.4%	Down from 94.3%	98.2%	98.8%
Teachers (n=100)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	52.0%	Down from 52.5%	62.7%	58.6%
Continuing contract teachers	67.0%	Down from 70.7%	76.3%	71.6%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	13.1%	Up from 10.2%	5.0%	8.1%
Teachers returning from previous year	91.0%	Up from 90.6%	86.9%	85.0%
Teacher attendance rate	95.6%	Up from 94.8%	95.6%	95.5%
Average teacher salary*	\$49,754	Up 3.3%	\$48,195	\$47,761
Professional development days/teacher	11.3 days	Down from 11.5 days	11.1 days	10.8 days
School				
Principal's years at school	2.0	Up from 1.0	4.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	26.6 to 1	Down from 27.9 to 1	27.3 to 1	26.1 to 1
Prime instructional time	88.6%	Up from 88.0%	90.2%	89.8%
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$6,597	Up 0.1%	\$7,462	\$7,883
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	52.1%	Down from 57.5%	53.4%	54.1%
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	65.1%	Up from 61.7%	59.9%	60.2%
Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	No Change	Excellent	Excellent
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	91.6%	Down from 92.2%	96.4%	95.8%
Character development program	Good	No Change	Good	Good
Modern language program assessment	Average	N/A	Average	Average
Classical language program assessment	N/A	N/A	Below Average	Good

* Includes current year teachers contracted for 185 or more days.

** Prior year audited financial data are reported.

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

	HSAP Passage Rate by Spring 2009		End of Course Passage Rate		Graduation Rate		
	n	%	t	%	n	%	Met State Objective
All Students	347	91.1%	1408	50.8%	410	71.5%	No
Gender							
Male	154	87.7%	712	52.4%	193	63.2%	N/A
Female	193	93.8%	696	49.1%	217	78.8%	N/A
Racial/Ethnic Group							
White	216	96.8%	657	63.6%	243	81.1%	N/A
African American	124	81.5%	698	38.0%	156	57.1%	N/A
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	N/A	N/A	42	52.4%	N/A	N/A	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Disability Status							
Disabled	31	32.3%	146	23.3%	40	35.0%	N/A
Migrant Status							
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
English Proficiency							
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/A	31	51.6%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Socio-Economic Status							
Subsidized meals	139	80.6%	812	41.9%	175	50.9%	N/A

NOTE: n=number of students on which percentage is calculated; t=number of tests taken.

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Report of Principal and School Improvement Council

Aiken High School was a recipient of the 2008 Palmetto Silver Award and recognized in the 2008 US News and World Report as one of the top high schools in the nation for improving the achievement gap. AHS offers a varied curriculum that includes the International Baccalaureate Program (IB), twelve Advanced Placement (AP) courses, a college preparatory program, a business program, a Career and Technology program, a Freshman Assistance Program (LIFT), and special education services in EMD, LD, TMD, and Resource. Our students can also choose from 12 athletic sports and 37 student clubs/organizations.

Our students continue to achieve outstanding success: 168 seniors received over \$9.98 million in scholarships and grants; 27 seniors were named Palmetto Fellows Award winners; 2 students received a National Merit Scholarship; 9 students were National Merit Commended Students; 4 students are candidates for the International Baccalaureate Diploma; 1 student scored a perfect 36 on the ACT; and an AHS student received the Youth of the Year Award (second year in a row). Aiken High School students continue to compete and excel in regional, state, and national competitions in Academic Team, Region IV 4-A Athletics, Band, Chorus, Foreign Language, Art, Robotics, Poetry, ProStart Culinary Team, DECA, FBLA, FFA, NJROTC (Distinguished Unit Award, 2nd year), and Yearbook (Excellence Award by publisher, 2nd year).

The Aiken High School staff and student body have excelled in service to the school and community through their participation in many activities. Through the leadership of the Student Council, the faculty and students raised thousands of dollars for various charities including Helping Hands, Camp Sertoma, St. Jude's, Make-A-Wish, Relay for Life, and the SPCA. They also provided Stuffed Stockings (toys and school supplies) for the children in the Department of Social Services custody, and donated approximately 100 pints of blood. The school Chorus provided entertainment and visits on a regular basis to local nursing homes, schools, and community events. The FFA provided flowers to elderly residents of the community and donated fresh vegetables to the Golden Harvest Food Bank. The Aiken High Band and NJROTC actively participate in many community activities including the Veterans Day ceremony, the annual Christmas Parade, and the Memorial Day Parade. In addition, many students assisted with Special Olympics, and several students have been trained to provide peer mediation services. Together the various student organizations logged well over 11,000 service hours.

To promote student success, AHS students are offered academic assistance and tutoring through the National Honor Society, the Learning Logic math program, teacher-led tutorial services, and on-line tutorial services. All students are encouraged to participate in the Accelerated Reader Program sponsored by the Aiken High School media specialists. This year we also implemented a credit recovery program. Many teachers also use technology to aid student achievement through the use of SMART boards, interactive response systems and Moodle.

Garen Cofer, Principal
Amy Conkelton, School Improvement Council Chairperson

Evaluations by Teachers, Students and Parents

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	107	323	141
Percent satisfied with learning environment	90.5%	60.6%	73.3%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	85.8%	63.6%	61.3%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	86.0%	78.8%	61.8%

* Only eleventh grade students and their parents were included. For schools without grade eleven, only the highest grade was included.

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School Adequate Yearly Progress

NO

This school met 13 out of 19 objectives. The objectives included student performance, graduation rate or student attendance, and participation in the state testing program.

Definition: As required by the United States Department of Education, Adequate Yearly Progress specifies that the statewide target is met for "All Students" and for the following subgroups: Racial/Ethnic, Subsidized Meals, Disability, and Limited English Proficiency in the areas of English/Language Arts and Mathematics, as well as meeting the statewide target for "All Students" for attendance or graduation rate.

School Improvement Status

N/A

School Improvement Key

NI	Newly Identified-The school missed adequate yearly progress (AYP) for two years. Sanction: Offer school choice.
CSI	Continuing School Improvement-The school missed AYP for three years. Sanctions: Continue school choice and implement supplemental services.
CA	Corrective Action-The school missed AYP for four years. Sanction: Continue school choice and supplemental services. The school district takes a corrective action.
RP	Plan to Restructure-Sanctions: Continue school choice and supplemental services. Develop a plan to restructure. If the school misses AYP the next year, the school implements the restructuring plan.
R	Restructure-The school missed AYP after two years of corrective action. Sanctions: Implement the restructuring plan. Continue school choice and supplemental services.
DELAY	The school met AYP in all subgroups and the indicator for one year, thus the delay provision applies. The school remains in the same status as last year and is referred to as in "Delay."
HOLD	The school made progress for one year in the subject area that identified the school for school improvement. The school remains in the same status as last year and is referred to as in "Hold."

Teacher Quality Data

	Our District	State
Classes in low poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.7%	1.7%
Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	1.9%	5.8%

	Our School	State Objective	Met State Objective
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.0%	0.0%	Yes

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HSAP Performance By Group

	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Below Basic	% Basic	% Proficient	% Advanced	School % Proficient or Advanced*	District % Proficient or Advanced*	State % Proficient or Advanced*	Performance Objective Met	Participation Objective Met
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English/Language Arts - State Performance Objective = 71.3% (Proficient or Advanced)

All Students	399	97.7	14	28.2	29.8	28	65.9	65.9	61.8	Yes	Yes
Male	194	96.4	19.8	24.9	29.4	26	61.6	60.7	57.4	N/A	N/A
Female	205	99	8.7	31.3	30.3	29.7	69.7	70.8	66.1	N/A	N/A
White	222	98.6	8.8	18.5	28.7	44	78.2	76.9	74.3	Yes	Yes
African American	166	97	21.2	42.5	31.5	4.8	47.9	48.2	44.9	No	Yes
Asian/Pacific Islander	2	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	71.4	77.4	I/S	I/S
Hispanic	6	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	48.5	50.3	I/S	I/S
American Indian/Alaskan	2	I/S	55.4	I/S	I/S						
Disabled	46	89.1	59.5	32.4	5.4	2.7	10.8	19.9	19.4	I/S	No
Migrant	N/A	I/S	N/A	N/A							
Limited English Proficient	4	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	46.9	38.5	I/S	I/S
Subsized meals	202	96.5	23.2	39.2	28.2	9.4	49.2	49	45.6	No	Yes

Mathematics - State Performance Objective = 70.0% (Proficient or Advanced)

All Students	398	97.2	17.6	27.9	28.2	26.3	65.9	66.5	62.7	Yes	Yes
Male	194	95.4	20	26.3	25.1	28.6	63.4	66	61.8	N/A	N/A
Female	204	99	15.5	29.4	30.9	24.2	68	66.9	63.6	N/A	N/A
White	222	98.6	10.2	20.8	28.2	40.7	77.8	77	75.1	Yes	Yes
African American	165	95.8	28.7	37.1	28.7	5.6	49	49.4	45.1	No	Yes
Asian/Pacific Islander	2	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	85.7	83.8	I/S	I/S
Hispanic	6	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	51.5	58.5	I/S	I/S
American Indian/Alaskan	2	I/S	59.2	I/S	I/S						
Disabled	46	84.8	74.3	17.1	8.6	0	8.6	20.8	21.8	I/S	No
Migrant	N/A	I/S	N/A	N/A							
Limited English Proficient	4	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	46.9	52.3	I/S	I/S
Subsized meals	201	95.5	26.4	37.1	28.1	8.4	47.8	49.7	47.9	No	Yes

Physical Science (End-of-Course Test performance by Group)

All Students	396	93.4	51.3	18.7	12.6	10.9	23.5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Male	193	89.6	46.6	16.1	9.8	17.1	26.9	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Female	203	97.0	55.7	21.2	15.3	4.9	20.2	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
White	221	95.9	37.6	22.6	18.1	17.6	35.7	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
African American	164	90.9	68.3	14.6	5.5	2.4	7.9	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Asian/Pacific Islander	2	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	6	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	2	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Disabled	43	74.4	69.8	4.7	N/A	N/A	I/S	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Migrant	N/A	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Limited English Proficient	4	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Subsized meals	200	92.0	67.5	14.5	6.0	4.0	10.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

* Adjusted to account for natural variation in performance.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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Two-Year HSAP Trend Data

	School Year	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Below Basic	% Basic	% Proficient	% Advanced	School % Proficient or Advanced*	District % Proficient or Advanced*	State % Proficient or Advanced*
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English/Language Arts - State Performance Objective = 71.3% (Proficient or Advanced)

All Students	2008	423	98.8	10.5	29.3	34.8	25.3	69.9	72.8	69.7
	2009	399	97.7	14	28.2	29.8	28	65.9	65.9	61.8

Mathematics - State Performance Objective = 70.0% (Proficient or Advanced)

All Students	2008	423	97.9	15.9	29.6	34.4	20	65.3	70.4	67.2
	2009	398	97.2	17.6	27.9	28.2	26.3	65.9	66.5	62.7

* Adjusted to account for natural variation in performance.

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