

South Carolina Governor's School for Science and Mathematics

401 Railroad Avenue,
Hartsville SC 29550



South Carolina State Report Card

State and federal laws require public schools to release report cards to the public each year. This year, the report card has been updated to reflect changes in reporting directed by the SC Education Oversight Committee. Schools will not be rated for state accountability purposes until Fall 2018 when the state will transition to a single accountability system. The following reports student performance in school year 2016-17.

Grades: 11-12
Enrollment: 284
School Phone: 843-383-3900
School Website: www.scgssm.org

President: Dr. Hector Flores
Board Chair: Mr. Talbert H. Campbell



Profile of the SC Graduate

World Class Knowledge

- Rigorous standards in language arts and math for career and college readiness
- Multiple languages, science, technology, engineering, mathematics (STEM), arts and social sciences*

World Class Skills

- Creativity and innovation
- Critical thinking and problem solving
- Collaboration and teamwork
- Communication, information, media and technology
- Knowing how to learn

Life and Career Characteristics

- Integrity
- Self-direction
- Global perspective
- Perseverance
- Work ethic
- Interpersonal skills

* 21st Century core courses in Social Sciences include History, Geography, Economics, Government and Civics.

WORLD CLASS SKILLS & LIFE AND CAREER CHARACTERISTICS

From its founding in 1988 by a visionary Act of the General Assembly, GSSM has served as a portal through which talented students from throughout South Carolina have embarked on a lifetime of exploration, discovery and growth. The mission of this unique school emphasizes developing the scientifically astute and ethically aware leaders needed for our expanding knowledge-based economy. Recognized as a leader in the state, GSSM is now concentrating on national prominence with a focus on the global nature of modern science and industry.

From the outset, GSSM students and alumni established a reputation for excellence and accomplishment. The General Assembly recognized the benefits provided by this excellent stream of leaders and authorized increasing the size and scope of our school. Since 2010, we have increased the Residential faculty, staff and student body by more than 200%. Our state-wide Accelerate Engineering Program will graduate its second senior class of 27 students and has expanded to include 122 students across the state. The Blue Cross Blue Shield Economics and Finance Institute is broadening and sharpening our student's ability to think in economic and business terms about opportunities in high technology. Our statewide Outreach programs are expanding and developing new STEM educational experiences for students and teachers.

GSSM students continue to perform at the highest levels, reflecting the individual talents of these remarkable young people as well as the unique opportunities offered by GSSM. The significant achievements of the students in residence in Hartsville (1372 average SAT, 30 composite ACT scores; \$16.2 million in scholarship offers to 126 seniors) are crowned by their completion of a mentored individual research project at a research project at a research university or industrial laboratory in the US or internationally. Typically, several students publish their work in peer-reviewed scholarly journals each year.

Appropriate emphasis on extracurricular activities for all students continues to build strong school spirit, with 78% of students participating in varsity athletics. Overall, our athletic program ranks in the top 40 in the state for all schools. Additionally, students lead and direct more than 60 clubs and societies, involving 97% of students. Students serve their community and school by working 83 hours each year, supplementing instruction on ethics and character development. Notably, our students mentored members of the Hartsville Boys and Girls Club in math, and have partnered with Habitat for Humanity to build a house for a family in Hartsville during the 2017-2018 school year. Perhaps best of all, students report great satisfaction from forming "friendships for life" at GSSM.

As expected, this combination of academic excellence, community commitment, character and hard work results in GSSM graduates being admitted to excellent colleges. While we encourage graduates to stay in state, and many do, each year sees admissions to some of the nation's most selective universities such as Yale, Columbia, Duke, Stanford, Reed, Vanderbilt, Carnegie-Mellon, the University of California at Los Angeles, the University of Southern California, and many other excellent schools.

The GSSM Center for Science Education & Outreach serves as a statewide resource for outstanding STEM educational experiences and opportunities designed to improve student achievement and support the professional growth of South Carolina science and math. Over the course of the 2016-2017 academic year and during summer 2017, thousands of students, teachers, and parents participated in one or more of the off-campus or on-campus STEM experiences delivered by the Outreach Center. Through these academically-challenging and interactive experiences, like the residential GoSciTech summer experience, students have the opportunity to experience GSSM and learn more about robotics, genetics, engineering, computer science, chemistry, medicine, and math to name a few.

We are eagerly planning to enhance this remarkable record. We have grown to maximum capacity residentially, while continuing to expand Accelerate Engineering and Outreach. Our new faculty and staff members are as amazing as our veterans, and we will continue to create new opportunities for our students, like international research, that have no comparison anywhere in the nation. GSSM will continue to be a flagship for education in South Carolina and, increasingly, the nation.

Hector Flores, President

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PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

DATA

Advanced Placement (AP) Student Pass Rate	92%
Graduates' College Freshman GPA (In-state Colleges)	3.63
SAT Average (EBRM & Math) / (High EBRM, Math)	1372/ 1600

AP TEST SCORE DISTRIBUTION

Score	5		4		3		2		1		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Students	99	18.7%	153	28.9%	170	32.1%	93	17.6%	14	2.6%	529	100%

COLLEGE FRESHMAN GPA

GPA	3.5-4.0		3.3-3.5		3.1-3.3		2.9-3.1		<2.9		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Students	80	85%	3	3%	3	3%	0	0%	8	9%	94	100%

SAT SCORES

	Middle 50%		Range	
SAT Critical Reading	640	720	550	800
SAT Math	660	720	550	800

A Special Note on Performance The Summer Program for Research Interns and the Research Experience Scholars Program are two of the most distinctive learning experiences for GSSM students. Students are embedded in research groups for six weeks during the summer following their junior year. The student research experience is guided by professional researchers in innovative laboratories, field sites, and industry research facilities regionally, nationally, and internationally. Some of these sites include SC's three major research universities, MIT, Washington University in St. Louis, The German Cancer Research Center, The German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence, The Fraunhofer Institute for Experimental Software, The Korea Advanced Institute of Technology, and The High School Attached to Shanghai Normal University. Students gain a unique and direct experience with the scientific process, which develops their understanding of the scientific method, the methods of discovery, subject matter expertise, critical thinking skills, data analysis and quantitative skills, creativity, and communication skills. During their senior year, students work with a GSSM faculty advisor to develop an academic research paper and oral presentation describing their research findings at the GSSM Annual Research Colloquium and South Carolina Junior Academy of Sciences. GSSM students have the opportunity to present their research in academic journals or at professional conferences in conjunction with their summer research mentor.

Percentage of Tests with scores greater than 70	GSSM	State
U.S. History	100.0%	77%

South Carolina Governor's School for Science and Mathematics

OPPORTUNITIES

	Our School	Change from Last Year	High Schools with students like ours
Students (n = 284)			
Percent of students eligible for free- or reduced-price lunch and/or Medicaid-eligible (poverty index)	19%	Up from 16.8	N/A
Attendance Rate	99.6%	Up from 99.1%	N/A
Students in Residence	284	Up from 277	N/A
With disabilities	0	Same	N/A
Out of school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0	Same	N/A
Enrolled in AP/IB programs	100%	Same	N/A
Seniors completing science research project	100%	Same	N/A
Community Service hours per student	83	Same	N/A
Enrollment in career/technology courses	N/A	Same	N/A
Graduating/ Attending College	100%	Same	N/A
Number of seniors who have completed FAFSA forms	100	Same	N/A
Percentage of seniors completing college applications	100%	Same	N/A
Seniors eligible for LIFE scholarship	100%	Same	N/A
Number of seniors	126	Up from 125	N/A
Total Scholarships offered	\$16,200,000	Down from \$21,361,832	N/A
National Merit Semi-Finalist/Finalists	19/19	Up from 18/18	N/A
Percentage retained	0	Same	N/A
Teachers (n = 31)			
Percentage of teachers with advanced degrees	100%	Same	N/A
Percentage of teachers with doctorates	80%	Same	N/A
Teachers returning from previous year	97%	Up from 94%	N/A
Teacher attendance rate	99.4%	Up from 99.3%	N/A
Average teacher salary*	\$67,578	Same	N/A
Professional development days/teacher	6	Same	N/A
Years of teaching experience - middle 50%	15-23	Up from 14-22	N/A
Percentage of teacher vacancies for more than 9 weeks	0	Same	N/A

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

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A-Not Applicable

N/AV-Not Available

N/C-Not Collected

N/R-Not Reported

I/S-Insufficient Sample

South Carolina Governor's School for Science and Mathematics

OPPORTUNITIES

	Our School	Change from Last Year	High Schools with students like ours
School			
President's years at school	2	Up from 1	N/A
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	8:1	Same	N/A
Prime instructional time	99.0	Up from 98.4	N/A
Opportunities in the arts	100%	Same	N/A
Opportunities in foreign languages	4 Lang/100%	Same	N/A
Number of dual enrollment courses offered	13	Down from 17	N/A
Number of online (live synchronous) accelerate courses offered	17	Same	N/A
SACS accreditation	N/A	Same	N/A
Parents attending conferences	81.3%	Up from 78.3%	N/A
Character development program	Yes	Same	N/A
Avg. age of books / electronic media in the school library	N/A	Same	N/A
Number of resources available per student in the school library media center	N/A	Same	N/A
Bandwidth capacity	500 MBPS	Same	N/A
Technology devices per teacher	4	Same	N/A
Percent of classrooms with wireless access	100%	Same	N/A
Ratio of students to electronic learning devices	1:1	Same	N/A
Dollars spent per pupil*	\$16,108.71	Same	N/A
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	N/A	Same	N/A
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	70%	Same	N/A

*Growth Phase-Costs for academic programs (base support) adjusted for normal high school comparison. Does not include residential life.

** P r i o r year audited financial data are reported.

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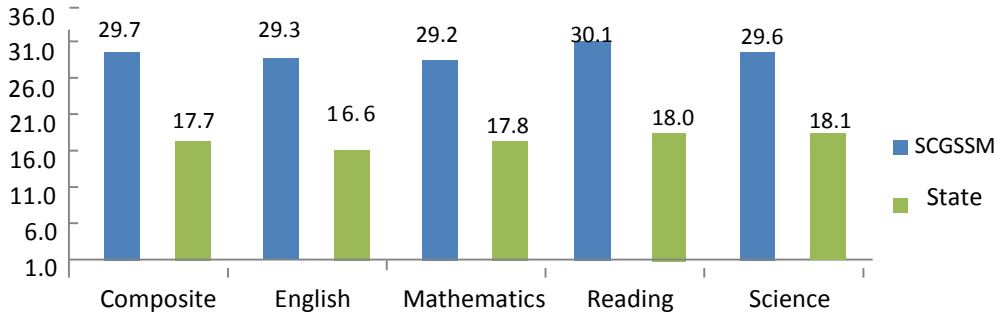
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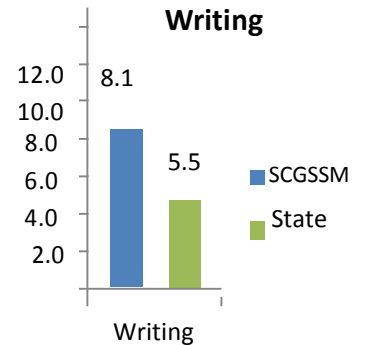
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KNOWLEDGE

Average ACT Score Achieved by Students: English, Math, Reading, Science, Composite of all four tests, 2017



Average ACT Score Achieved by Students: Writing



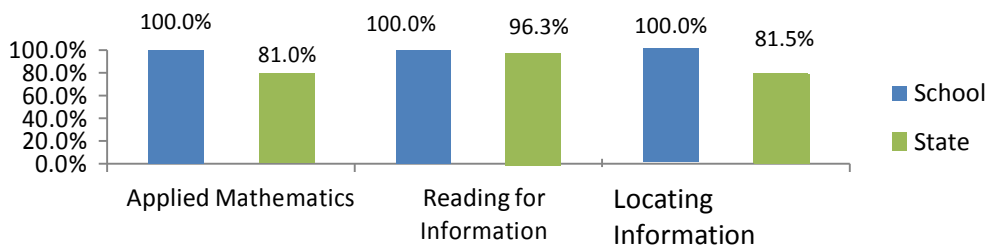
The ACT, a college readiness assessment, was given to every South Carolina 11th grader in 2017 with the exception of those eligible for alternate assessments. The ACT scores range from 0 to 36. The state averages are included for comparison. State averages for ACT data are based on regular public schools and do not include private schools in the state.

Percent of Students Meeting ACT College-Ready Benchmarks, 2017

English Benchmark Score: 18	Math Benchmark Score: 22	Reading Benchmark Score: 22	Science Benchmark Score: 23	All 4 Subjects
100%	98%	95%	96%	91%

ACT benchmarks are scores on the ACT subject-area tests that represent the level of achievement required for students to have a 50% chance of obtaining a B or higher or about a 75% chance of obtaining a C or higher in corresponding credit-bearing first-year college courses.

Percent of Students Meeting Platinum, Gold, or Silver Threshold on WorkKeys, 2017



ACT WorkKeys is a job skills assessment system measuring "real world" skills that employers believe are critical in the workplace. The assessment consists of three subtests: Applied Mathematics, Reading for Information, and Locating Information. Students can earn certificates at the Platinum, Gold, Silver, and Bronze level on WorkKeys assessments.

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Evaluation of School Climate

	Students	Teachers	Parents*
Number of Surveys returned	1	29	51
Satisfied with learning environment	92.9%	89.7%	97.0%
Satisfied with social and physical environment	92.1%	93.1%	96.2%
Satisfied with school-home relations	90.4%	96.5%	89.3%

*Only 11th grade students and their parents were surveyed. Represents 5 yr average as current year results lost by scantron company.

State Ratings History of School

Year	Absolute Rating	Growth Rating
2014	Excellent	Excellent
2013	Excellent	Excellent
2012	Excellent	Excellent

Based on state law, schools will not be rated for state accountability purposes until Fall 2017

Additional Resources

- [SC State Content Standards](#)
- [Family-Friendly Guides to the SC Content Standards](#)
- [2016-17 Accountability Manual](#)
- [Data files](#)

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