



## Great Falls High

411 Sunset Ave

Great Falls, South Carolina

|                       |                  |              |
|-----------------------|------------------|--------------|
| <b>Grades</b>         | 9-12 High School |              |
| <b>Enrollment</b>     | 321 Students     |              |
| <b>Principal</b>      | Corey J. Murphy  | 803-482-2210 |
| <b>Superintendent</b> | Mr. Larry Heath  | 803-385-6122 |
| <b>Board Chair</b>    | Denise Lawson    | 803-581-6224 |

# THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2008 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

## RATINGS OVER 5-YEAR PERIOD

| Year        | Absolute Rating | Growth Rating |
|-------------|-----------------|---------------|
| <b>2008</b> | <b>Average</b>  | <b>Good</b>   |
| 2007        | Average         | Below Average |
| 2006        | Below Average   | At-Risk       |
| 2005        | Average         | Average       |
| 2004        | Good            | Excellent     |

## 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 HIGH SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS\*

|           |      |         |               |         |
|-----------|------|---------|---------------|---------|
| Excellent | Good | Average | Below Average | At-Risk |
| 4         | 10   | 15      | 4             | 0       |

\* Ratings are calculated with data available by September 30.

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

|                        | Our High School |      |      | High Schools with Students Like Ours |      |      |
|------------------------|-----------------|------|------|--------------------------------------|------|------|
| Percent                | 2006            | 2007 | 2008 | 2006                                 | 2007 | 2008 |
| Passed 2 subtests (%)  | 71.2            | 67.7 | 79.2 | 74.7                                 | 75.6 | 77.6 |
| Passed 1 subtest (%)   | 10.6            | 20.2 | 15.6 | 11.9                                 | 14.1 | 11.9 |
| Passed no subtests (%) | 18.2            | 12.1 | 5.2  | 13.4                                 | 10.6 | 10.5 |

HSAP Passage Rate by Spring 2008

|         | Our High School | High Schools with Students Like Ours |
|---------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| Percent | 93.4%           | 93.2%                                |

On-Time Graduation Rate

|                    | Our High School | High Schools with Students Like Ours |
|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| Number of Students | 72              | 187                                  |
| Number of Diplomas | 55              | 141                                  |
| Rate               | 76.4%           | 76.5%                                |

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           | 73.5            | 68.2                                  |
| English 1                                       | 52.5            | 57.5                                  |
| Physical Science                                | 57.1            | 44.3                                  |
| All Tests                                       | 60.0            | 55.9                                  |

\* 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 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Students (n=321)</b>                                                    |               |                       |                                      |                    |
| Retention rate                                                             | 8.7%          | Up from 7.5%          | 6.6%                                 | 6.1%               |
| Attendance rate                                                            | 95.0%         | Down from 95.3%       | 94.9%                                | 95.0%              |
| Eligible for gifted and talented                                           | 7.7%          | Up from 6.4%          | 10.2%                                | 8.3%               |
| With disabilities other than speech                                        | 14.3%         | Down from 15.0%       | 14.4%                                | 13.0%              |
| Older than usual for grade                                                 | 11.8%         | Up from 5.4%          | 10.2%                                | 8.5%               |
| Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent &/or criminal offenses | 13.1%         | Up from 0.3%          | 1.2%                                 | 1.5%               |
| Enrolled in AP/IB programs                                                 | 5.7%          | Down from 7.5%        | 9.3%                                 | 11.4%              |
| Successful on AP/IB exams                                                  | N/A           | N/A                   | 39.3%                                | 54.3%              |
| Eligible for LIFE Scholarship                                              | 27.1%         | Down from 30.3%       | 29.8%                                | 30.5%              |
| Annual dropout rate                                                        | 5.1%          | Down from 8.4%        | 3.7%                                 | 3.5%               |
| Career/technology students in co-curricular organizations                  | 0.0%          | No Change             | 4.1%                                 | 3.1%               |
| Enrollment in career/technology courses                                    | 224           | Up from 203           | 455                                  | 559                |
| Students participating in work-based experiences                           | 10.0%         | Down from 14.0%       | 17.5%                                | 10.6%              |
| Career/technology students attaining technical skills                      | 83.8%         | Up from 82.7%         | 82.2%                                | 79.6%              |
| Career/technology completers placed                                        | 88.9%         | Up from 78.6%         | 97.0%                                | 98.5%              |
| <b>Teachers (n=24)</b>                                                     |               |                       |                                      |                    |
| Teachers with advanced degrees                                             | 62.5%         | Down from 64.0%       | 53.3%                                | 57.4%              |
| Continuing contract teachers                                               | 75.0%         | Up from 72.0%         | 69.2%                                | 69.6%              |
| Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates                        | 8.7%          | Up from 4.8%          | 9.9%                                 | 8.7%               |
| Teachers returning from previous year                                      | 83.9%         | Up from 81.7%         | 85.1%                                | 85.0%              |
| Teacher attendance rate                                                    | 95.0%         | Up from 94.3%         | 95.0%                                | 95.4%              |
| Average teacher salary                                                     | \$50,688      | Up 3.9%               | \$46,149                             | \$46,061           |
| Professional development days/teacher                                      | 11.4 days     | Up from 7.3 days      | 11.2 days                            | 11.4 days          |
| <b>School</b>                                                              |               |                       |                                      |                    |
| Principal's years at school                                                | 1.0           | Down from 8.0         | 4.0                                  | 3.0                |
| Student-teacher ratio in core subjects                                     | 22.5 to 1     | Up from 20.8 to 1     | 26.1 to 1                            | 25.4 to 1          |
| Prime instructional time                                                   | 87.9%         | No Change             | 88.2%                                | 89.1%              |
| Dollars spent per pupil*                                                   | \$9,682       | Up 10.7%              | \$7,554                              | \$7,279            |
| Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries*                              | 54.0%         | Up from 53.8%         | 56.5%                                | 55.3%              |
| Percent of expenditures for instruction*                                   | 56.2%         | No Change             | 59.7%                                | 60.8%              |
| Opportunities in the arts                                                  | Good          | No Change             | Excellent                            | Excellent          |
| Parents attending conferences                                              | 73.6%         | Up from 54.7%         | 95.0%                                | 94.2%              |
| SACS accreditation                                                         | Yes           | No Change             | Yes                                  | Yes                |
| Character development program                                              | Below Average | No Change             | Good                                 | Good               |
| Modern Language Program Assessment                                         | N/A           | N/A                   | Good                                 | Good               |
| Classical Language Program Assessment                                      | N/A           | N/A                   | Good                                 | Average            |

\* 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<br>Spring 2008 |       | End of Course Passage<br>Rate |       | Graduation Rate |       |                        |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------|-------------------------------|-------|-----------------|-------|------------------------|
|                            | n                                   | %     | t                             | %     | n               | %     | Met State<br>Objective |
| All Students               | 61                                  | 93.4% | 180                           | 60.0% | 72              | 76.4% | No                     |
| Gender                     |                                     |       |                               |       |                 |       |                        |
| Male                       | 31                                  | 93.5% | 102                           | 60.8% | 35              | 80.0% | N/A                    |
| Female                     | 30                                  | 93.3% | 78                            | 59.0% | 37              | 73.0% | N/A                    |
| Racial/Ethnic Group        |                                     |       |                               |       |                 |       |                        |
| White                      | 35                                  | 94.3% | 83                            | 63.9% | 43              | 72.1% | N/A                    |
| African American           | 26                                  | 92.3% | 94                            | 55.3% | 29              | 82.8% | N/A                    |
| Asian/Pacific Islander     | N/A                                 | N/A   | N/A                           | N/A   | N/A             | N/A   | N/A                    |
| Hispanic                   | N/A                                 | N/A   | N/A                           | N/A   | 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                   | N/A                                 | N/A   | 23                            | 56.5% | 10              | 60.0% | 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   | N/A                           | N/A   | N/A             | N/A   | N/A                    |
| Socio-Economic Status      |                                     |       |                               |       |                 |       |                        |
| Subsidized meals           | 27                                  | 88.9% | 110                           | 52.7% | 35              | 65.7% | N/A                    |

\* n=number of students on which percentage is calculated. t=number of tests taken.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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

Report of Principal and School Improvement Council

Great Falls High School serves Chester County School District students in the extreme southeast corner of the county. It is a 9-12 high school of approximately 330 students. The student body is diverse with 48% African-American, 50% white, 1% Hispanic Heritage, and 1% Native American. The Absolute Rating of the school in 2007 was Average and the school met AYP. This year, however, our resources and efforts have been focused on raising the Improvement Rating, which was Below Average.

Great Falls High School was granted over \$200,000 in funding over the next three years from the Chester County Health Care Foundation. The money is used to fund an after school academic assistance lab that includes a healthy snack and transportation home, after school classes for initial credit, and a summer academic recovery program called Fifth Quarter.

Our emphasis is on continuous improvement. We are pleased that Great Falls High School is now a High Schools That Work site. The school implemented a literacy initiative that funded a literacy coach and lab to train the faculty. An academic coach was employed for increased achievement on standardized tests. Twenty-nine of our sixty seniors attained the GPA needed to be considered an Honor Graduate. Sixteen of our seniors are eligible to receive the Life Scholarship at four-year institutions. Great Falls High School also offers college level courses in our distance learning lab taught by professors from the University of South Carolina at Lancaster and York Technical College.

Great Falls High School has a rich tradition of athletic participation and achievement. Over 40% of our students are involved in the athletic program. This year the football team won the Upper State Championship and the basketball team made it to the upper state play-offs.

Forty-three students attended the Chester County Career Center this year to take a variety of career focused courses. This year we were able to have an agricultural science class taught on school grounds in our newly constructed green house.

It is the steadfast intent of the administration, faculty, and staff of Great Falls High School to continuously focus on teaching and learning in order to increase student achievement.

Corey J. Murphy, Principal  
Abby Brunson, School Improvement Council Chair

Evaluations by Teachers, Students and Parents

|                                                        | Teachers | Students* | Parents* |
|--------------------------------------------------------|----------|-----------|----------|
| Number of surveys returned                             | 27       | 75        | 40       |
| Percent satisfied with learning environment            | 77.8%    | 64.0%     | 77.5%    |
| Percent satisfied with social and physical environment | 81.5%    | 72.0%     | 66.7%    |
| Percent satisfied with school-home relations           | 40.7%    | 89.3%     | 66.7%    |

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

|                                 |     |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| School Adequate Yearly Progress | YES |
|---------------------------------|-----|

This school met 9 out of 9 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. Sanction: Implement the restructuring plan.                                                                                   |
| 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 School | State |
| Classes in low poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers  | 0.8%       | 1.8%  |
| Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers | 0.0%       | 6.8%  |

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

**HSAP Performance By Group**

|  | Enrollment 1st Day of Testing | % Tested | % Below Basic | % Basic | % Proficient | % Advanced | School % Proficient and Advanced* | District % Proficient and Advanced* | State % Proficient and Advanced* | Performance Objective Met | Participation Objective Met |
|--|-------------------------------|----------|---------------|---------|--------------|------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
|--|-------------------------------|----------|---------------|---------|--------------|------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|

**English/Language Arts - State Performance Objective = 52.3% (Proficient and Advanced)**

|                            |     |     |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
|----------------------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-----|-----|
| All Students               | 77  | 100 | 10.8 | 39.2 | 31.1 | 18.9 | 66.2 | 65.2 | 69.7 | Yes | Yes |
| Male                       | 42  | 100 | 14.6 | 36.6 | 31.7 | 17.1 | 65.9 | 62.4 | 64.6 | N/A | N/A |
| Female                     | 35  | 100 | 6.1  | 42.4 | 30.3 | 21.2 | 66.7 | 67.6 | 74.8 | N/A | N/A |
| White                      | 38  | 100 | 11.4 | 28.6 | 22.9 | 37.1 | 71.4 | 76.1 | 81.7 | I/S | I/S |
| African American           | 39  | 100 | 10.3 | 48.7 | 38.5 | 2.6  | 61.5 | 54.3 | 53.6 | I/S | I/S |
| Asian/Pacific Islander     | N/A | I/S | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | N/A  | 83.1 | I/S | I/S |
| Hispanic                   | N/A | I/S | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | 59.7 | I/S | I/S |
| American Indian/Alaskan    | N/A | I/S | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | N/A  | 65.5 | I/S | I/S |
| Disabled                   | 6   | I/S | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | 47.2 | 25.2 | I/S | I/S |
| Migrant                    | N/A | I/S | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | N/A  | 40   | N/A | N/A |
| Limited English Proficient | N/A | I/S | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | 47.3 | I/S | I/S |
| Subsized meals             | 45  | 100 | 16.3 | 48.8 | 30.2 | 4.7  | 53.5 | 52.5 | 55.1 | Yes | Yes |

**Mathematics - State Performance Objective = 50.0% (Proficient and Advanced)**

|                            |     |     |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
|----------------------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-----|-----|
| All Students               | 77  | 100 | 14.9 | 32.4 | 32.4 | 20.3 | 71.6 | 69.9 | 67.2 | Yes | Yes |
| Male                       | 42  | 100 | 17.1 | 29.3 | 31.7 | 22   | 70.7 | 70.4 | 66.3 | N/A | N/A |
| Female                     | 35  | 100 | 12.1 | 36.4 | 33.3 | 18.2 | 72.7 | 69.4 | 68   | N/A | N/A |
| White                      | 38  | 100 | 8.6  | 31.4 | 31.4 | 28.6 | 82.9 | 78.2 | 79.6 | I/S | I/S |
| African American           | 39  | 100 | 20.5 | 33.3 | 33.3 | 12.8 | 61.5 | 62.3 | 49.7 | I/S | I/S |
| Asian/Pacific Islander     | N/A | I/S | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | N/A  | 88.9 | I/S | I/S |
| Hispanic                   | N/A | I/S | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | 60   | I/S | I/S |
| American Indian/Alaskan    | N/A | I/S | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | N/A  | 69.5 | I/S | I/S |
| Disabled                   | 6   | I/S | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | 50   | 23.8 | I/S | I/S |
| Migrant                    | N/A | I/S | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | N/A  | 46.7 | N/A | N/A |
| Limited English Proficient | N/A | I/S | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | 54.9 | I/S | I/S |
| Subsized meals             | 45  | 100 | 25.6 | 34.9 | 23.3 | 16.3 | 58.1 | 59.9 | 53.1 | Yes | Yes |

**Physical Science (End-of-Course Performance by Group)**

|                            |     |      |      |      |      |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|----------------------------|-----|------|------|------|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| All Students               | 72  | 97.2 | 69.4 | 16.7 | 11.1 | N/A | I/S | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Male                       | 40  | 97.5 | 67.5 | 17.5 | 12.5 | N/A | I/S | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Female                     | 32  | 96.9 | 71.9 | 15.6 | 9.4  | N/A | I/S | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| White                      | 30  | 96.7 | 53.3 | 20.0 | 23.3 | N/A | I/S | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| African American           | 42  | 97.6 | 81.0 | 14.3 | 2.4  | N/A | I/S | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Asian/Pacific Islander     | N/A | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | I/S | I/S | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Hispanic                   | N/A | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | I/S | I/S | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| American Indian/Alaskan    | N/A | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | I/S | I/S | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Disabled                   | 9   | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | I/S | 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 | N/A | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | I/S  | I/S | I/S | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Subsized meals             | 46  | 97.8 | 73.9 | 15.2 | 8.7  | N/A | I/S | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |

\* Adj - Adjusted to account for natural variation in performance.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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

| Two-Year HSAP Trend Data                                                              |             |                               |          |               |         |              |            |                                   |                                     |                                  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------|----------|---------------|---------|--------------|------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
|                                                                                       | School Year | Enrollment 1st Day of Testing | % Tested | % Below Basic | % Basic | % Proficient | % Advanced | School % Proficient and Advanced* | District % Proficient and Advanced* | State % Proficient and Advanced* |
| English/Language Arts - State Performance Objective = 52.3% (Proficient and Advanced) |             |                               |          |               |         |              |            |                                   |                                     |                                  |
| All Students                                                                          | 2007        | 101                           | 99.0     | 16.8          | 36.8    | 26.3         | 20.0       | 56.8                              | 60.4                                | 70.7                             |
|                                                                                       | 2008        | 77                            | 100      | 10.8          | 39.2    | 31.1         | 18.9       | 66.2                              | 65.2                                | 69.7                             |
| Mathematics - State Performance Objective = 50.0% (Proficient and Advanced)           |             |                               |          |               |         |              |            |                                   |                                     |                                  |
| All Students                                                                          | 2007        | 101                           | 99.0     | 27.4          | 31.6    | 23.2         | 17.9       | 53.7                              | 58.8                                | 62.2                             |
|                                                                                       | 2008        | 77                            | 100      | 14.9          | 32.4    | 32.4         | 20.3       | 71.6                              | 69.9                                | 67.2                             |

Abbreviations for Missing Data