



Northwestern High

2503 West Main Street
Rock Hill, SC 29732

Grades	9-12 High School	
Enrollment	1,790 Students	
Principal	James A. Blake II	803-981-1205
Superintendent	Dr. Lynn P. Moody	803-981-1000
Board Chair	Bob Norwood	803-981-1000

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2009 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

RATINGS OVER 5-YEAR PERIOD

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING
2009	Average	Excellent
2008	Below Average	At-Risk
2007	Good	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	9	16	0	0

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

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

	Our High School			High Schools with Students Like Ours		
Percent	2007	2008	2009	2007	2008	2009
Passed 2 subtests (%)	76.3	78.7	75.2	82.2	83.8	79.0
Passed 1 subtest (%)	12.7	13.4	13.8	10.8	9.3	11.9
Passed no subtests (%)	11.0	7.9	11.0	7.6	7.1	9.1

HSAP Passage Rate by Spring 2009

	Our High School	High Schools with Students Like Ours
Percent	94.1%	95.2%

On-Time Graduation Rate

	Our High School	High Schools with Students Like Ours
Number of Students	446	435
Number of Diplomas	343	328
Rate	76.9%	75.6%

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	73.4	73.9
English 1	62.7	67.9
Physical Science	80.1	61.9
US History and the Constitution	43.5	50.6
All Tests	62.3	62.5

* 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=1,790)				
Retention rate	6.5%	Down from 10.3%	4.5%	4.8%
Attendance rate	95.8%	Up from 95.6%	95.5%	95.5%
Eligible for gifted and talented	9.3%	Up from 7.5%	12.6%	9.2%
With disabilities other than speech	13.8%	Up from 13.0%	11.0%	12.6%
Older than usual for grade	10.6%	Up from 10.4%	6.6%	8.6%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	1.1%	Down from 1.6%	1.5%	1.2%
Enrolled in AP/IB programs	20.7%	Up from 17.1%	17.1%	13.2%
Successful on AP/IB exams	73.4%	Down from 79.6%	66.3%	55.6%
Eligible for LIFE Scholarship	51.2%	Up from 28.8%	32.2%	29.8%
Annual dropout rate	4.0%	No Change	3.6%	3.5%
Career/technology students in co-curricular organizations	5.7%	Up from 0.0%	2.5%	3.0%
Enrollment in career/technology courses	1174	Up from 1001	946	523
Students participating in work-based experiences	24.9%	Up from 21.3%	12.8%	12.9%
Career/technology students attaining technical skills	77.0%	Up from 75.4%	77.3%	79.3%
Career/technology completers placed	N/A	N/A	99.8%	98.8%
Teachers (n=102)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	52.0%	Down from 54.7%	60.4%	58.6%
Continuing contract teachers	71.6%	Down from 77.9%	73.7%	71.6%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	5.4%	Up from 4.7%	6.7%	8.1%
Teachers returning from previous year	86.7%	Up from 82.3%	86.3%	85.0%
Teacher attendance rate	94.3%	Down from 95.8%	95.5%	95.5%
Average teacher salary*	\$49,042	Up 0.8%	\$47,870	\$47,761
Professional development days/teacher	13.5 days	Up from 11.4 days	10.6 days	10.8 days
School				
Principal's years at school	6.0	Up from 5.0	4.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	26.9 to 1	Down from 31.9 to 1	28.4 to 1	26.1 to 1
Prime instructional time	89.3%	Down from 90.6%	89.9%	89.8%
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$6,249	Up 4.1%	\$6,489	\$7,883
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	65.3%	Up from 61.7%	56.6%	54.1%
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	67.6%	Up from 63.8%	62.4%	60.2%
Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	No Change	Excellent	Excellent
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	96.4%	Up from 96.3%	97.1%	95.8%
Character development program	Good	No Change	Good	Good
Modern language program assessment	N/A	N/A	Good	Average
Classical language program assessment	N/A	N/A	Good	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	355	94.1%	1225	62.3%	446	76.9%	No
Gender							
Male	168	91.7%	627	63.2%	222	73.0%	N/A
Female	187	96.3%	598	61.4%	224	80.8%	N/A
Racial/Ethnic Group							
White	180	98.3%	609	75.4%	218	87.2%	N/A
African American	154	89.6%	532	47.0%	205	65.4%	N/A
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	17	88.2%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	17	88.2%	65	58.5%	18	77.8%	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Disability Status							
Disabled	35	57.1%	177	32.2%	50	36.0%	N/A
Migrant Status							
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
English Proficiency							
Limited English Proficient	15	86.7%	42	50.0%	16	87.5%	N/A
Socio-Economic Status							
Subsidized meals	124	87.9%	527	49.3%	167	64.1%	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

Northwestern High School, supported by a community that logged over "70,000 volunteer hours" and an instructional staff of 154 members (12 National Board certified / 70% of staff holding a Masters+), prides itself in providing academic, artistic, and athletic opportunities for all students.

Academically: Northwestern student performance earned the school "Palmetto Silver" honors for 2008. This school year, 371 seniors met all state and district requirements to receive a SC Diploma. Of those graduating seniors, 17 graduated with "Highest Honors," 15 graduated with "Honors," 15 were recognized as AP scholar candidates, 10 International Baccalaureate Diploma candidates, 63 were awarded a Gold Seal diploma, 6 were awarded the State of South Carolina Academic Achievement Honors Diploma, and 9 graduates are eligible for the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship. The combined monetary value of all scholarships awarded to the Class of 2009 exceeded \$4,500,000.

Artistically: Northwestern's performing arts program produced over 50 Allstate performers. Our school's orchestra program gained state and regional recognition by scoring a superior rating in the SC Music Educators Association competition and finished second in the state. The Troubadours (chorus) seated eight all state performers, and entertained our community with winter holiday and spring concerts. The Troubadours have been recognized as the best 4A chorus in the state two of the past four years, finishing second in the state the other two years. Visually, our students exhibited artwork in local and state competitions, with many pieces receiving first place honors. One senior artist has the distinct honor of having work displayed in Washington, DC, as our Congressional District "Best in Show" art winner for two consecutive years. Our Theater Department performed two major productions in multiple shows for our area schools, along with performances for the community. In the Theatrical Association state festival, our student actors' performance helped secure the state's runner-up title. The Purple Regiment marching band went undefeated in state and regional competitions, securing the first of two state championships for the school. Our total band program secured the prestigious "Outstanding Performance Award" from the SC Band Director's Association for the 19th consecutive year.

Athletically: This year, over 100 seniors provided leadership on our athletic teams. Our 20 varsity athletic teams won 8 region championships. In the fall, our football team secured the region and upper-state championship and played for the state championship for the sixth time in school history. Our boys' varsity basketball team advanced to the upper-state championship game. After securing four region championships in the spring, our girls' track team brought home the 4A state runner-up trophy by the closest of margins, and, a week later, our boys' soccer team, ranked #1 nationally during the season, concluded the athletic season undefeated, winning the state championship for the third time in four years. The SCHSL recognized 41 scholar and 63 All Region athletes, with 18 athletes receiving All State honors. Thirty-one senior athletes have been offered athletic scholarships to compete at the collegiate level. As a result of the competitive spirit of our student/athletes and teams, Northwestern leads our region, area, and county, finishing fifth in the state's SCHSL Director's Cup competition, which recognizes the classification's most competitive athletic programs.

Howard Wright – SIC Chair

James Blake II – Principal

Evaluations by Teachers, Students and Parents

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	110	283	109
Percent satisfied with learning environment	91.7%	85.2%	89.7%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	97.3%	88.3%	82.2%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	89.1%	89.6%	83.7%

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

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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School Adequate Yearly Progress

NO

This school met 16 out of 21 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	0.8%		1.7%
Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.0%		5.8%
	Our School	State Objective	Met State Objective
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.0%	0.0%	Yes

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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	467	99.4	12.4	33.2	28.6	25.8	63.4	63.9	61.8	No	Yes
Male	229	99.1	14.8	32.9	30.6	21.8	62	59.8	57.4	N/A	N/A
Female	238	99.6	10.1	33.5	26.6	29.8	64.7	67.8	66.1	N/A	N/A
White	245	99.6	3	26.7	33.5	36.9	80.5	78.8	74.3	Yes	Yes
African American	196	99	23.6	42.5	22.4	11.5	40.8	44.4	44.9	No	Yes
Asian/Pacific Islander	3	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	63.6	77.4	I/S	I/S
Hispanic	19	100	23.5	29.4	29.4	17.6	64.7	54.7	50.3	I/S	I/S
American Indian/Alaskan	4	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	45	55.4	I/S	I/S
Disabled	70	95.7	54	34.9	9.5	1.6	19	21	19.4	No	Yes
Migrant	N/A	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	N/A	I/S	N/A	N/A
Limited English Proficient	11	100	45.5	36.4	18.2	0	45.5	22.6	38.5	I/S	I/S
Subsized meals	196	99	21.2	41.9	22.3	14.5	45.8	46.3	45.6	No	Yes

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

All Students	467	99.4	20.7	29.3	22.8	27.2	61.8	63.6	62.7	Yes	Yes
Male	229	99.1	22.2	26.4	21.8	29.6	64.4	63.8	61.8	N/A	N/A
Female	238	99.6	19.3	32.1	23.9	24.8	59.2	63.4	63.6	N/A	N/A
White	245	99.6	8.5	28	23.3	40.3	74.2	76.2	75.1	Yes	Yes
African American	196	99	37.4	31	21.8	9.8	43.7	46.2	45.1	Yes	Yes
Asian/Pacific Islander	3	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	86.4	83.8	I/S	I/S
Hispanic	19	100	23.5	29.4	29.4	17.6	64.7	52.8	58.5	I/S	I/S
American Indian/Alaskan	4	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	55	59.2	I/S	I/S
Disabled	70	95.7	68.3	20.6	7.9	3.2	19	19.6	21.8	No	Yes
Migrant	N/A	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	N/A	I/S	N/A	N/A
Limited English Proficient	11	100	36.4	18.2	27.3	18.2	63.6	48.4	52.3	I/S	I/S
Subsized meals	196	99	34.1	32.4	22.9	10.6	46.4	47.6	47.9	Yes	Yes

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

All Students	465	89.7	50.8	11.4	11.8	15.7	27.5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Male	229	87.3	47.2	9.6	11.4	19.2	30.6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Female	236	91.9	54.2	13.1	12.3	12.3	24.6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
White	243	95.5	40.7	12.8	17.3	24.7	42.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
African American	196	82.7	63.3	9.7	5.6	4.1	9.7	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Asian/Pacific Islander	3	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	19	89.5	52.6	15.8	5.3	15.8	15.8	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	4	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Disabled	68	66.2	64.7	1.5	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	12	83.3	58.3	8.3	N/A	16.7	I/S	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Subsized meals	196	83.7	60.2	11.2	6.1	6.1	12.2	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

* Adjusted to account for natural variation in performance.

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*

English/Language Arts - State Performance Objective = 71.3% (Proficient or Advanced)										
All Students	2008	408	99	9.3	29.5	28.9	32.3	70	71.9	69.7
	2009	467	99.4	12.4	33.2	28.6	25.8	63.4	63.9	61.8

Mathematics - State Performance Objective = 70.0% (Proficient or Advanced)										
All Students	2008	408	99	18.3	28.7	24.3	28.7	63.3	66.7	67.2
	2009	467	99.4	20.7	29.3	22.8	27.2	61.8	63.6	62.7

* Adjusted to account for natural variation in performance.