



SC Annual School Report Card Summary

Swansea High
Lexington 4
Grades: 9-12 Enrollment: 964
Principal: Mrs. Leslie Hightower
Superintendent: Dr. Linda G. Lavender
Board Chair: Mrs. Shelia Parkman

PERFORMANCE

Comprehensive detail, including definitions of ratings, performance criteria, and explanations of status, is available on www.ed.sc.gov and www.eoc.sc.gov as well as school and school district websites. Printed versions are available from school districts upon request.

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING	PALMETTO GOLD AND SILVER AWARD		AYP STATUS	NCLB IMPROVEMENT STATUS
			General Performance	Closing the Gap		
2009	Average	Good	TBD	TBD	Not Met	N/A
2008	Below Average	Good	Silver	N/A	Not Met	N/A
2007	At-Risk	Average	N/A	N/A	Not Met	N/A

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF HIGH SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	BELOW AVERAGE	AT-RISK
3	5	11	5	4

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 03/23/2010. Schools with Students Like Ours are High Schools with Poverty Indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this school.

HIGH SCHOOL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM(HSAP) EXAM PASSAGE RATE(%): SECOND YEAR STUDENTS

	Our High School		High Schools with Students Like Ours	
	2008	2009	2008	2009
Passed 2 subtests (%)	73.8%	66.2%	74.2%	68.3%
Passed 1 subtest (%)	11.7%	13.4%	13.4%	16.3%
Passed no subtests (%)	14.5%	20.3%	12.4%	15.4%

HSAP PASSAGE RATE (%) BY SPRING 2009

	Our High School	High Schools with Students Like Ours
Passage Rate	90.1%	91.9%

ON-TIME GRADUATION RATE

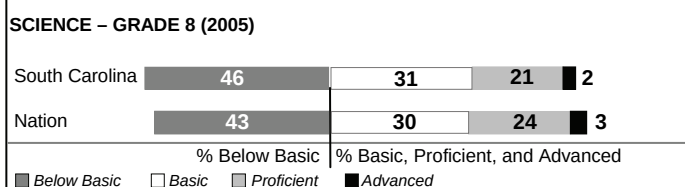
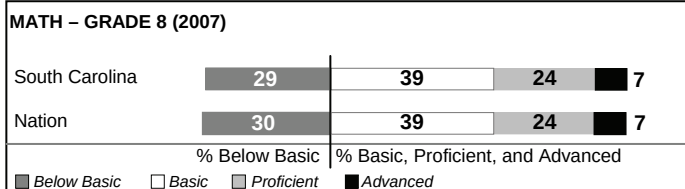
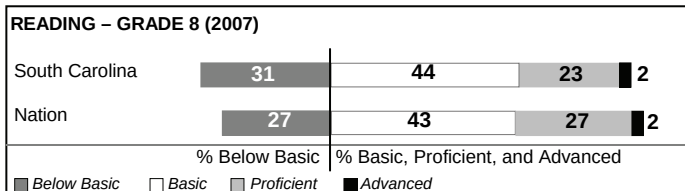
	Our High School	High Schools with Students Like Ours
Number of students	242	221
Number of Diplomas	160	154
Rate (%)	66.1%	71.4%

END OF COURSE TESTS - 2009

% of students scoring 70 or above on:	Our High School	High Schools with Students Like Ours
Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2	73.8%	61.3%
English 1	60.8%	52.7%
Physical Science	43.6%	42.9%
US History and the Constitution	34.1%	28.2%
All Tests	49.1%	45.8%

NAEP PERFORMANCE*

* Performance reported for SC and nation, data not available at school level. Percentages at NAEP Achievement Levels.



SC PERFORMANCE GOAL

2010 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.

2020 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.

Abbreviations Key

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Swansea High [Lexington 4]

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	High Schools with Students Like Ours	Median High School
Students (n=964)				
Retention rate	9.6%	Down from 11.5%	5.7%	4.8%
Attendance rate	90.5%	Down from 91.4%	95.0%	95.5%
Eligible for gifted and talented	0.0%	No Change	8.4%	9.2%
With disabilities other than speech	16.1%	Down from 16.3%	13.8%	12.6%
Older than usual for grade	9.4%	Down from 10.7%	10.6%	8.6%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	1.7%	Down from 3.0%	0.9%	1.2%
Enrolled in AP/IB programs	26.7%	Up from 16.1%	7.7%	13.2%
Successful on AP/IB exams	21.1%	Up from 16.7%	30.4%	55.6%
Eligible for LIFE Scholarship	28.8%	Up from 24.7%	28.8%	29.8%
Annual dropout rate	8.2%	Down from 9.2%	4.1%	3.5%
Career/technology students in co-curricular organizations	6.9%	Up from 4.2%	5.6%	3.0%
Enrollment in career/technology courses	613	Down from 620	532	523
Career/technology students attaining technical skills	56.3%	Down from 66.7%	75.0%	79.3%
Teachers (n=57)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	50.9%	Down from 55.9%	56.1%	58.6%
Continuing contract teachers	70.2%	Up from 48.5%	68.1%	71.6%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	18.4%	Down from 18.9%	9.4%	8.1%
Teachers returning from previous year	79.0%	Up from 78.7%	83.9%	85.0%
Teacher attendance rate	94.2%	Down from 94.8%	95.1%	95.5%
Average teacher salary*	\$43,543	Up 2.0%	\$47,737	\$47,761
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	17.5%	Up from 9.1%	6.5%	3.5%
Professional development days/teacher	13.0 days	Up from 8.5 days	11.4 days	10.8 days
School				
Principal's years at school	1.0	Down from 4.0	4.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	29.3 to 1	Up from 29.1 to 1	24.9 to 1	26.1 to 1
Prime instructional time	82.6%	Down from 84.4%	89.2%	89.8%
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$8,033	Up 12.3%	\$8,100	\$7,883
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	49.0%	Down from 49.2%	51.4%	54.1%
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	58.6%	Up from 57.7%	59.8%	60.2%
Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	No Change	Excellent	Excellent
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	84.7%	Up from 77.8%	90.9%	95.8%
Character development program	Average	No Change	Good	Good
% of AYP objectives met	57.9%	Down from 89.5%	58.8%	64.7%

* Length of contract = 185+ days.

** Prior year audited financial data available.

EVALUATION RESULTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	47	146	31
Percent satisfied with learning environment	78.7%	43.2%	51.6%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	78.7%	47.9%	33.3%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	44.7%	69.2%	46.7%

*Only students at the highest high school grade level at this school and their parents were included.

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

Swansea High School's mission is to "Ensure student performance at the highest level" by making learning needs of students the primary focus of all decisions. The Swansea High School community also works collaboratively to achieve excellence in academics, the arts, athletics, and responsible citizenship. The faculty and School Improvement Council implemented strategies from our strategic plan to continue improvement in graduation rate, HSAP passage rate, End-of-Course passage rate, and school climate. Swansea High School had a growth rating of 'good' and earned a Palmetto Silver Award in 2008 for improvement in student achievement.

Strategies to improve academic achievement included the addition of more Advanced Placement and dual credit offerings to provide students the opportunity to receive college credit in courses requiring rigorous academic work. In addition, the daily school schedule was changed to a seven-period day. This created an additional 45 contact hours students received for all classes and ensured that students met daily all year for each subject.

Swansea High School's accomplishments for 2008-2009 include winning first place in Creative Writing at the State Beta Club convention, second place in Business Math at the State Future Business Leaders of America convention, first place in the Veterinary Assisting Competition at the Health Occupations Students of America State Convention. In addition, our student team won the second place in the State Ford AAA Automotive Competition. The South Carolina Reading Initiative continued to implement schoolwide collaboration on the integration of reading and writing in all content areas. The class of 2009 received 1.7 million dollars in scholarships, with 35 percent of the seniors qualifying for the Life Scholarship, Hope Scholarship, or Palmetto Fellows.

Swansea High School continues the tradition of excellence in extra curricular and co-curricular activities which are integral parts of a well-rounded school experience. The Swansea High School Marching Band received an Outstanding Performance Award by the South Carolina Band Director Association, a Class 4 Superior rating at the Concert Festival, and a fifth place finish in the 3A State Marching Band Competition. Four athletic teams participated in the state playoffs in Class 3A. The JROTC unit successfully competed in Drill Team Competitions, earning first place on two occasions. In addition to team and organization recognition, numerous students were selected as All-Region, All-Area, and All-State performers.

As we move into the 2009-2010 school year, Swansea High School is committed to ensuring student success both academically and as school citizens. Our future goals include increasing student achievement in all content areas, increasing the graduation rate, and utilizing the Positive Behavior Intervention Support model to enhance school climate and student behavior. We look forward to working with students, parents, and the community to ensure all students achieve.

Denise Myers, School Improvement Council Chairperson
Leslie Hightower, Principal

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