



Fort Dorchester High School

8500 Patriot Blvd.
North Charleston, SC

Grades	9-12 High School	
Enrollment	2,088 Students	
Principal	Berkeley J. Postell	843-760-4450
Superintendent	Joseph R. Pye	843-873-2901
Board Chair	Frances Townsend	843-873-1341

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2012 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

RATINGS OVER 5-YEAR PERIOD

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING
2012	Excellent	Excellent*
2011	Good	Below Average
2010	Good	Below Average
2009	Average	Below Average
2008	Average	At-Risk

* The School's 2012 Growth Rating was raised one level because of substantial improvement in the achievement of students belonging to historically underachieving groups of students. The Growth Rating may or may not have been affected by the performance of these groups in prior years.

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 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.

<http://ed.sc.gov>
<http://www.eoc.sc.gov>

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF HIGH SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	At-Risk
15	3	0	0	0

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 11/14/2012.

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

Percent	Our High School			High Schools with Students Like Ours		
	2010	2011	2012	2010	2011	2012
Passed 2 subtests (%)	83.8%	78.9%	84.4%	82.7%	84.6%	86.8%
Passed 1 subtest (%)	9.3%	15.0%	8.9%	10.2%	9.7%	8.6%
Passed no subtests (%)	7.0%	6.1%	6.8%	7.8%	6.4%	4.7%

HSAP Passage Rate by Spring 2012

Percent	Our High School	High Schools with Students Like Ours
	95.1%	94.9%

Four-Year Cohort Graduation Rate

	Our High School		High Schools with Students Like Ours	
	2011*	2012	2011	2012
Number of Students in Four-Year Cohort	544	552	399	367
Number of Graduates in Cohort	397	434	311	296
Rate	73.0%	78.6%	78.8%	80.6%

*Used to calculate current ESEA/Federal Accountability Grade.

Five-Year Graduation Rate

	Our High School		High Schools with Students Like Ours	
	2011	2012	2011	2012
Number of Students in Cohort	668	537	403	373
Number of Graduates in Cohort	488	409	309	301
Rate	73.1%	76.2%	76.7%	81.4%

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	82.8%	82.6%
English 1	75.9%	71.6%
Biology 1/Applied Biology 2	81.8%	84.1%
US History and the Constitution	61.4%	61.1%
All Tests	75.3%	76.2%

* 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=2,088)				
Retention rate	2.0%	No Change	2.5%	3.0%
Attendance rate	95.3%	Up from 92.5%	95.3%	95.3%
Served by gifted and talented program	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
With disabilities other than speech	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
Older than usual for grade	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.8%	Down from 6.6%	0.8%	0.9%
Enrolled in AP/IB programs	33.7%	Up from 29.6%	28.5%	13.4%
Successful on AP/IB exams	50.7%	Down from 63.2%	59.8%	50.9%
Eligible for LIFE Scholarship	35.7%	Up from 30.4%	35.7%	30.1%
Annual dropout rate	4.4%	Up from 2.2%	2.3%	2.3%
Career/technology students in co-curricular organizations	1.6%	Down from 1.7%	2.4%	2.7%
Enrollment in career/technology courses	889	Down from 926	733	395
Students participating in work-based experiences	6.2%	Down from 8.0%	6.2%	7.4%
Career/technology students attaining technical skills	78.0%	Up from 74.4%	85.4%	84.0%
Career/technology completers placed	99.2%	Down from 99.3%	100.0%	98.4%
Teachers (n=110)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	52.7%	Down from 54.5%	66.7%	63.2%
Continuing contract teachers	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
Teachers returning from previous year	86.4%	Up from 83.4%	89.5%	86.6%
Teacher attendance rate	93.6%	Down from 94.5%	95.2%	95.2%
Average teacher salary*	\$45,160	Down 3.4%	\$48,385	\$47,326
Professional development days/teacher	6.5 days	Down from 18.0 days	8.3 days	9.7 days
School				
Principal's years at school	2.0	Up from 1.0	5.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	29.7 to 1	Down from 34.1 to 1	29.3 to 1	27.1 to 1
Prime instructional time	88.1%	Up from 86.4%	89.2%	89.4%
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$6,023	Down 3.7%	\$6,746	\$7,708
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	58.0%	Up from 57.4%	59.8%	57.1%
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	59.4%	Up from 58.9%	61.6%	59.6%
Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	No Change	Excellent	Excellent
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	87.9%	Up from 84.2%	97.7%	97.8%
Character development program	Good	No Change	Good	Good
Modern language program assessment	N/A	N/A	Good	Good
Classical language program assessment	N/A	N/A	Average	Average

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

** Prior year audited financial data are reported.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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I/S-Insufficient Sample

Performance By Student Groups

	HSAP Passage Rate by Spring 2012		End of Course Tests Passage Rate		On-time Graduation Rate, 2012	
	n	%	t	%	n	%
All Students	488	95.1%	1874	75.3%	552	78.6%
Gender						
Male	261	93.5%	950	76.7%	290	71.7%
Female	227	96.9%	918	74.2%	261	86.6%
Racial/Ethnic Group						
White	247	96.0%	823	87.1%	278	81.7%
African American	188	93.6%	845	63.9%	223	73.5%
Asian/Pacific Islander	29	96.6%	67	76.1%	25	84.0%
Hispanic	20	95.0%	110	77.3%	23	82.6%
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	13	69.2%	N/A	N/A
Disability Status						
Disabled	28	64.3%	129	49.6%	24	41.7%
Migrant Status						
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
English Proficiency						
Limited English Proficient	11	90.9%	58	65.5%	14	85.7%
Socio-Economic Status						
Subsidized meals	145	93.8%	662	63.4%	177	69.5%

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

Fort Dorchester High School is a large comprehensive high school located in North Charleston, SC. One of our biggest changes this school year was the opening of an addition to the building of over 18,000 square feet. The addition provided students additional seating and serving areas in the cafeteria and 8 new classrooms, including a fully functional Black Box Theater and a dance room.

We continued our focus on the 10 Key Practices of High Schools That Work, while also developing our existing career academies such as our Culinary Arts Academy. The freshman academy proved successful in giving 9th grade students the academic and behavioral supports necessary for a successful start to high school. We saw a 50% reduction in disciplinary incidents and a 25% reduction in course failures for 9th graders.

Students earned many accolades this school year. Our Hockey, Robotics and FBLA teams all earned spots in their respective national competitions. We had many teams win state and regional titles. Students gave back to the community by donating blood to the American Red Cross, raising money for the USO, the Make a Wish Foundation, and the Trident United Way. The students also helped build a house for Habitat for Humanity.

We continued this school year with a focus on increasing our overall 4-year graduation rate. One exciting and successful program that grew this year was the FDHS Evening School Program. Students completed 87 courses through evening school and 7 students graduated. The Higher Learning Academy, a grant-funded program, reached out to students who were at risk for failure. This innovative program brought students together to improve study skills and interviewing skills, and it helped tutor 487 students from January through May of 2012.

The 18th graduating class of Fort Dorchester High School included 445 students. Of the graduates, 43 earned the International Baccalaureate Diploma, more than any other graduating class. We had 23 Palmetto Fellows, 154 Life Scholarship Recipients, 9 South Carolina Academic Achievement Honors awardees, 7 Distinguished Honor Graduates and 34 Honor Graduates.

The faculty and staff of Fort Dorchester High School are prepared for the next level of academic excellence, and are looking forward to implementation of several initiatives that will help us to "prepare all students to reach their maximum potential in our rapidly changing and increasingly complex world." We will be refining our program of Response to Intervention and Differentiated Instruction. We are very excited about the coming implementation of Common Core State Standards as well.

In the year to come, our students will continue to excel in academics, athletics, and in giving back to the community. The faculty and staff will continue to demand excellence of each other and of the students who attend "The Fort."

Bert Postell, Principal

Tiffany Woods, SIC Chair

Evaluations by Teachers, Students and Parents

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	84	380	27
Percent satisfied with learning environment	94.0%	61.5%	80.0%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	95.2%	72.8%	70.4%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	82.1%	76.6%	73.1%

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

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ESEA/Federal Accountability Rating System

In July 2012, the South Carolina Department of Education was granted a waiver from several accountability requirements of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). This waiver allowed SC to replace the former pass/fail system with one that utilizes more of the statewide assessments already in place and combine these subject area results with graduation rate (in high schools) to determine if each school met the target or made progress toward the target. This analysis results in a letter grade for the school rather than the pass/fail system of previous years. For a detailed review of the matrix for each school and districts that determined the letter grade, please use the following link: <http://ed.sc.gov/data/esea/> or request this information from your child's district or school.

Overall Weighted Points Total	80.4
Overall Grade Conversion	B

Index Score	Grade	Description
90-100	A	Performance substantially exceeds the state's expectations.
80-89.9	B	Performance exceeds the state's expectations.
70-79.9	C	Performance meets the state's expectations.
60-69.9	D	Performance does not meet the state's expectations.
Less than 60	F	Performance is substantially below the state's expectations

Accountability Indicator for Title I Schools

Fort Dorchester High School school has been designated as a:

- Title I Reward School for Performance - among the highest performing Title I schools in a given year.
- Title I Reward School for Progress – one of the schools with substantial progress in student subgroups.
- Title I Focus School – one of the schools with the highest average performance gap between subgroups.
- Title I Priority School – one of the 5% lowest performing Title I schools.
- Title I School – does not qualify as Reward, Focus or Priority School.
- Non-Title I School – therefore the designations above are not applicable.

Teacher Quality Data

	Our District	State
Classes in low poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.2%	2.6%
Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	N/A	5.1%
	Our School	State Objective
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.0%	0.0%
		Met State Objective
		Yes

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Performance By Group

Subgroups	ELA Mean	Math Mean	Science Mean	Social Studies Mean	ELA % Tested	Math % Tested	Graduation Rate
Grades 9-12							
All Students	236	234	76	72	99.2	99.4	73.0
Male	233	233	77	72	99.2	99.2	68.5
Female	240	236	75	71	99.2	99.6	77.6
White	241	242	81	75	99.6	99.6	79.6
African American	229	222	71	68	98.4	99.0	64.8
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	81.3
Hispanic	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	70.8
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Disabled	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	93.8	96.9	41.2
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Subsidized meals	227	222	70	68	98.8	98.8	60.3
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	223	220	76	71	95.0	95	73.1

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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 ^d
English/Language Arts								
All Students	2011	548	99.1	8.6	24.3	34.1	33.1	75.1
	2012	476	99.2	7.9	25.9	35.6	30.5	77.8
Mathematics								
All Students	2011	548	98.5	14.5	33.7	31.5	20.3	62.5
	2012	476	99.4	13.8	27.2	29.8	29.2	68.9

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