



Great Falls High School

409/411 Sunset Avenue
Great Falls, SC 29055

Grades	6-12 High School	
Enrollment	440 Students	
Principal	Brenda S. Fort	803-482-4810
Superintendent	Dr. Agnes Slayman	803-385-6122
Board Chair	Mrs. Maggie J. James	803-581-4330

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2013 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD



RATINGS OVER 5-YEAR PERIOD

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING
2013	Average	Below Average
2012	Average	Below Average
2011	Average	Below Average
2010	Average	Below Average
2009	Average	Below Average

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
12	12	10	0	2

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 12/14/2013.

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

Percent	Our High School			High Schools with Students Like Ours		
	2011	2012	2013	2011	2012	2013
Passed 2 subtests (%)	63.8%	75.0%	82.3%	71.7%	72.3%	77.9%
Passed 1 subtest (%)	27.5%	13.2%	12.7%	17.5%	15.2%	13.8%
Passed no subtests (%)	8.8%	11.8%	5.1%	11.6%	12.4%	9.4%

HSAP Passage Rate by Spring 2013

Percent	Our High School	High Schools with Students Like Ours
	93.0%	90.3%

Four-Year Cohort Graduation Rate

	Our High School		High Schools with Students Like Ours	
	2012*	2013	2012	2013
Number of Students in Four-Year Cohort	74	79	188	226
Number of Graduates in Cohort	52	61	141	158
Rate	70.3%	77.2%	72.6%	74.5%

*Used to calculate current ESEA/Federal Accountability Grade.

Five-Year Graduation Rate

	Our High School		High Schools with Students Like Ours	
	2012	2013	2012	2013
Number of Students in Cohort	76	74	204	238
Number of Graduates in Cohort	65	53	156	170
Rate	85.5%	71.6%	76.5%	75.0%

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	72.9%	73.7%
English 1	69.2%	66.4%
Biology 1/Applied Biology 2	60.0%	72.1%
US History and the Constitution	43.5%	48.3%
All Tests	60.4%	62.7%

* 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=440)				
Retention rate	5.6%	Down from 7.5%	3.6%	2.9%
Attendance rate	94.2%	Up from 93.9%	95.6%	95.1%
Served by gifted and talented program	19.0%	N/A	15.8%	17.5%
With disabilities	14.6%	N/A	13.0%	11.9%
Older than usual for grade	14.1%	N/A	9.3%	7.9%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	1.8%	Up from 0.2%	1.1%	1.1%
Enrolled in AP/IB programs	0.0%	No Change	7.9%	15.1%
Successful on AP/IB exams	N/A	N/A	47.0%	51.5%
Eligible for LIFE Scholarship	29.5%	Down from 30.6%	30.7%	30.6%
Annual dropout rate	4.1%	Down from 4.5%	2.6%	2.3%
Career/technology students in co-curricular organizations	0.0%	No Change	9.5%	7.2%
Enrollment in career/technology courses	102	Down from 131	330	418
Students participating in work-based experiences	0.0%	Down from 17.7%	37.1%	14.6%
Career/technology students attaining technical skills	85.3%	Down from 91.6%	83.5%	84.8%
Career/technology completers placed	75.0%	Down from 87.5%	95.8%	98.3%
Teachers (n=32)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	68.8%	Up from 61.3%	61.5%	63.4%
Continuing contract teachers	59.4%	Down from 93.5%	81.3%	78.8%
Teachers returning from previous year	80.9%	Down from 86.7%	85.3%	86.2%
Teacher attendance rate	95.9%	Up from 94.7%	95.1%	95.2%
Average teacher salary*	\$46,256	Down 4.1%	\$48,402	\$48,699
Professional development days/teacher	8.6 days	Up from 7.5 days	9.7 days	9.9 days
School				
Principal's years at school	1.0	Down from 5.0	3.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	21.4 to 1	Down from 22.7 to 1	26.9 to 1	26.9 to 1
Prime instructional time	89.0%	Up from 87.7%	89.0%	89.0%
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$8,759	Down 14.5%	\$8,020	\$7,919
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	57.0%	Up from 52.7%	57.0%	57.0%
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	58.0%	Up from 53.4%	59.0%	60.0%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No Change	Good	Excellent
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	99.4%	Up from 90.2%	98.3%	97.7%
Character development program	Below Average	Down from Average	Good	Good
Modern language program assessment	N/A	N/A	12.0	11.0
Classical language program assessment	N/A	N/A	N/A	15.0

* 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 2013		End of Course Tests Passage Rate		On-time Graduation Rate, 2013	
	n	%	t	%	n	%
All Students	71	93.0%	222	60.4%	79	77.2%
Gender						
Male	44	90.9%	117	53.8%	48	75.0%
Female	27	96.3%	105	67.6%	31	80.6%
Racial/Ethnic Group						
White	45	91.1%	124	62.9%	49	73.5%
African American	26	96.2%	97	56.7%	30	83.3%
Asian/Pacific Islander	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
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Disability Status						
Disabled	N/A	N/A	35	37.1%	11	45.5%
Migrant Status						
Migrant	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
Socio-Economic Status						
Subsidized meals	39	92.3%	146	53.4%	46	78.3%

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

Great Falls Middle/High School is located in the Southeast corner of Chester County, and bordered by the Catawba River, Stumpy Pond, and Fairfield County, is a combined campus of grades 6-12. The school shares a media center, Little Theatre, gym, lunch room, JROTC Program, ISS room along with teachers in fine arts, ELA, social studies, PE and health, and a media specialist. Demographics: The school is composed of 438 students. African-American students comprise 37.9% of the student population, while Caucasian students represent 60.3% with other 1.8%. Free and reduced lunch students are 62.8 of the population. Great Falls Middle/High Advantages: Great Falls 9-12 successfully completed its 6th year in the High Schools That Work Initiative Program. The middle school grades (6-8) are now in its 3rd year of the Making Middle Grades Work Initiative Program. The Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports Program supported financially by a partnership with Arrowpoint Federal Credit Union offers rewards for following school rules and exhibiting positive behaviors. Dual credit courses from USCL are available to our juniors and seniors. Students can recover grades during a summer program using PLATO internet based courses. Seniors must complete Senior Projects based on service learning, community outreach, and student initiative which adds rigor to their courses and prepares them for college, the military, workforce training, or work. High school students continue to participate in the Advisor/Advisee Program with bi-monthly meetings with their mentor. Great Falls 9-12 must participate in and graduate from Alive at 25 nationally recognized car safety program in order to drive on campus. Annual Summary Report: John Smith, Great Falls High School Basketball Coach for 44 years, won his 900th game during the 2012-2013 Basketball Season. He was recognized by the South Carolina State Legislature, SCHSL, the Chester County School Board, and the faculty for his accomplishment. 30% of our graduating seniors will qualify for LIFE Scholarships, and 18 juniors will be Jr. Marshals with a 3.75 GPA. There were 24 senior honor graduates, and 1 senior was recognized for his high ACT scores. Grades 6-12 collaborated on the High School Musical Jr. play for the first time. GFM/HS maintains its partnership with Winthrop University and the NetSCOPE and NetLEAD network and training programs. The combined school offers a summer JUMPSTART Program for transitioning 5th to 6th graders and 8th to 9th graders. The JROTC Program maintains its Honor Unit with Distinction Award. Great Falls Middle/High School teachers have completed extensive training in working and planning for the Common Core. They completed a book study: Path Ways to the Common Core: Accelerating Achievement. Athletics has 47% participation from the student body, and the GFHS Golf Team was #1 in 1A SC Public School competition. Three Great Falls Junior Scholars were recognized for their outstanding academic success on the PSAT by the Old English Consortium. The school maintains an excellent website with a Parent Portal available 24 hours a day. A "Pro Team" course was initiated in grades 6-8 in collaboration with Winthrop University. All 8th grade boys are part of a new mentoring program for middle school males and the 8th grade girls had a leadership/etiquette program. The Principal is Brenda S. Fort and Glenn Ross is the President of the SIC at GFH 6-12 School.

Evaluations by Teachers, Students and Parents

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	30	38	35
Percent satisfied with learning environment	90%	63.1%	68.6%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	90%	79%	80%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	46.7%	84.2%	68.6%

* 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 2013, 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	62.2
Overall Grade Conversion	D

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

Great Falls 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	1.1%	2.3%
Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	2.2%	4.9%

	Our School	State Objective	Met State Objective
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	7.5%	0.0%	No

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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	231.8	228.6	75.2	66.6	94.0	94.0	70.3
Male	230.8	231.8	77.7	66.6	95.5	95.5	59.5
Female	232.9	225.1	72.1	N/A	92.5	92.5	84.4
White	231.2	229.8	78.1	68.0	92.9	92.9	67.4
African American	232.5	227.3	72.8	64.4	95.1	95.1	75.9
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
Disabled	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	50.0
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Subsidized meals	227.2	223.2	71.6	64.3	92.9	92.9	64.2
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	226	223	77	73	95.0	95	74.1

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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*
English/Language Arts								
All Students	2012	68	100.0	17.6	33.8	29.4	19.1	48.5
	2013	84	94.0	8.9	43.0	25.3	22.8	48.1
Mathematics								
All Students	2012	68	100.0	19.1	20.6	38.2	22.1	60.3
	2013	84	94.0	13.9	31.6	41.8	12.7	54.4

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