



Laurens District 55 High School

5058 Hwy 76 West
Laurens, SC 29360

Grades	9-12 High School	
Enrollment	1,542 Students	
Principal	Sonya M. Bryant	864-682-3151
Superintendent	Dr. Billy R. Strickland	864-984-3568
Board Chair	Mrs. Susan Calhoun-Ware	864-682-5902

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2013 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

RATINGS OVER 5-YEAR PERIOD

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING
2013	Good	Average*
2012	Good	Below Average
2011	Good	Average
2010	Good	At-Risk
2009	Average	Good

* The School's 2013 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
13	13	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 (%)	79.0%	77.4%	76.3%	74.3%	75.4%	78.1%
Passed 1 subtest (%)	12.5%	15.0%	12.2%	15.5%	14.9%	13.6%
Passed no subtests (%)	8.5%	7.6%	11.5%	10.8%	11.9%	9.3%

HSAP Passage Rate by Spring 2013

Percent	Our High School	High Schools with Students Like Ours
	91.4%	90.4%

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	383	363	244	232
Number of Graduates in Cohort	274	268	166	165
Rate	71.5%	73.8%	72.3%	74.9%

*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	440	368	248	244
Number of Graduates in Cohort	309	279	176	176
Rate	70.2%	75.8%	75.2%	75.1%

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	84.2%	74.1%
English 1	75.0%	66.6%
Biology 1/Applied Biology 2	79.1%	72.5%
US History and the Constitution	61.3%	48.5%
All Tests	75.2%	63.1%

* 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=1,542)				
Retention rate	3.8%	No Change	3.5%	2.9%
Attendance rate	96.2%	Up from 95.9%	95.5%	95.1%
Served by gifted and talented program	15.3%	N/A	15.8%	17.5%
With disabilities	12.7%	N/A	12.9%	11.9%
Older than usual for grade	12.7%	N/A	9.3%	7.9%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.4%	Up from 0.1%	1.1%	1.1%
Enrolled in AP/IB programs	15.1%	Up from 13.9%	8.3%	15.1%
Successful on AP/IB exams	37.0%	Up from 33.3%	47.0%	51.5%
Eligible for LIFE Scholarship	28.3%	Up from 25.6%	30.8%	30.6%
Annual dropout rate	4.2%	Down from 4.7%	2.7%	2.3%
Career/technology students in co-curricular organizations	17.6%	Up from 3.0%	10.1%	7.2%
Enrollment in career/technology courses	1185	Up from 1135	353	418
Students participating in work-based experiences	11.8%	Down from 31.3%	36.6%	14.6%
Career/technology students attaining technical skills	85.0%	Up from 81.6%	82.5%	84.8%
Career/technology completers placed	96.9%	Down from 97.7%	95.8%	98.3%
Teachers (n=77)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	58.4%	Down from 65.8%	61.5%	63.4%
Continuing contract teachers	84.4%	Up from 79.7%	81.1%	78.8%
Teachers returning from previous year	91.3%	Up from 88.4%	85.7%	86.2%
Teacher attendance rate	92.8%	Down from 93.6%	95.1%	95.2%
Average teacher salary*	\$48,012	Up 2.1%	\$48,262	\$48,699
Professional development days/teacher	16.7 days	Up from 15.7 days	9.7 days	9.9 days
School				
Principal's years at school	1.0	Down from 4.0	3.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	35.8 to 1	Up from 25.8 to 1	26.9 to 1	26.9 to 1
Prime instructional time	86.8%	Down from 87.1%	89.1%	89.0%
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$5,983	Down 5.3%	\$8,018	\$7,919
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	56.0%	Down from 56.4%	57.0%	57.0%
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	58.0%	Down from 58.4%	59.0%	60.0%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No Change	Good	Excellent
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	96.6%	Up from 95.6%	98.3%	97.7%
Character development program	Good	No Change	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

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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	327	91.4%	1514	75.2%	363	73.8%
Gender						
Male	181	89.0%	771	75.0%	194	71.6%
Female	146	94.5%	743	75.4%	169	76.3%
Racial/Ethnic Group						
White	197	92.9%	868	79.3%	218	71.6%
African American	110	89.1%	534	70.4%	125	76.0%
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	19	89.5%	107	64.5%	18	88.9%
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Disability Status						
Disabled	40	52.5%	153	43.8%	43	27.9%
Migrant Status						
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
English Proficiency						
Limited English Proficient	18	88.9%	94	67.0%	17	94.1%
Socio-Economic Status						
Subsidized meals	211	90.0%	1024	71.7%	225	68.4%

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

The 2012-2013 school year was one of transition and growth for students and faculty at Laurens District 55 High School. Mrs. Sonya Bryant, former assistant principal, began the year as interim principal and was fully instated as principal during the month of March 2013. The faculty and staff of LDHS spent much time analyzing existing programs to determine the effectiveness as it relates to student achievement.

This year the entire faculty completed intensive training in Cultural Responsiveness. In addition, all faculty members completed a minimum of six hours technology training to enhance classroom instruction. All departments at LDHS also worked to transition from the teaching of South Carolina State Standards to the Common Core State Standards. Much professional development time was allotted for that purpose.

Mr. Robert Sheffield served as teacher of the year for Laurens District High School and Laurens School District 55. He represented the educators in our district in an exceptional manner.

Through funding received for working with At-Risk Students and Climate Improvement emphasis was placed on ensuring students are not retained and successfully move through high school in a four-year time frame.

In addition to numerous sporting and extracurricular recognitions this year, one group earned national recognition. Our inaugural Robotics Team partnered with corporate sponsors to earn awards at two regional meets and the world championships.

The Class of 2013 earned in excess of 2.8 million dollars in scholarship funds.

This year was a year of growing and learning for all at LDHS. We look forward to discovering where knowledge gained this year will take us in the future.

Sonya M. Bryant, Principal
 Billy Dunlap, School Improvement Chair

Evaluations by Teachers, Students and Parents

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	82	286	36
Percent satisfied with learning environment	91.4%	70%	80.5%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	87.7%	73.8%	80.6%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	69.9%	82.5%	79.4%

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

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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	50.1
Overall Grade Conversion	F

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

Laurens District 55 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	N/A	2.3%
Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.0%	4.9%

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

Abbreviations for Missing Data

Performance By Group

Subgroups	ELA Mean	Math Mean	Science Mean	Social Studies Mean	ELA % Tested	Math % Tested	Graduation Rate
Grades 9-12							
All Students	227.7	226.5	75.6	72.3	99.0	98.2	71.5
Male	222.6	224.5	74.0	73.9	99.0	98.5	69.7
Female	233.2	228.7	77.4	70.5	99.0	97.9	73.5
White	231.2	231.0	77.7	74.0	98.4	98.0	74.3
African American	221.0	217.2	70.9	69.5	100.0	99.2	67.2
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	N/A	N/A	75.8	N/A	N/A	N/A	66.7
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Disabled	197.8	195.9	61.4	N/A	98.2	94.5	37.3
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	64.7
Subsidized meals	223.7	221.4	73.4	70.8	98.4	97.9	64.8
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	387	98.4	11.1	33.7	31.8	23.4	55.3
	2013	399	99.0	13.5	33.2	34.2	19.1	53.3
Mathematics								
All Students	2012	387	98.4	19.2	31.6	22.6	26.6	49.2
	2013	397	98.2	21.1	33.2	24.2	21.6	45.8

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