The Graduating Class of 2017

The Class of 2017 set new records for HCS as the largest graduating class, earning the highest percentage of Honor Diplomas, and the most number of dual-credit courses in the District’s history.

- 2,531 graduates
- $587.5 million in scholarships earned
- 77% met eligibility requirements for scholarships supported by the South Carolina Education Lottery
- 76% of graduates indicated they would pursue post-secondary education at either a two-year college or a four-year college or university

85% of students pursuing post-secondary education indicated they would attend South Carolina colleges and universities

- 13% of graduates earned an HCS Honors Diploma
- 3,030 dual-credit courses completed, offering credit for both high school units and college courses

Instructional Programs

Elementary Schools:
- A full-day kindergarten program is available at all elementary schools.
- Academic services in ELA and math are provided for academically gifted and talented students beginning in grade 3.
- Fine arts instruction is available at all grade levels.

- Online pre-algebra is offered for fifth graders.

Middle Schools:
- Honors and accelerated classes are offered in ELA and math for high-achieving students in grades 6-8.
- Honors classes in social studies and science are available in grade 8.
- Middle school students may choose some classes from the HCS Virtual School.
- Extracurricular activities are available at all middle schools.
- Fine arts instruction includes orchestra, band, chorus and drama.
- Foreign language is offered at several of the middle schools for elective credit.

High Schools:
- High-achieving students take honors courses and may enroll in a variety of Advanced Placement courses.
- Extensive dual-credit course opportunities are available through post-secondary institutions.
- The HCS Virtual School personalizes and expands curricular offerings.

- International Baccalaureate programs are available at both Aynor High and Socastee High.
- The Academy for Technology and Academics provides additional support for students who are underrepresented in post-secondary education.
- The STEAM Program at AAST has earned ADVANCED STEM Certification.

- Robotics programs are offered in elementary, middle, and high schools.
- A Personalized Digital Learning (PDL) initiative is implemented in grades 3-12.
- Utilization of science kits in grades K-8 support and enhance science instruction.

Additional High School programs:
- During their 8th grade year, eligible students may participate in one of the following programs offered to students at central locations:
  - Honors Academy
  - A Technical Scholars program
  - A STEM Program at AAST
  - A Technical Scholars program

All Schools:
- Foreign language courses are offered in grades 9-12.
- Honors classes in social studies and science are available in grade 8.
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- Fine arts instruction includes orchestra, band, chorus and drama.
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School Attendance and Registration

- All students between the ages of 5 and 17 must enroll in school. Students registering for child development, kindergarten, or first grade, or 4 years old, respectively, by September 1st. Schools operate 180 days a year. Students must attend at least 170 days to receive course or grade credit.
- To register, you will need: a valid birth certificate, proof of immunizations on a South Carolina Certificate of Immunization form, and documentation of Horry County residency. A Social Security number is requested.

Horry County Board of Education

Joe DeFeo Chairman of the Board
Holly Heniford District 1
Sherrie Todd District 2
Ray H. Winters District 3
David Cox District 4
Janice Morralee District 5
Pen Lennihan District 6
Janet Graham District 7
John Poston District 8
Chris Hardwick District 9
Neil James District 10
Shanda Allen District 11

Horry County Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, immigrant status, English-speaking status, or any other characteristics protected by applicable federal or S.C. law in its programs or activities. For questions regarding the non-discrimination policies please call 843-488-6700, or write Horry County Schools, P.O. Box 200000, Conway, SC 29526-6005.
Horry County Schools is a countywide school system, serving communities with more than 300,000 residents along the Atlantic Coastline of northeastern South Carolina. A twelve-member Board of Education, elected from single-member districts, governs the school district, with the chairman being elected at-large. The Superintendent is appointed by the Board. The school district has nine attendance areas: Aynor, Carolina Forest, Conway, Green Sea Floyds, Loris, Myrtle Beach, North Myrtle Beach, Socastee, and St. James. Each area consists of a high school and feeder middle and elementary schools. Horry County Schools is the third largest among the state’s 85 school districts.

**Student Enrollment (Fall 2017)**

On the 45th day of school in the fall of 2017, HCS reported an Average Daily Membership of 44,060, an increase of 872 students over the previous year. HCS is the third largest school district in the state of South Carolina.

- High school (grades 9-12) .................. 12,827
- Middle school (grades 6-8) .............. 8,985
- Elementary school (Kindergarten-5) .... 19,984
- Child Development (four-year olds) ...... 1,060
- Pre-K (identified for services) ............ 204

In a national analysis by Education Week, HCS ranks 132 in growth among the nation's largest school districts. The report indicates that HCS has grown 81.4 percent in student enrollment since 1988.

**Teacher Salaries (2017-18)**

- Bachelor’s $36,010 - $61,468
- Bachelor’s +18 hours $37,077 - $64,311
- Master’s $41,463 - $70,773
- Master’s +30 hours $42,364 - $72,310
- Doctorate $45,584 - $79,000

**Student Testing**

Throughout the year students take a series of diagnostic and state required assessments to measure academic growth and school and district performance for state and federal accountability. Information gathered from testing, as well as classroom performance, helps to personalize each student’s educational experience. For the most current information about assessments used for each grade level, visit Horry County School’s website at horrycountyschools.net as well as the South Carolina State Department of Education’s website at ed.sc.gov.

**Meals Program**

- Elementary school lunch: $2.30
- Middle and high school lunch: $2.40
- Breakfast is served in all schools.

**Student Demographics**

- White/Caucasian: 63%
- African American: 20%
- Hispanic: 7%
- Other: 10%

**2017-18 County Tax Rate for Schools**

(Per $1,000 dollars of appraised value)

- Owner-occupied homes: $7.986 per $1,000
- Second homes, commercial property, and other personal property: $7.986 per $1,000
- The 2017-18 millage rate for HCS is 133.10 mills. Of this, only 10 mills are applied to owner-occupied homes for Debt Service. A state-approved, one-penny sales tax rolls back property tax collected for the General Fund on owner-occupied homes. A local, voter-approved one-penny sales tax rolls back property tax collected for Debt Service on all property.

**2017-18 Consolidated Budget**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>% of Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Federal</td>
<td>43,373,360</td>
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<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>212,083,188</td>
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<tr>
<td>Local</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fund Balance</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>$684,751,110</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Employees (Fall 2017)**

- Total number of full-time employees: 5,808
- Classroom teachers: 2,788
- Employees with advanced degrees: 80%
- Teachers returning from the previous year: 92%
- Teacher attendance rate: 91.89%
- Average teacher salary: $53,500

HCS is the largest employer in Horry County.