

## School Achievements



Wando High School was among a select group of high schools honored as a PLTW Distinguished High School for the second year in a row. We were the only high school in South Carolina to have received this recognition two years in a row. Schools and Districts around the nation were honored who have committed to increasing student access, engagement, and achievement in their PLTW programs.



Wando High School earned a silver medal from U. S. News & World Report as a 2018 Best High School. The rankings evaluate more than 20,500 public high schools nationwide to identify schools that best serve all of their students – including historically underserved populations – and assess the degree to which students are prepared for college-level coursework. “Top-ranked schools succeed in three main areas: exceeding expectations on state proficiency tests, offering challenging coursework and graduating their students,” said Anita Narayan, managing editor of Education at U. S. News.

## Student Accomplishments

A Wando senior was named the 2019 S. C. Scholastic Journalist of the year by the S. C. Scholastic Press Association. This is the highest honor given to a high school yearbook, newspaper, broadcast, or literary magazine student in our state.

## SIC Members

### Faculty

Jason Brisini  
Beth Darby  
Krystal Gamage  
Elizabeth Johnson  
Catherine Lawson  
Caroline Taylor

### Parents

Kimberly Barber  
Rasheida Brown  
Joy Carey  
Richard Hricik  
Pam Murray  
Eric Setser

### Students

Andrew Nguyen  
Emily Sierko  
Lleyton Spivey

### Community

John Brisini  
Tavia Buck  
Cynthia Hart  
Rebecca Imholz  
Paul Kukes  
Melanie Maxwell  
Mike McEachen  
Mathilde White

### Ex-Officio Members

Troy Barron  
Charles Coker  
Sherry Eppelsheimer  
John Farese  
Pamela Jubar  
Misty LeClerc  
Mark Mitchell

## Wando High School

## Annual School Improvement Council

## “Report to the Parents”

2018-2019



1000 Warrior Way,  
Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29466  
(843) 881-8200

[www.wandohigh.com](http://www.wandohigh.com)

# Initiatives and Strategies for School Improvement

## Initiatives

- Our Ninth Grade Academy houses our freshmen in a “school within a school” where they take core courses. This smaller environment gives ninth graders the opportunity to build relationships and increase their sense of community.
- Our Smaller Learning Communities Initiative provides a reorganization of the Upper School, grades 10 - 12, into four smaller career-related “Schools of Study.” We believe using a career-related school approach to teaching and learning will help students see the relevance of their coursework and its connection to the future.
- Wando works within the *High Schools That Work* Alliance, a whole-school research-based reform effort. The *HSTW* model focuses on continuous school improvement through key practices including high expectations, allowing room in the curriculum for career and technical studies, increasing access to academic studies, offering students a challenging program of study, allowing opportunities for work-based learning, supporting collaboration between teachers, actively engaging students in their learning, providing a guidance and advisement system, utilizing a program for extra help and using assessment and data to foster continuous improvement.
- We provide additional support for students with academic promise who will be first-generation college bound.

## Strategies

- Raise the graduation rate by establishing an intervention team offering academic/transition support.
- Expand the Golden Warrior Student Recognition and Awards Program.
- Expand Advanced Placement participation and support.
- Expand the use of data to differentiate instruction.
- Expand CTE and Fine Arts courses to meet students’ needs and interests.
- Expand on-line learning opportunities for credit recovery and initial credit.
- Provide professional development on building positive, productive relationships with students.
- Increase opportunities for entry level workforce credentials and certifications for our graduates.
- Expand transition and inclusion support for Exceptional Education students.
- Offer expanded career counseling.
- Expand dual credit options.
- Expand the personalized learning program.

# Past Notable Achievements

- Ninety-five percent of the 2018 graduating class planned to attend four-year colleges/universities, two-year colleges or technical colleges.
- Members of the class of 2018 were awarded over 26.7 million dollars in scholarships.
- 463 students were named AP Scholars. 183 students were named AP scholars. One hundred and one students were named AP scholars with honor and 179 students were named AP scholars with distinction. Wando had 30 AP National scholars, one State AP Scholar, and one AP International Diploma.
- Of the 2,873 courses taken by seniors, 1,138 of them were Advanced Placement courses.
- 389 students took 1,006 dual credit courses earning college credit.
- Five senior students received appointments to military academies: three to the U. S. Air Force Academy, one to The U. S. Military Academy at West Point, and one to the U. S. Coast Guard Academy.
- There are more than 520 members of the Advanced Placement Academy in grades 10 - 12. One hundred four seniors in the Advanced Placement Academy received special Advanced Studies certificates at graduation due to earning at least six AP credits.
- Wando High School was named the 2017-2018 recipient of the Carlisle Cup given by the South Carolina Athletic Administrators Association Class AAAAA for the fifth straight year.
- Six state championships were won in Boys Lacrosse, Boys Soccer, Girls Track and Field, Boys Track and Field, Girls Swimming, and Boys Swimming.
- In athletics, 22 varsity teams qualified for the playoffs.
- Forty-nine Wando athletes were named to All-Region teams.
- One hundred twelve senior athletes were named Scholar Athletes by the South Carolina High School League.
- Three Teacher Cadets received \$24,000 Teaching Fellows Scholarships.
- There were 97 Early Awards recipients for the South Carolina Palmetto Fellows Scholarship.
- 1,033 completer cords were worn by the Class of 2018 at graduation.
- To graduate from high school requires earning 24 course credits. Wando seniors earned an average of 31 credits.
- The average GPA of the Class of 2018 was 3.63.

# School Profile

Wando High School with an enrollment of approximately 4,000 students is located on a 100 acre campus in Mount Pleasant, South Carolina.

Wando High School serves students in grades 9 - 12 with a comprehensive academic program offering more than 250 courses.

The student population is approximately 82% White, 11% African-American, 3% Hispanic, 2 % Asian and 2% other.

## FACULTY AND PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Professional staff members have an average of 13.8 years of educational experience.

76.2% of the faculty and professional staff hold masters or other advanced degrees.

18 professional staff members are National Board Certified Teachers.

## Mission Statement

The mission of Wando High School, in partnership with parents and community, is to educate all students by providing a challenging program of study, to encourage lifelong academic and applied learning, and to graduate students prepared to meet the challenge of a rapidly changing and diverse global society.



## Purpose of the Report

*“This report is issued by the Wando High School Improvement Council in accordance with South Carolina law to share information on the school’s progress in meeting various goals and objectives, the work of the SIC, and other accomplishments during the school year.”*