



## Thunderbolt Career and Technology Center

1069 Thunderbolt Drive  
Walterboro, South Carolina

|                       |                     |              |
|-----------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| <b>Grades</b>         | 10-12 Career Center |              |
| <b>Enrollment</b>     | 705 Students        |              |
| <b>Director</b>       | Bob McKinnon        | 843-538-5538 |
| <b>Board Chair</b>    | P. A. Pournelle     | 843-549-5715 |
| <b>Superintendent</b> | Charles W. Gale Jr. | 843-782-4510 |

# THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2008 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

## RATINGS OVER 5-YEAR PERIOD

| Year        | Absolute Rating  | Growth Rating    |
|-------------|------------------|------------------|
| <b>2008</b> | <b>Excellent</b> | <b>Excellent</b> |
| 2007        | Average          | At-Risk          |
| 2006        | Good             | Good             |
| 2005        | Average          | At-Risk          |
| 2004        | Excellent        | Good             |

## DEFINITIONS OF DISTRICT RATING TERMS

- Excellent – District performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Good – District performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Average – District performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Below Average – District is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- At-Risk – District performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal

## SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE GOAL

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the fastest improving systems in the country.

**ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF CAREER CENTERS\***

| Excellent | Good | Average | Below Average | At-Risk |
|-----------|------|---------|---------------|---------|
| 34        | 2    | 1       | 0             | 0       |

\* Ratings are calculated with data available by September 30.

**School Profile**

|                                                           | Our School | Change from Last Year | Median Career Center |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Students (n=705)</b>                                   |            |                       |                      |
| With disabilities other than speech                       | 11.8%      | Up from 0.0%          | 9.3%                 |
| Career/technology students in co-curricular organizations | 14.3%      | Down from 20.1%       | 20.7%                |
| Enrollment in career/technology courses                   | 705        | No Change             | 675                  |
| Students participating in work-based experiences          | 29.5%      | Up from 21.4%         | 20.6%                |
| <b>Teachers (n=15)</b>                                    |            |                       |                      |
| Teachers with advanced degrees                            | 33.3%      | No Change             | 27.2%                |
| Continuing contract teachers                              | 93.3%      | No Change             | 71.9%                |
| Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates       | 6.7%       | No Change             | 19.5%                |
| Teachers returning from previous year                     | 95.6%      | Up from 91.1%         | 92.5%                |
| Teacher attendance rate                                   | 92.6%      | Down from 94.6%       | 95.6%                |
| Average teacher salary                                    | \$47,120   | Up 4.8%               | \$46,693             |
| Professional development days/teacher                     | 16.2 days  | Up from 14.3 days     | 13.4 days            |
| <b>School</b>                                             |            |                       |                      |
| Director's years at Center                                | 7.0        | Up from 5.0           | 4.0                  |
| Dollars spent per pupil*                                  | \$2,332    | Up 11.7%              | \$3,234              |
| Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries*             | 61.1%      | Up from 50.3%         | 55.1%                |
| Percent of expenditures for instruction*                  | 71.8%      | Down from 75.5%       | 63.7%                |
| Parents attending conferences                             | 75.7%      | Up from 67.4%         | 84.2%                |
| SACS accreditation                                        | Yes        | No Change             | Yes                  |

\* Prior year audited financial data are reported.

**Evaluations by Teachers, Students and Parents**

|                                                        | Teachers | Students* | Parents* |
|--------------------------------------------------------|----------|-----------|----------|
| Number of surveys returned                             | 17       | 83        | 44       |
| Percent satisfied with learning environment            | 100.0%   | 96.4%     | 88.4%    |
| Percent satisfied with social and physical environment | 100.0%   | 97.6%     | 79.1%    |
| Percent satisfied with school-home relations           | 58.8%    | 90.2%     | 83.7%    |

\* Only eleventh grade students and their parents were included.

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

|                                             | Technical Skill Attainment |        |                        | Graduation Rate |       |                        | Placement Rate |        |                        |
|---------------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------|------------------------|-----------------|-------|------------------------|----------------|--------|------------------------|
|                                             | This Center                |        | State Center Average % | This Center     |       | State Center Average % | This Center    |        | State Center Average % |
|                                             | n                          | %      | %                      | n               | %     | %                      | n              | %      | %                      |
| All Students                                | 608                        | 80.6%  | 85.2%                  | 111             | 91.9% | 94.4%                  | 286            | 97.9%  | 97.4%                  |
| Students with Disabilities on Diploma Track | 10                         | 80.0%  | 73.6%                  | 7               | 71.4% | 73.4%                  | 0              | N/A    | 97.6%                  |
| Gender                                      |                            |        |                        |                 |       |                        |                |        |                        |
| Male                                        | 324                        | 75.6%  | 82.4%                  | 54              | 88.9% | 93.2%                  | 137            | 97.8%  | 98.2%                  |
| Female                                      | 284                        | 86.3%  | 88.3%                  | 57              | 94.7% | 95.6%                  | 149            | 98.0%  | 96.5%                  |
| Racial/Ethnic Group                         |                            |        |                        |                 |       |                        |                |        |                        |
| White                                       | 265                        | 77.7%  | 88.5%                  | 45              | 93.3% | 96.4%                  | 119            | 98.3%  | 97.9%                  |
| African American                            | 315                        | 83.5%  | 79.9%                  | 60              | 91.7% | 91.6%                  | 161            | 97.5%  | 96.3%                  |
| Asian/Pacific Islander                      | 10                         | 100.0% | 91.5%                  | 4               | I/S   | 94.3%                  | 3              | I/S    | 100.0%                 |
| Hispanic                                    | 10                         | 60.0%  | 85.9%                  | 1               | I/S   | 92.2%                  | 1              | I/S    | 97.7%                  |
| American Indian/Alaskan                     | 4                          | I/S    | 82.4%                  | 1               | I/S   | 78.6%                  | 1              | I/S    | 96.7%                  |
| Migrant Status                              |                            |        |                        |                 |       |                        |                |        |                        |
| Migrant                                     | 0                          | N/A    | 91.7%                  | N/A             | N/A   | 100.0%                 | N/AV           | N/AV   | N/AV                   |
| English Proficiency                         |                            |        |                        |                 |       |                        |                |        |                        |
| Limited English Proficient                  | 13                         | 76.9%  | 85.1%                  | 53              | 88.7% | 91.9%                  | N/AV           | N/AV   | N/AV                   |
| Socio-Economic Status                       |                            |        |                        |                 |       |                        |                |        |                        |
| Subsidized meals                            | 363                        | 78.2%  | 80.7%                  | 58              | 94.8% | 91.7%                  | 85             | 100.0% | 95.8%                  |

\* n = number of students on which percentage is calculated.

Definitions of Performance Rating Terms

- \* Technical Skill Attainment --- The percentage of students enrolled in career and technology courses at the center who earn a 2.0 or above on the final course grade.
- \* Graduation Rate --- The percentage of 12th grade career and technology students who graduate in the spring.
- \* Placement Rate --- The percentage of career and technology completers available for placement over a 3-year period who are actually placed in postsecondary instruction, military services, or employment.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A--Not Applicable    N/AV--Not Available    N/C--Not Collected    N/R--Not Reported    I/S--Insufficient Sample

Report of Director and School Improvement Council

Students need to take advantage of ALL the opportunities that are available to them in high school. Today's careers demand that students prepare by using their minds and their hands to find success in the technology generation. Whether a student is going to a 2-or 4-year college, the military, or directly into the workplace after graduation the opportunities available at Thunderbolt Career & Technology Center will be beneficial. TCTC is fully accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

We believe that students need strong academic and technical courses before graduation from high school. Of the 24 units needed for a high school diploma, at least 4 may be electives focused on a specific career area of interest. This will earn the students a Completer Certificate and give them advanced skill preparation for their future careers while still in high school. In 2008, more than 98% of our program completers were enrolled in a 2-or 4-year college, serving in the military, or employed when surveyed 10 months after graduation from high school.

All Career & Technology programs have a student organization for students to compete and participate in leadership development and community service projects. Each year students are provided the opportunity to compete in their skill area in district, state, and national events from our Center. In 2008 TCTC produced State Champions in SkillsUSA, FBIA, Pro-Start, and HOSA with a school record twelve (12) students going to National Competition.

Career and Technology Education is an important part of the total educational process for ALL students. Students need to be given opportunities to make connections between what they are learning in school and how they will apply it in the future. The SC Chamber of Commerce surveyed South Carolina's workplace and stated in Skills Work 2000 that "education is the key to a good job, but only skills unlock the door to success." Academic and technical coursework needs to be integrated so that students see connections and reach their highest potential.

Worked Based Learning, giving our students an opportunity to job shadow, mentor experience, co-op, or serve in an apprenticeship experience is encouraged for all students.

Our Career Guidance Department is ready to assist our students on their "Personal Pathways to Success" as they plan their career pathway and select a career cluster of study leading to a career major.

Join us at Thunderbolt Career and Technology Center where our students and instructors are "Focused on the Future and Building Careers for Success."

Bob McKinnon, Director  
Danny Leshowitz, School Improvement Chairman

No Child Left Behind

|                                 |     |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| School Adequate Yearly Progress | YES |
|---------------------------------|-----|

\* Definition: As required by the United States Department of Education, Adequate Yearly Progress specifies that the state rating for career and technology centers must be Excellent, Good, Above Average, Average, or Below Average.