



Thunderbolt Career and Technology Center

1069 Thunderbolt Drive
Walterboro, South Carolina

Grades	10-12 Career Center	
Enrollment	675 Students	
Director	Lee Runyon	843-538-5538
Board Chair	Mr. Paul Haase	843-782-4510
Superintendent	Ms. Leila Williams	
		843-782-4510

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2009 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

RATINGS OVER 5-YEAR PERIOD

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING
2009	Good	Excellent
2008	Excellent	Excellent
2007	Average	At-Risk
2006	Good	Good
2005	Average	At-Risk

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 GOAL

By 2010, SC'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.

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.

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF CAREER CENTERS*

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	At-Risk
17	13	4	3	0

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 03/17/2010.

School Profile

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Median Career Center
Students (n=675)			
With disabilities other than speech	10.4%	Down from 11.8%	8.2%
Career/technology students in co-curricular organizations	17.3%	Up from 14.3%	18.9%
Enrollment in career/technology courses	675	Down from 705	675
Students participating in work-based experiences	19.6%	Down from 29.5%	19.7%
Teachers (n=15)			
Teachers with advanced degrees	33.3%	No Change	28.6%
Continuing contract teachers	93.3%	No Change	73.8%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	0.0%	Down from 6.7%	19.0%
Teachers returning from previous year	95.6%	No Change	91.5%
Teacher attendance rate	96.0%	Up from 92.6%	95.7%
Average teacher salary*	\$49,650	Up 5.4%	\$48,318
Professional development days/teacher	12.1 days	Down from 16.2 days	12.1 days
School			
Director's years at Center	7.0	No Change	5.0
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$2,243	Down 4.0%	\$3,726
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	61.5%	Up from 61.1%	51.6%
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	72.9%	Up from 71.8%	65.4%
Parents attending conferences	88.3%	Up from 75.7%	88.3%
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes

* Includes current year teachers contracted for 185 or more days.

** Prior year audited financial data are reported.

Evaluations by Teachers, Students and Parents

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	15	138	46
Percent satisfied with learning environment	100.0%	95.7%	97.8%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	93.3%	94.2%	84.4%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	64.3%	87.3%	91.3%

* 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	651	81.7%	86.3%	116	99.1%	95.4%	282	97.2%	96.9%
Students with Disabilities on Diploma Track	52	53.9%	74.4%	4	I/S	82.6%	0	N/A	98.0%
Gender									
Male	353	75.9%	83.4%	51	100.0%	94.2%	139	97.1%	97.8%
Female	298	88.6%	89.7%	65	98.5%	96.7%	143	97.2%	96.0%
Racial/Ethnic Group									
White	267	82.8%	89.9%	44	100.0%	96.6%	118	97.5%	97.7%
African American	360	80.3%	81.2%	68	100.0%	94.0%	155	96.8%	95.6%
Asian/Pacific Islander	5	100.0%	90.3%	1	I/S	92.5%	6	100.0%	97.8%
Hispanic	10	90.0%	86.9%	2	I/S	95.9%	2	I/S	96.6%
American Indian/Alaskan	5	100.0%	84.1%	1	I/S	95.5%	1	I/S	96.4%
Migrant Status									
Migrant	0	N/A	100.0%	N/A	N/A	100.0%	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
English Proficiency									
Limited English Proficient	13	100.0%	85.8%	53	98.1%	95.7%	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
Socio-Economic Status									
Subsidized meals	412	78.9%	82.1%	63	100.0%	94.2%	40	100.0%	95.5%

* 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 and sent a record nineteen students 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 that "education is the key to a good job, but only skills unlock the door to success." Academic and technical coursework need to be integrated so that students see connections and reach their highest potential. Work-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. 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 Chairperson

No Child Left Behind

School Adequate Yearly Progress	YES
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* 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.