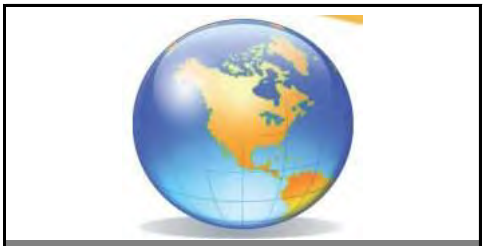
Pickens High School
150 Blue Flame Drive
Pickens, SC 29671



South Carolina State Report Card

State and federal laws require public schools to release report cards to the public each year. This year, the report card has been updated to reflect changes in reporting directed by the SC Education Oversight Committee. Schools will not be rated for state accountability purposes until Fall 2017 when the state will transition to a single accountability system. The following reports student performance in school year 2014-15.

Grades:	9-12 High	**Principal:**	Marion Lawson
Enrollment:	1,371 students	**Superintendent:**	Dr. Daniel B. Merck
School Phone:	864-397-3600	**Board Chair:**	Dr. Brian Swords
School Website:	http://www.pickens.k12.sc.us/phs		



Profile of the SC Graduate

World Class Knowledge

- Rigorous standards in language arts and math for career and college readiness
- Multiple languages, science, technology, engineering, mathematics (STEM), arts and social sciences*

World Class Skills

- Creativity and innovation
- Critical thinking and problem solving
- Collaboration and teamwork
- Communication, information, media and technology
- Knowing how to learn

Life and Career Characteristics

- Integrity
- Self-direction
- Global perspective
- Perseverance
- Work ethic
- Interpersonal skills

* 21st Century core courses in Social Sciences include History, Geography, Economics, Government and Civics.

WORLD CLASS SKILLS & LIFE AND CAREER CHARACTERISTICS

Our school is helping all students develop the world class skills and life and career characteristics of the Profile of the Graduate by …

Pickens High School, fostering an environment of excellence, relies on the combined efforts of our faculty, staff, students, parents, School Improvement Council (SIC), and the community to provide a quality education for our students. Working to be a data driven school, Pickens High continuously focuses on improving student achievement and instruction in order to help its students develop the world class skills and life and career characteristics of the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate.

The class of 2015 consisted of 277 graduates, 83 of whom were recognized as Honor Graduates. Fifteen graduates qualified for the prestigious Palmetto Fellows Scholarship, 140 qualified for Life Scholarships and 11 qualified for Hope Scholarships. The class of 2015 was awarded and accepted over $7.1 million in scholarships.

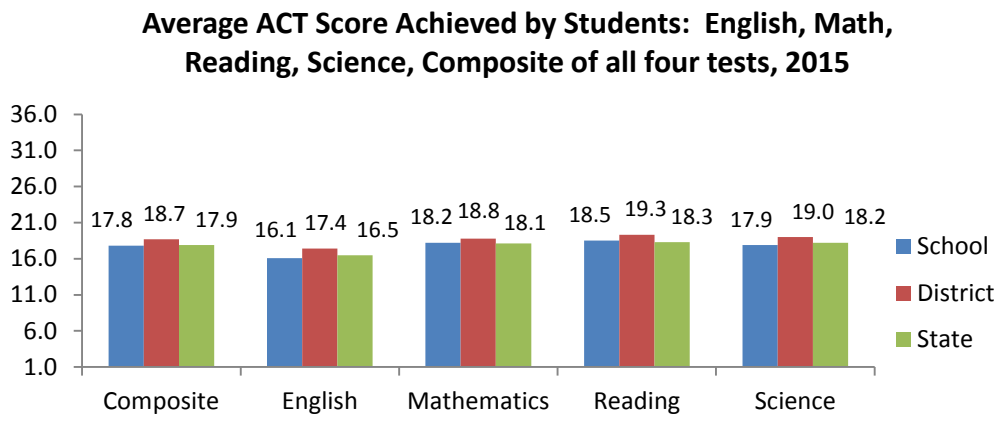
Pickens High School is a High Schools That Work (HSTW) site. Our teachers incorporate HSTW research-proven strategies into their instruction in order to provide students with comprehensive, rigorous, and relevant educational opportunities. Appropriate expectations of students and effective implementation of curriculum are guided by the HSTW 10 Key Practices.

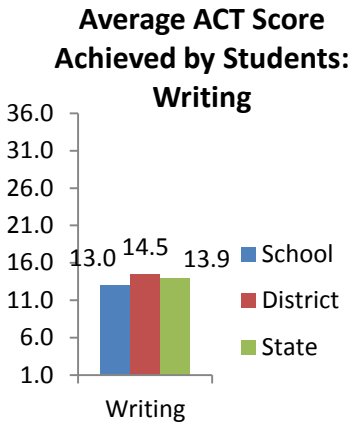
Pickens High School continues to value academics. Professional development focuses on instruction and technology that engages students and prepares them to meet SC Curriculum Standards at the highest levels. In addition, literacy strategies continuued to be a focus of professional development leading toward implementation of the SC common core standards for all content areas.

Teachers at Pickens High School continue to increase the academic rigor in their respective courses. Wanting to prepare students to be college and/or career ready when they graduate, PHS encourages students to participate in the many rigorous and exploratory courses offered. Through CAPS or Career Advisement Program for Students, teachers mentor and advise students throughout their high school career.

150 Blue Flame Drive is the HOME of the Blue Flame. Grateful to our teachers, staff, and administration for their continued commitment to excellence, the new facilities and available technology are utilized to provide an education that will truly prepare students for life and work in the 21st Century. Through plays, concerts, pageants, athletic events, ball games, and other competitions, the Pickens community as a whole can enjoy Pickens High School…Where Excellence is Expected!

KNOWLEDGE

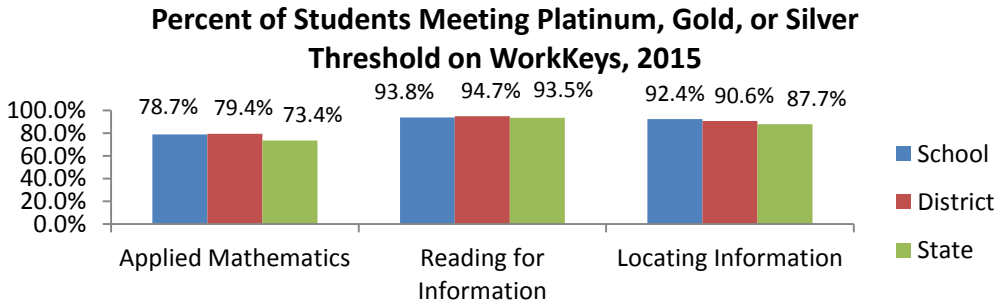




The ACT, a college readiness assessment, was given to every South Carolina 11th grader in 2015 with the exception of those eligible for alternate assessments. The ACT scores range from 0 to 36. The district and state averages are included for comparison. State averages for ACT data are based on regular public schools and do not include private schools in the state.

Percent of Students Meeting ACT College-Ready Benchmarks, 2015				
English Benchmark Score: 18	**Math** Benchmark Score: 22	**Reading** Benchmark Score: 22	**Science** Benchmark Score: 23	All 4 Subjects
34.8	23.4	25.3	15.5	10.1

ACT benchmarks are scores on the ACT subject-area tests that represent the level of achievement required for students to have a 50% chance of obtaining a B or higher or about a 75% chance of obtaining a C or higher in corresponding credit-bearing first-year college courses.



ACT WorkKeys is a job skills assessment system measuring "real world" skills that employers believe are critical in the workplace. The assessment is given to every South Carolina 11th grader with the exception of those eligible for alternative assessments. The assessment consists of three subtests: Applied Mathematics, Reading for Information, and Locating Information. Students can earn certificates at the Platinum, Gold, Silver, and Bronze level on WorkKeys assessments.

The ACT is a registered trademark of ACT, Inc.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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

KNOWLEDGE

SAT Performance				
Percent of Students Tested	Average Critical Reading Score	Average Math Score	Average Writing Score	Average Composite Score
39.9	491	492	473	1455

The highest composite score on the SAT is a 2400. For each of the three sections of the test, the highest score is 800.

End of Course Tests

Percent of tests with scores of 70 or above on:	Our School	High Schools with Students Like Ours	State
Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2	76.4	82.7	85.7
English 1	65.2	70.4	75.1
Biology 1	79.5	79.4	77.8
US History and the Constitution	76.9	69.7	69.1
All Subjects	75.0	75.2	77.3

High Schools with Students Like Ours are high schools with poverty indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for the school.

OUTCOMES

State Graduation Rate	
Four-Year	**Five-Year**
80.3	82.0

School Four-Year Cohort Graduation Rate			
2015	**2014**	**2013**	**2012**
82.5	79.2	74.6	74.1

School Five-Year Cohort Graduation Rate			
2015	**2014**	**2013**	**2012**
81.1	77.6	76.9	71.8

Percentage of Seniors Eligible for LIFE Scholarship		
Our School	**District**	**State**
68.6	**60.9**	**42.2**

Percentage of Students from 2014 Graduating Class Enrolled in a two- or four-year college or technical college pursuing an associates degree, certificate, or diploma in Fall 2014		
Our School	**District**	**State**
63.3	**64.3**	**70.3**

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OPPORTUNITIES

For students to meet the profile of the SC Graduate

	Our School	Change from Last Year	High Schools with students like ours
Students (n = 1,371)			
Percent of students participating in Medicaid, SNAP, or TANF; homeless, foster, or migrant students (poverty index)	62.0	Up from 61.8%	N/A
Attendance Rate	93.5	Down from 94.0%	94.1
With disabilities	12.1	Up from 10.9%	12.0
Out of school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	1.4	No change	1.2
Percentage of students served by gifted and talented programs	18.0	Down from 20.5%	22.6
Enrolled in AP/IB programs	11.4	Down from 24.5%	20.8
Successful in AP/IB programs	49.6	Down from 49.7%	48.6
Career/tech students in co-curricular organizations	0.9	Down from 3.0%	2.9
Enrollment in career/technology courses	1353	Up from 610	1062
Students participating in work-based experiences	16.8	Down from 22.0%	12.6
Number of seniors who have completed FAFSA forms	199	N/A	250
Percentage of seniors completing college applications	76.7	N/A	70.2
Number of students in dual enrollment courses	58	N/A	72
Success rate of students in dual enrollment courses	96.0	N/A	96.9
Annual dropout rate	3.7	No change	2.4
Dropout recovery rate	2.1	N/A	6.5
Percentage of students retained	2.1	No change	2.6
Teachers (n = 72)			
Percentage of teachers with advanced degrees	72.2	Up from 65.3%	67.3
Percentage of teachers on continuing contract	94.4	Down from 94.7%	82.8
Teachers returning from previous year	90.8	Down from 92.3%	87.9
Teacher attendance rate	95.7	Down from 95.8%	95.2
Average teacher salary*	$51,192	Up 1.4%	$50,451
Professional development days / teacher	9.1 days	Down from 10.4 days	11.5 days
Percentage of classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	1.8	Up from 1.4%	1.5
Percentage of teacher vacancies for more than 9 weeks	1.4	N/A	0.4

Evaluations by Teachers, Students, and Parents

Evaluations by Teachers, Students and Parents	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	63	234	16
Percent satisfied with learning environment	77.8	79.5	81.3
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	89.1	83.0	68.8
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	82.9	86.1	50.1

* Only students in grade 11 and their parents were included.

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OPPORTUNITIES

	Our School	Change from Last Year	High Schools with students like ours
School			
Principal's years at school	15.0	Up from 14.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	30.2 to 1	Up from 29.7 to 1	28.8 to 1
Prime instructional time	88.1	Down from 88.9%	88.1
Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	No change	Excellent
Opportunities in foreign languages	Excellent	N/A	Poor
Dual enrollment courses offered	9.0	N/A	10.0
Are online or blended (50% online) courses offered	N/A	N/C	N/A
AdvancEd (SACS) accreditation	Yes	No change	Yes
Parents attending conferences	98.9	Down from 99.9%	99.4
Character development program	Excellent	Up from Fair	Good
Avg. Age of books/electronic media in the school library	16.0	N/A	13.7
Number of resources available per student in the school library media center	7.5	N/A	20.0
Bandwidth capacity per student	50-100 Mbps	N/C	N/A
District-issued technology devices per teacher	2.2	N/C	1.8
Percent of classrooms with wireless access	76-100%	N/C	N/A
District-issued learning devices per student	0.3	N/C	0.7
Dollars spent per pupil**	$6,501	Down 11.3%	$7,868
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	61.1	Up from 61.0%	58.2
Percent of expenditures for teachers' salaries**	63.0	Up from 61.6%	59.9

* Includes current year teachers contracted for 190 days or more.

** Prior year audited financial data are reported.

State Ratings History of School

Year	Absolute Rating	Growth Rating
2014	Good	Below Average
2013	Good	Average
2012	Good	Average

Based on state law, schools will not be rated for state accountability purposes until Fall 2017.

Additional Resources

SC State Content Standards
Family-Friendly Guides to the SC Content Standards
2014-15 Accountability Manual
Report Card Data Files
ESEA Data Files

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