

# Andrew Jackson High

Volunteers

## Our demographics

**School principal:** Shuntay Miller      **Began at school:** 2012    **In district:** 2009      **In education:** 2006  
**Grades served:** 9 – 12      **Enrollment:** 603      **Economic status:** 39% free & reduced lunch  
**Diversity:** 74.95% White, 20.39% African-American, 2.6% Hispanic, 1.9% Other  
**Number of teachers:** 45      **Classified:** 10      **Administrators:** 3      **Counselors:** 3      **Media specialist:** 1  
**Other:** Full-time Resource Officer  
**Teachers with advanced degrees:** 63%      **Teacher attendance:** 96.2%      **Student attendance:** 94.2%

## Our mission

The mission of Andrew Jackson High School is to develop competent, responsible, productive life-long learners by providing resources and experiences in a safe and secure environment.  
The mission of Andrew Jackson Visual & Performing Arts High School is to create a distinguished arts program that facilitates student achievement in and through the visual and performing arts.

## Our facilities

**Date main building was built:** 1969      **Date of renovations:** 2011  
**Square feet:** 126,371      **Number of computers:** 325      **Number of classrooms:** 48  
**Specialty areas:** 3 computer labs for business and computer applications and a computer lab for drafting; a model lab, an iPad lab, a Dell notebook lab in auto mechanics; a computer lab for virtual schooling and USCL Distance Education classes; a vocational building that includes a large auto mechanics shop, a drafting room, an agriculture shop and a weight room for athletics. The school was renovated in 2011 to include new wiring, new lighting, new windows and new heating and air conditioning. The 800-seat auditorium was also renovated.

## Our school programs

- **Arts Focus School** – AJHS is the arts focus high school for the district. Our school offers an expanded arts curriculum including focus programs in visual arts, dance, drama, vocal and instrumental music and creative writing. In addition, school theatrical productions are held throughout the year, also held are a visual art show, and fall and spring band concerts, choral performances and dance productions. Visiting artists provide many opportunities for students throughout the school year. We are excited to open a 58,800-square foot multi-purpose/fine arts building this fall.

### Our co-curriculum, clubs, athletics

- **Student Council**
- **Beta Club**
- **National Honor Society**
- **Thespian Society**
- **Future Farmers of America**
- **Teacher Cadets**
- **Art Honor Society**
- **National Technical Honor Society**
- **FCA**
- **All sports** (except tennis)

Football, basketball, softball, baseball, golf, wrestling, cross country and soccer teams often participate in playoffs. We also have students who compete in swimming with Lancaster High.

### Our parents/parent support programs

- **SIC** – Active school improvement council which meets monthly
- **Athletic booster club** – Raises a minimum \$20,000 a year
- **Band booster club** – Includes all band parents
- **Community support** – Strong support from civic, business & faith communities

### Our school strengths

- A diverse student body that respects the strengths and talents of individuals and works to improve the school and community.
- Strong committed staff that works double time to enable as many opportunities as possible in a small school. Teachers sponsor clubs, serve as coaches and volunteer to help each other with special events.
- Student academic performance and the graduation rate are high.
- Student participation in the arts, athletics, JROTC, agriculture programs, auto mechanics and future teachers programs is excellent. Our JROTC volunteer unit has earned recognition as “Honor Unit of Distinction” by the U.S. Army for two of the past four years.

### Our honors & awards

#### ATHLETICS

##### Region Championships:

Volleyball – 2010, 2012, 2013

Girls Basketball – 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017

Boys Basketball – 2016  
Softball – 2013, 2017  
Golf – 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016  
Girls Track – 2015, 2016  
Wrestling – 2017  
Girls Soccer – 2017  
Boys Soccer – 2017, 2018  
Boys Baseball - 2018

### **Upper State Champions:**

Volleyball – 2013  
Girls Basketball – 2014  
Softball – 2015  
Boys Basketball – 2018  
Baseball – Upper State runners-up

### **State Champions:**

Girls Individual Golf – Emily Cox – 2016  
Wrestling Individuals – Tyleik Elder - 2018  
  Luke Phillips - 2018  
  Gavin Barfield - 2018

### **JROTC**

Honor unit with Distinction

### **FFA**

1 student has earned their American degree  
3 students have earned their State degree  
75% Membership Award  
Superior Chapter Award

## **Arts**

### **Band**

Nine All-County participants  
Second place at Band Beat  
Third place at Olde English  
Solo & Ensemble – 11 Superior and 7 excellent ratings  
Region Band – Alexis Rivera

### **Chorus**

17 students selected for SC Region Choir  
12 students selected for SC All-State Chorus  
1 student selected for National ACDA Honor Choir  
Solo & Ensemble: Five excellent ratings; six superior ratings; one scholarship winner  
Lander Choral Festival: Second place Women’s Ensemble  
Festival Disney – Women’s Ensemble: superior rating, second place in division; fourth place overall  
Festival Disney – Concert Choir: superior rating, second place in division

Palmetto State Choral Festival: Chamber Choir: second place

### **Dance**

Attended numerous workshops where students could audition for college dance scholarships; Winthrop University Dance and Theatre Workshop; Coker College Day of Dance

Attended SCAHPERD Conference

Attended Dance Makers Convention

One student earned a scholarship to attend National Convention

### **Drama**

At the Palmetto Dramatic Association & International Thespian Society's state high school festival, students received a Superior (with two perfect scores) in play production for their performance of the play Anonymous as well as being named alternate (second place) to compete at Nationals and will be going to Nationals in 2019-20. Also, from their performance, the ensemble received an Excellence in Acting and an Excellence in Transitions. Individually, from the performance, one student received an Excellence in Acting and two students received a Superior in Acting.

S.C. Speech & Theatre Association state high school competition: a student earned a superior and won third place in the state (28 high schools from across the state) for Improvisational Speaking; two pair received a superior for Comedic Duet Acting; one earned excellent for Impromptu Speaking; one earned an excellent from Dramatic Musical Theater Solo; one earned a superior for Audition Monologues; two earned superior for Musical Duet; and one earned a superior for Dramatic Musical Theatre Solo.

At the District Poetry Out Loud competition – AJH Drama took first, second and third place.

### **Visual Arts**

Advanced students painted portraits of children who live in Columbian slums through Memory Project.

Six students were offered publishing in the national art book, *Celebrating Art*.

Students featured in the district show/designed banners: Morgan Brown, Christopher Catoe and Anna Shore.

District Youth Art Show Results – 2-D artwork: Jaden Perry, 11<sup>th</sup> grade, first place; Mia Lu, 9<sup>th</sup> grade, second place; 3-D artwork: Mia Estrada, 10<sup>th</sup> grade, first place; Samuel Smith, 11<sup>th</sup> grade, first place; and Destiny Bryan, 12<sup>th</sup> grade, second place