

Lancaster High

Bruins

Our demographics

School principal: Joe Keenan **Began at school:** 1996 **In district:** 1983 **In education:** 1983
Grades served: 9 - 12 **Enrollment:** 1480 **Economic status:** 61% free & reduced lunch
Diversity: 46.0% White, 47.0% African-American, 1.6% Hispanic, 0.7% Other
Number of teachers: 104 **Classified:** 25 **Administrators:** 6 **Counselors:** 5 **Media specialists:** 3
Other: 2 Resource Officers, 2 Nurses (1 serves as classroom assistant)
Teachers with advanced degrees: 56% **Teacher attendance:** 96.0% **Student attendance:** 95.7%

Our mission

The mission of Lancaster High School is to assist students in becoming successful, well-adjusted, contributing members of society by providing an atmosphere which encourages academic, vocational, and personal growth through a challenging curriculum in partnership with home and community.

Our facilities

Date main building was built: 1993 **Date of renovations:** N/A
Square feet: 319,755 **Number of computers:** 999 **Number of classrooms:** 124
Specialty areas: 13 computer labs (11 are used for computer and technology classes)

Our school programs

- **High Schools That Work** – Philosophy requiring academic rigor of all students and staff
- **Ninth Grade Academy/Summer Freshman Orientation** – Academic focus program centered on freshman students and parents
- **Career Center** – Serves as hub of career education for Lancaster County
- **New Teacher Mentoring/Poverty Class** – Support focus for professional growth for new staff members
- **College Offerings on Site** – Opportunities for dual credit courses via Excels, Advanced Placement (AP), and USC-L
- **Special Needs Programs** – Focus on integrating educational opportunities across the curriculum
- **Learn TV** – Broadcast journalism on school campus serving students and community
- **JAG** – Jobs for American Graduates – Dropout prevention program targeting ninth graders
- **Success Strategies** – Community-based program to support at-risk students
- **Renaissance Center** – Credit recovery via distance education and online instruction
- **YES** – Youth Employment Services via SC Vocational Rehabilitation
- **GEAR-UP** – College Awareness and Readiness Program

Our co-curriculum, clubs, athletics

Clubs

- Anointed Voices of Praise
- Art Honor Society
- Astronomy Club
- Beta Club
- Civinettes
- Dead Poets Society
- Drama Club
- Drill Team (ROTC)
- Elite Step Team
- First Priority
- French Club
- Honor Society
- Junior Civitans
- Lancaster Rhythm
- Marching Band
- Outdoors Club
- Rambler (yearbook)
- ROTC Color Guard
- Spanish Club
- Student Council
- HOSA
- Lunch Time Reads

Publications

- Bruin Pride (newspaper)
- Callisto (literary magazine)
- La Prensa (Spanish Newspaper)
- Rambler (yearbook)
- Parent Link (parent newsletter)

Our parents/parent support programs

- School Improvement Council

- French Anthology (art publication)

Athletics

- Varsity/JV Football
- B Team Football
- Girl Swim
- Boy Swim
- Girl Tennis
- Boy Tennis
- Girl Cross-Country
- Boy Cross-Country
- Volleyball
- Boy Basketball
- Girl Basketball
- JV Boy Basketball
- JV Girl Basketball
- B Team Boy Basketball
- Wrestling
- Boy Soccer
- JV Boy Soccer
- Girl Soccer
- JV Girl Soccer
- Golf
- Girl Track
- Boy Track
- Competitive Cheer
- Baseball
- JV Baseball
- Softball
- JV Softball

- Band Boosters
- Athletic Boosters
- Parent Volunteers
- Teacher Appreciation Group
- Community Business Partners
- School Advisory Councils (Career Center)
- Friday Nite Football

Our school strengths

- Increased graduation rate and decreased dropout rate
- A freshman academy program that includes components designed to help ninth grade students adjust to high school
- Strong efforts to provide students with extra help and assistance with their classes
- Strong efforts to establish positive “school-to-home” communications
- School and district administrative support of LHS teachers in implementing the High Schools That Work framework
- Emphasis on participation in AP and college credit courses.

Our honors & awards

- Palmetto Gold Award – LHS, 2008 – 2009
- Palmetto Gold Award – LHS, 2004 – 2005
- Palmetto Gold Award – LHS, 2002 – 2003
- Palmetto Gold Award – Career Center, 2002 – 2003
- Palmetto Gold Award – Career Center, 2003 – 2004
- Palmetto Gold Award – Career Center, 2004 – 2005
- Smaller Learning Community Grant, 2004 – 2005
- Twelve National Board Educators
- Junior Civitans International Club of the Year (23 out of last 25 years)
- JROTC – Honor Unit with Distinction (Last 11 Years)
- eChalk Webpage Recognition, 2005 – 2006
- SCHSL – Excellence in Sportsmanship, 2005 – 2006 & 2009 – 2010
- Girls Soccer Team Academic Award, 2006 – 2007, 2007 – 2008, 2008 - 2009, 2009 – 2010
- Boys Soccer Team Academic Award, 2008 – 2009, 2009 - 2010
- Partner’s for Youth Grant - 2009

Journalism

- **Rambler** (yearbook) Awards – Last 5 years
 - 5 Gold Medals – CSPA – Columbia Scholastic Press Association (New York)
 - 1 Silver Crown – CSPA – Columbia Scholastic Press Association (New York)
 - 5 All-State – South Carolina
 - 4 All-Southern – SIPA (Southern Interscholastic Press Association)
 - 1 Best Book – South Carolina
 - 1 All-American – NSPA (National Scholastic Press Association)
- **Calisto** (literary magazine) – Last 5 years
 - 2004 – Best in State
 - 2004 – Palmetto Award
 - 2005 – All State

- **Broadcast Journalism**

2006, 05, 03, 02 – \$3,500 Palmetto Pride Litter Grant (2006)

2003 – South Carolina Instructional Television’s Distance Education Learning Center of the Year - LearnTV

2005 – Most Supportive Media Award from SCDOT - LearnTV

2006 – Best Buy Award - LearnTV

2009 - \$2,000 ING Education’s Unsung Hero Award – LearnTV

2010 – Best Buy Award – LearnTV