

Lancaster High

Bruins

Our demographics

School principal: Joe Keenan **Began at school:** 1996 **Years in district:** 30 **In education:** 30
Grades served: 9 - 12 **Enrollment:** 1371 **Economic status:** 73% free & reduced lunch
Diversity: 43.3% White, 47.9% African-American, 6.1% Hispanic, 2.7% Other
Number of teachers: 116 **Classified:** 31 **Administrators:** 5 **Counselors:** 5 **Media specialists:** 3
Other: 2 Resource Officers, 2 Nurses (1 serves as classroom assistant)
Teachers with advanced degrees: 51.4% **Teacher attendance:** 96.8% **Student attendance:** 93.9%

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:** 1030 **Number of classrooms:** 122
Specialty areas: 13 computer labs (11 are used for computer and technology classes)

Our school programs

- **Common Core State Standards** – Philosophy requiring college and career preparedness of all students
- **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
- **LearnTV** – Broadcast journalism on school campus serving students and community
- **JAG** – Jobs for American Graduates – Dropout prevention program targeting ninth graders
- **Power House** – Success strategies for young men
- **Read Right** – Focus on improving and enhancing reading skills
- **Mental Health Counselor** – On-site counselor for student referrals
- **Bear Facts** – Student mentoring program focused on developing/maintaining relationship between teacher and student



- **Professional Learning Teams** – Support for professional growth
- **Step Grant** – Services, training, education and policies to reduce dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking in our high school

Our co-curriculum, clubs, athletics

Clubs

- Anointed Voices of Praise
- Art Honor Society
- Beta Club
- Chess Club
- Chorus
- Civinettes
- Culinary Arts Club
- Drama Club
- Drill Team (ROTC)
- Fellowship of Christian Athletes
- First Priority
- Future Business Leaders of America
- Future Educators Association
- GEAR-UP Program: Sweet Peas & Max Ops
- Honor Society
- HOSA
- International Club
- International Thespian Society
- Junior Civitans
- LHS Mural Club
- Lunch Time Reads
- Marching Band
- Outdoors Club
- ROTC Color Guard
- Science Club
- Scribe Society
- Student Council

Publications

- Bruin Pride (newspaper)
- Callisto (literary magazine)
- Rambler (yearbook)

- Parent Link (parent newsletter)

Athletics

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

Our parent/parent support programs

- School Improvement Council
- Band Boosters
- Athletic Boosters
- Parent Volunteers
- Community Business Partners
- School Advisory Councils (Career Center)

Our honors/awards

- Broadcast Journalism
 - 2006, 2005, 2003, 2002 – \$3,500 Palmetto Pride Litter Grant
 - 2003 – LearnTV - SC Instructional Television’s Distance Education Learning Center of the Year
 - 2005 – Most Supportive Media Award from SCDOT
 - 2006, 2010 – Best Buy Award
 - 2009 – \$2,000 ING Education’s Unsung Hero Award
- Rambler
 - 2012, 2013 – Palmetto Award “Best Book” for Class III School (SCSPA)
 - All State – South Carolina (SCSPA)
- 2012-13 Junior Civitans
 - International Honor Club
 - District Chair of the Year - Richard Gay
 - International Club of the Year
 - Environmental Project of the Year
 - Ongoing Project of the Year
 - Foundation Award for Largest Donation to CIRC (Civitan International Research Center)
 - Foundation Award for Per Capita donation to CIRC

Civinettes - Home Club of Distinction

National Honors Society

Beta Club

USCL Honor Bowl Champions

2011-12 Palmetto Gold Award - LHS

M-DO-issued 6/30/15

Civilians awarded a Landscaping Grant from Lowe's for \$500 for Lancaster High School Beautification Project

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
- Emphasis on participation in AP and college credit courses.

Our honors & awards

- Palmetto Gold Award – 2011-2012
- Palmetto Silver Award – 2011-2012
- Palmetto Gold Award – 2008-2009
- Palmetto Gold Award – 2004-2005
- Palmetto Gold Award – 2002-2003
- Palmetto Gold Award – Career Center, 2002=2003
- Palmetto Gold Award – Career Center, 2003-2004
- Palmetto Gold Award – Career Center, 2004 – 2005
- Project Lead the Way – Introduction to Engineering Design
 - Exemplary S.C. Project Lead the Way Program for the 3rd consecutive year
- Smaller Learning Community Grant, 2004 – 2005
- Thirteen National Board Educators
- Junior Civitans International Club of the Year (26 out of last 28 years)
- JROTC – Honor Unit with Distinction (Last 14 Years)
- eChalk Webpage Recognition, 2005-2006
- SCHSL – Excellence in Sportsmanship, 2005-2006 and 2009-2012
- Girls Soccer Team Academic Award, 2006 – 2007, 2007- 2008, 2008-2009, 2009-2010, 2010-2011
- Boys Soccer Team Academic Award, 2008-2009, 2009-2010, 2010-2011
- Partner’s for Youth Grant – 2009
- State AAA Girls Basketball Championship – 2015

Journalism

- **Rambler** (yearbook) Awards – Last 7 years
 - 5 Gold Medals – CSPA – Columbia Scholastic Press Association (New York)
 - 1 Silver Crown – CSPA – Columbia Scholastic Press Association (New York)
 - 8 All-State – South Carolina
 - 4 All-Southern – SIPA (Southern Interscholastic Press Association)
 - 2 Best Book – South Carolina
 - 1 All-American – NSPA (National Scholastic Press Association)
 - 7 Palmetto Awards-Best Yearbook in Class III Schools
- **Calisto** (literary magazine) – Last 5 years
 - 2004 – Best in State
 - 2004 – Palmetto Award
 - 2005 – All State

M-DO-issued 6/30/15

- **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