

**South Carolina Department of Education
CHARTER SCHOOL
2020 ANNUAL REPORT
TEMPLATE**

**Charter School Submission Deadline to
Sponsor: December 31, 2020**

**Sponsor Submission Deadline to SCDE:
January 31, 2021**

School Name: James Island Charter High School

Sponsor: Charleston County School District

Date of Submission to Sponsor: December 15, 2020

I. INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 59-40-140(H), the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) has developed this annual report template for charter schools to use in reporting to their sponsors. A charter school is required to submit, at least annually, to its sponsor a report that shall include the following, at a minimum:

- (1) the number of students enrolled in the charter school from year to year;
- (2) the success of students in achieving the specific educational goals for which the charter school was established;
- (3) an analysis of achievement gaps among major groupings of students in both proficiency and growth;
- (4) the identity and certification status of the teaching staff;
- (5) the financial performance and sustainability of the sponsor's charter schools; and
- (6) board performance and stewardship including compliance with applicable laws.

The report shall provide all other information as required by the charter school sponsor and the SCDE.

In turn, sponsors are required by law to annually evaluate the following conditions that warrant the nonrenewal or revocation of a school's charter:

- the commission of a material violation of the conditions, standards, or procedures provided for in the charter application;
- failure to make or meet reasonable progress, as defined in the charter application, toward pupil achievement standards as identified in the charter application;
- failure to meet generally accepted standards of fiscal management; and
- violation of any law from which the school was not specifically exempted.

This annual report template is designed to elicit a comprehensive picture of a charter school's recently completed academic year as it relates to the school's performance in those areas impacting charter school accountability: academic achievement, compliance, operations/governance, and financial viability.

II. ANNUAL REPORT SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Annual Report Submission: The annual report shall be due on **December 31** following each full school year in which the charter school is in operation. The board of trustees of a charter school should make the annual report available to the parents or guardians of the students enrolled in the charter school. In accordance with S.C. Code Ann. § 59-40-140 (H), the charter school shall submit an annual report to its sponsor, and the sponsor shall compile the annual reports of all of its charter schools into a single document that must be submitted to the SCDE by January 31. Insofar as the sponsor of a charter school is the charter school's local education agency (LEA), the charter school is advised to submit its annual report to the sponsor's superintendent.

Submission Requirements:

Charter School: Please confirm with the sponsor of the charter school the desired format for submission (paper or electronic); the annual report is due to the charter school sponsor no later than **5:00 p.m. on December 31.**

Charter Sponsor: An electronic copy of the annual report is due to the SCDE no later than **5:00 p.m. on January 31.** The electronic copy should be submitted to: charterschools@ed.sc.gov. In the subject line include the **sponsor's name/school's name/2020 Annual Report.**

Format: All schools must use the provided Annual Report template and appendices templates. Each question in the application template that requires a written response includes a page limit. Answers should stay within those guidelines. Contact the SCDE Charter Schools Program at 803-734-2781 or at charterschools@ed.sc.gov if you have any questions regarding the provided templates.

Annual Report Review: All reports must be clear and fully complete in order to be evaluated by both the sponsor and the SCDE. The SCDE will review annual reports upon their submission.

III. ANNUAL REPORT QUESTIONS

1. GENERAL SCHOOL INFORMATION

In the table below, provide the following general school information:

1. General School Information	
Name of School	James Island Charter High School
Year School Opened	2003
Charter Renewal Date	2028
Grade Level(s)	9-12
School Address(es)	1000 Fort Johnson Road
School Website Address	https://www.ccsdschools.com/jichs
Name of School Leader	Tim Thorn
School Leader's Phone Number	843-762-5204
School Leader's E-mail	timothy_thorn@charleston.k12.sc.us
Name of Board President	Melanie Millar
Board President's Phone Number	843-276-3550
Board President's E-mail	mkingedisto@gmail.com
Name of Sponsor/Local Education Agency	Charleston County School District

2. SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

In the table below, provide the following information regarding school enrollment for grade levels applicable to the school:

Grade Level	Maximum Enrollment at Charter School	135-Day Count 2019-20	45-Day Count 2020-21
Pre-K			
K			
Grade 1			
Grade 2			
Grade 3			
Grade 4			
Grade 5			
Grade 6			
Grade 7			
Grade 8			
Grade 9		377	450
Grade 10		395	383
Grade 11		368	398
Grade 12		347	350
Total		1487	1581

3. EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM AND ACCOUNTABILITY

In the following sections, please reflect on the educational program, student performance data, academic goals, and progress towards the academic goals.

3.1. Academic Performance

Academic Performance Narrative (LIMIT YOUR RESPONSE TO THREE PAGES)

Using applicable data from the past school year's SC READY, SCPASS, ACT WorkKeys®, ACT®, and End of Course test scores, provide a narrative, beginning on the next page, in which you:

- describe the school's statewide assessment results
- provide an analysis of achievement gaps among major groupings of students in both proficiency and growth
- provide an explanation of how the school will close gaps and maintain or improve results.

Note on missing data: On March 27, 2020, the U.S. Department of Education approved South Carolina's request to waive spring statewide assessments, accountability ratings, and certain reporting requirements in the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) for the 2019-2020 school year due to widespread school closures related to the novel Coronavirus disease (COVID-19).

The WIN Career Readiness assessment was waived during the spring of 2020 and given during the fall of 2020. It should be noted that third-year students had the option of taking the ACT, SAT or opting out of college entrance examinations. No other accountability assessments were given during the SY 2019-2020. Due to the spring school closure, James Island Charter High School was not able to complete the spring End of Course exams, resulting in incomplete school data.

3.2. Academic Goals and Performance

Identify the **academic** goals set forth in the school's current charter. For each academic goal use the tables below to describe the goal, the measure or metric to be used, the target for the goal and describe the success of students in achieving the specific educational goals for which the school was established. For goals not met, explain why and what steps the school is taking to progress towards goal attainment.

Academic Goal 1	
Goal	Annual increase in the percentage of graduates that are college and career ready as defined by the state.
Measure/Metric	% of graduates who meet college and career ready requirements
Target	Target during the SY 2019-2020 is an increase from 56.5%.
Actual Outcome and Explanation	<p><u>Note on missing data: On March 27, 2020, the U.S. Department of Education approved South Carolina's request to waive spring statewide assessments, accountability ratings, and certain reporting requirements in the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) for the 2019-2020 school year due to widespread school closures related to the novel Coronavirus disease (COVID-19).</u></p> <p>Outcome: School report card for the 2019-2020 school year is incomplete due to COVID-19 and school closures. JICHHS is not able to gather accurate data for this goal.</p> <p>Explanation: N/A</p> <p>Action Plan: To specifically improve college entrance examination scores, JICHHS will make students' previous PSAT and AP Potential data accessible to classroom teachers. In addition, this assessment data is used to guide instruction and course progression. JICHHS will continue to offer ACT and SAT preparation courses within the school day, taught by certified instructors, in order to better prepare students to take these exams. JICHHS will also administer the CERT test to all students at least three times over the course of the school year, per core subject area. These assessment results are immediately available to teachers and students. Remediation for deficiencies can be addressed through the CERT testing platform. Teachers will be provided with additional professional development opportunities to improve the teaching and learning process (expectations, instructional strategies, content, assessment/feedback) that would most benefit student academic performance and achievement. JICHHS will continue to offer the ASVAB test and Work-Based Learning opportunities to</p>

	our students during the SY 2020-2021. The JICHHS CTE and counseling departments are working to identify students that have completed two or three CTE courses within a cluster; as a team JICHHS encourages these students to enroll in the final courses needed to earn completer status. JICHHS provides seniors that did not earn Silver+ on the WIN Career Readiness Assessment an opportunity to retest one time during their senior year.
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Academic Goal 2	
Goal	Annual increase in student participation in additional rigorous coursework through positive relationships, community building activities, family engagement, and student support.
Measure/Metric	% pass rate for IB/AP/Dual Enrollment course
Target	Increase in percentage pass rate from SY 2018-2019
Actual Outcome and Explanation	<p><u>Note on missing data: On March 27, 2020, the U.S. Department of Education approved South Carolina's request to waive spring statewide assessments, accountability ratings, and certain reporting requirements in the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) for the 2019-2020 school year due to widespread school closures related to the novel Coronavirus disease (COVID-19).</u></p> <p><u>Outcome:</u> There were 193 International Baccalaureate assessments given during the 2019-2020 school year with a 79.3% passage rate. There were 13 IB courses offered and 13 of 17 students earned the IB Diploma.</p> <p>There were 265 students enrolled in at least one of the 15 Advanced Placement courses offered. A total of 333 exams were scored, and 186 received passing scores. The overall passage rate on AP exams during the 2019-2020 school year was 55.9%.</p> <p>There were 152 students who enrolled in 328 DE courses during the SY 2019-2020 with an overall passage rate of 94.5%. This is an increase in passage rate of 0.6% (93.9% in 18-19).</p> <p><u>Explanation:</u> While there was an increase in the number of International Baccalaureate exams given (up from 167 in 2019) the pass rate and percentage of candidates who earned the IB Diploma decreased by 3.3% and 2.4%. During the 2019-2020 school year, all Advanced Placement exams were completed remotely. The format of many exams was altered to accommodate the exceptional circumstances students and schools were facing. The passage rate for AP exams fell by 0.3% from the year prior.</p>

	<p><u>Action Plan:</u></p> <p>The PSAT, ACT, and AP Potential data will continue to be used to identify students who have the potential of scoring 3 or higher on AP tests and 4 or higher on IB examinations. These students, with the support of their parents, will be strongly encouraged to enroll in AP / IB courses. Administrators, guidance counselors, and teachers will continue to provide information to students regarding the benefits of enrolling in upper-level and challenging courses. JICHS will continue to offer select AP courses to incoming freshmen and sophomores. The IB Coordinator will provide professional development during PLC time to guidance counselors on how to better identify possible AP/IB students to ensure that the proper students are enrolled for these courses. The Program of Studies has been revised to increase access to higher level coursework.</p> <p>JICHS will continue to offer the Summer Bridge program as a way of providing additional support to at-risk incoming freshmen. Potential first-generation college students began our first AVID cohort for the 19-20 school year, which aims to equip them with the skills and experiences they will need in order for them to have an opportunity to attend college after graduation.</p>
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Academic Goal 3	
Goal	Annual decrease in the achievement gap for historically underachieving populations.
Measure/Metric	% decrease in achievement gap
Target	Decrease from SY 2018-19
Actual Outcome and Explanation	<p><u>Note on missing data: On March 27, 2020, the U.S. Department of Education approved South Carolina's request to waive spring statewide assessments, accountability ratings, and certain reporting requirements in the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) for the 2019-2020 school year due to widespread school closures related to the novel Coronavirus disease (COVID-19).</u></p> <p><u>Outcome:</u> School report card for the 2019-2020 school year is incomplete due to COVID-19 and school closures. JICHS is not able to gather accurate data for this goal.</p> <p><u>Explanation:</u> N/A</p> <p><u>Action Plan:</u></p>

	<p>JICHHS will continue to identify students in the subgroups in need of remediation in order to address specific deficiencies. This goal can be accomplished using the USA Test Prep Program and incentivizing EOCE after-school and weekend review sessions for students. EOCE standards, topics, discussions, and questions will continue to be incorporated into all EOCE courses. Strategies that address weaknesses will be implemented. Furthermore, JICHHS will administer CERT assessments to all students at multiple points during SY 2020-2021. These assessment results will be used to identify remediation needs, guide instruction, and monitor student growth. JICHHS will continue to maintain awareness of current assessment trends and requirements while teachers continue to utilize state testing resource documents. JICHHS will continue to maintain high expectations for student participation and achievement.</p> <p>JICHHS has restructured many of our leadership subcommittees to include groups devoted to motivating minority students, combating the impact of poverty in the classroom, and improving the school's climate. These teacher-led groups have offered professional learning to our faculty and taken actions to improve outcomes for our historically underachieving students. JICHHS will continue to support these action research initiatives.</p>
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4. SCHOOL STAFF

In its discretion, a charter school may hire noncertified teachers in a ratio of up to twenty-five percent of its entire teacher staff; however, if it is a converted charter school, it shall hire in its discretion noncertified teachers in a ratio of up to ten percent of its entire teacher staff. Part-time noncertified teachers are considered pro rata in calculating this percentage based on the hours which they are expected to teach.

Use the template titled "Instructional Staff Information Appendix" to provide the requested information. Save the completed template as "Instructional Staff Information Appendix" and attach it to this report.

4. School Instructional Staff			
Name	Certification #	Area(s) of Certification	Course(s) Taught

5. FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE AND SUSTAINABILITY

Attach as appendices to this report:

- the school's audited FY2020 report on financial statements- [JICHHS Audit FY2020](#)

- the FY2021 approved school budget- [JICHS Approve Budget FY2020-21](#)

6. BOARD PERFORMANCE AND STEWARDSHIP

6.1. Board Member Information

Use the template titled “Board Member Information Appendix” to provide the requested information. Save the completed template as “Board Member Information Appendix” and attach it to this report.

6.1. Board Member Information					
Name	Email Address	Background (ex. finance, education, business, parent, etc.)	Date Elected/ Appointed	Date of Orientation Training	Orientation Training Provider

6.2. Board Compliance

In the table below, provide the information regarding Board of Trustee Compliance.

6.2. Board Compliance	
Board of Trustee Compliance	Response
Number of board members required per charter.	7 Board members and 1 Ex-Official
Date of most recent board election.	October 13-15, 2020
Link to website where meeting dates, agendas, and minutes are published, if published online. If not, provide the address of the office where they are maintained.	https://www.ccsdschools.com/domain/2061
Number and name of active committees.	1 committee (Finance)

7. Accreditation

Is the charter school seeking SCDE Charter School Accreditation? SELECT A CHOICE BELOW

Please see

<https://ed.sc.gov/districts-schools/school-choice/charter-schools-program/charter-school-accreditation/>
for more information

☒ Yes

☐ No

☒ Already have designation

Please indicate any and all accreditations that the charter school holds, if applicable:

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8. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUIRED BY THE SPONSOR

The Sponsor is permitted to request additional information as part of this annual report. Such additional information should be included in this section and submitted to the SCDE with the sponsor's annual report.