



SOUTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE

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TO: Superintendents, Principals and Athletics Directors

FROM: Dr. Jerome Singleton, Commissioner *J.S.*
SC High School League

DATE: December 19, 2025

RE: Classification Placement for 2026-2028

The High School League staff has finalized classification placement of all schools beginning with the 2026-2027 school year. This classification/placement will be in effect for two years.

The guidelines established by the Guidelines Committee served as the blueprint for schools' placements. All schools were assigned based on their enrollment count to include district additions and the 3.0 multiplier. Flexibility as approved by the Reclassification/ Realignment Guidelines Committee was also used with consideration given to geographics and travel.

The South Carolina High School League's Executive Committee will meet to hear appeals regarding the classification placement on the following dates: January 13, 2026, and if necessary, January 14, 2026.

Any school wishing to appeal its classification placement to the SC High School League Executive Committee, please notify the League Office in writing no later than **1:00 pm, January 7, 2026.**

The SC High School League's Appellate Panel will meet to hear appeals to the SC High School League Executive Committee decisions on January 15, 2026, if necessary, and January 16, 2026, if necessary.

Please note:

The following rules and procedures shall apply to all appeals by member schools after their classification placement has been completed, provided the Constitution and Bylaws allow such an appeal. A school seeking to change its classification between realignment periods shall be considered an appeal and follow these rules and procedures:

- a. When the League Commissioner publishes the completed classification placement to the member schools, the Commissioner shall inform the member schools of any right to appeal and of the body or bodies designated to preside over each level of appeal, as may be provided and applicable under the current Constitution and

Bylaws. The Commissioner shall also determine and inform the member schools of the deadline to commence a classification placement appeal.

- b. To commence a classification placement appeal, the superintendent or principal of the appealing school must deliver to the League Commissioner and the SC High School League President a written appeal of its classification placement on or before the deadline set by the Commissioner.

An appealing school seeking to change classifications shall state the classification the school seeks to leave, the classification in which the school wishes to be placed, and the grounds, therefore.

An appealing school may propose more than one alternate placement as part of its appeal. Proposed placements not included in the written appeal will not be considered at any appeal level. Schools may not present joint appeals.

There is no required format for written appeals, provided the appeal contains the information required under this section. An appealing school may submit additional documentation and information prior to a hearing to support the grounds for its appeal.

- c. At the same time the appealing school commences its written appeal in accordance with Section b., it shall also give notice of its appeal to other member schools by delivering copies of its written appeal as follows:
 - An appealing school seeking to change classifications shall deliver a complete copy of its written appeal to the principals of all schools in its current classification placement, and to the principals of all schools in the proposed classification placement(s).
- d. If the appealing school fails to timely deliver its written appeal to a school entitled to notice under Section c, then, promptly upon discovery of the lack of notice, the school entitled to such notice, may notify in writing the Commissioner or the presiding officer of the body hearing the appeal of the lack of notice and its intent to respond to the appeal as allowed under these rules. The school alleging lack of notice must demonstrate that it did not receive timely notice and was denied the opportunity to respond in accordance with these rules and procedures.

When the lack of notice is raised prior to the realignment appeal hearing, then prior to hearing the appeal, the presiding body shall determine whether (i) the school received timely notice in accordance with Section c and (ii) the school has been denied a full and fair opportunity to respond to the appeal in accordance with these rules. If the school demonstrates lack of notice and the opportunity to respond, the appeal hearing shall be delayed until the school entitled to such notice has had a full and fair opportunity to respond in accordance with these rules. The rescheduled appeal hearing shall proceed in accordance with all notice requirements and other rules and procedures contained herein.

When the lack of notice is not raised until after the realignment appeal is decided, the body who decided the appeal shall reconvene to determine whether (i) the school received timely notice in accordance with Section c; (ii) the school was unable to notify the Commissioner or the presiding body prior to the appeal hearing

that it had not received the required notice; and (iii) the school entitled to notice was otherwise denied a full and fair opportunity to respond to the appeal in accordance with these rules. If the school demonstrates these three criteria, then the prior decision shall be vacated and the body who decided the appeal shall schedule a rehearing for the appeal, which shall proceed in accordance with all notice requirements and other rules and procedures contained herein.

- e. Member schools entitled to notice of the classification appeal under Section c. may provide written letters of support or opposition to any appealing school. Letters supporting or opposing a realignment appeal must be signed by the superintendent or principal of the member school and placed on official letterhead and must set forth the grounds for support or opposition. Letters must be delivered to the appealing school, with copies to the SC High School League President and the League Commissioner, as soon as practicable after delivery of the written appeal. A school may submit additional documentation and information in support of or in opposition to the appeal prior to the hearing.
- f. The SC High School League President shall prepare a written notice and an agenda for the meeting at which classification appeals will be heard. The notice and agenda shall include the date, time, and location of the meeting, each appealing school to be heard at the meeting, and the placement(s) proposed by each appealing school. The notice and agenda for realignment appeal hearings shall be delivered to the principals of the appealing schools and the principals of all other member schools entitled to notice of the appeal under Section c. as soon as practicable but no later than two (2) business days prior to the date of the appeal hearing. A classification appeal not included on the meeting notice and agenda shall not be heard or discussed until after a written notice and agenda has been provided to the schools as required herein.
- g. Any member school that has submitted a written letter of support for or in opposition to a classification appeal in accordance with Section e., or any member school claiming it did not receive timely and/or sufficient written notice of the appeal in accordance with Section c., shall be heard at the appeal hearing provided the following conditions are met:
 - i. The principal of the member school notifies the SC High School League President in writing at least twenty-four (24) hours in advance of the hearing that it wishes to speak at the appeal hearing, along with a brief explanation of the basis for the request and the speaker's name; and
 - ii. The comments by the member school at the appeal hearing are not duplicative of comments previously made by other member schools in attendance. Two or more member schools may designate one person to speak on behalf of all the schools.

The provisions of this section do not prevent the SC High School League President from reasonably restricting a member school's ability to speak in the interest of time, efficiency, or to otherwise maintain orderly proceedings.

- h. An appealing school must show "extraordinary circumstances," as defined in the League's By-laws, for an appeal seeking to set aside any written realignment guidelines or written criteria used to formulate the final realignment plan.

- i. The classification appeal hearing shall be scheduled to allow sufficient time for compliance with all notice requirements and response deadlines set forth in these rules and procedures. The hearing shall be recorded, and the recording and all written appeals, letters, notices, and any other documents received by the presiding body shall be made part of the record of the proceeding. After the classification appeal hearing, the SC High School League President shall inform the parties of its decision. Following any meeting at which any classification appeals were heard, the SC High School League President shall as soon as practicable but no later than three (3) business days after the meeting provide written notice of each appeal decision to all member schools entitled to notice under Section c. and to the League Commissioner.
- j. If there are subsequent levels of appeal provided by the Constitution and Bylaws, a member school may appeal an adverse decision by delivering a written notice of appeal to the League Commissioner and the presiding officer (SCHSL Executive Committee president or Appellate Panel chairperson) of the body designated to hear the next level of appeal within twenty-four (24) hours of the adverse decision that it intends to appeal. The written notice of appeal must also be delivered to all schools that previously provided letters of support or opposition in accordance with Section e. and all schools that were heard at the appeal hearing in accordance with Section g.
- k. Upon receiving a written notice of appeal, the League Commissioner (or designee) shall forward the record of the prior proceeding(s) to the body designated to hear the next level of appeal. At each subsequent level of appeal, the presiding body shall prepare and deliver a written notice of and an agenda for any meeting at which realignment appeals will be heard in accordance with Section f, and the hearings shall proceed in accordance with Section i.
- l. At each subsequent level of appeal, review shall be limited to only proposed placements that were voted upon at the first level of appeal. The appealing school may supplement its prior submissions with additional documentation and information to support its grounds for appeal. However, the appealing school cannot change or amend its appeal to include proposed placements that were not voted upon at the first level of appeal. Schools that provided letters of support or opposition in accordance with Section e., or that were heard at the appeal hearing in accordance with Section g., may supplement their prior submissions. However, no school may participate in the proceedings at a subsequent level of appeal if it did not provide a letter pursuant to Section e. or was not heard at the first level of appeal pursuant to Section g.
- m. Whenever possible, all written appeals, letters, notices, and other documents required under these rules and procedures should be delivered by email.
- n. Nothing in these rules and procedures should be interpreted to prevent a member school from having its appeal heard due to a technical violation of these rules that does not prejudice any other member school's rights to notice and to be heard as provided herein. However, at any level of appeal, the provisions of Section d. apply in situations where a member school alleges it has not received notice to which it is entitled under the rules.

If you have any questions about the appeals process, please do not hesitate to contact me.

	Class AAAAA	Total Enrollment
1	Dorman High	2,929
2	Summerville High	2,729
3	Carolina Forest High	2,635
4	James F Byrnes High	2,547
5	Spring Valley High	2,336
6	Boiling Springs High	2,197
7	West Ashley High	2,177
8	Wando High	2,147
9	Mauldin High	2,143
10	Lexington High	2,132
11	Stratford High	2,087
12	Ashley Ridge High	2,056
13	James Island Charter High	2,013
14	Wade Hampton High	1,962
15	Cane Bay High	1,961
16	River Bluff High	1,958
17	West Florence High	1,877
18	Fort Dorchester High	1,871
19	Berkeley High	1,830
20	Blythewood High	1,829
21	Spartanburg High	1,812
22	J L Mann High Academy	1,793
23	Sumter High	1,764
24	Rock Hill High	1,753
25	Socastee High	1,752
26	Hillcrest High	1,747
27	R B Stall High	1,740
28	Eastside High	1,717
29	Dutch Fork High	1,708
30	South Florence High	1,708
31	Fort Mill High	1,681
32	Woodmont High	1,675
33	Gray Collegiate Academy	1,640
34	Ridge View High	1,630
35	Chapin High	1,628
36	White Knoll High	1,610
37	Northwestern High	1,571
38	Goose Creek High	1,566
39	Indian Land High	1,540
40	Lucy Garrett Beckham High	1,458

	Class AAAA	Total Enrollment
1	T L Hanna High	1,561
2	Conway High	1,557
3	Nation Ford High	1,534
4	Wilson High	1,517
5	Gaffney High	1,505
6	St. James High	1,464
7	Fountain Inn High	1,449
8	Greenwood High	1,442
9	Lugoff Elgin High	1,419
10	May River High	1,407
11	Riverside High	1,396
12	Westwood High	1,392
13	N Myrtle Beach High	1,386
14	Catawba Ridge High School	1,377
15	North Augusta High	1,374
16	Irmo High	1,356
17	Easley High	1,354
18	Greenville Sr High Academy	1,345
19	Westside High	1,338
20	South Aiken High	1,297
21	Midland Valley High	1,267
22	South Pointe High	1,261
23	Fox Creek High	1,256
24	Richland Northeast High	1,254
25	Dreher High	1,235
26	Bluffton High	1,216
27	Myrtle Beach High	1,198
28	Travelers Rest High	1,192
29	York Comprehensive High	1,192
30	Aiken High	1,188
31	Legion Collegiate Academy	1,171
32	Greer High	1,145
33	Lake Wylie High School	1,132
34	Greenville Tech Charter Hi	1,113
35	A. C. Flora High	1,100
36	Laurens Dist 55 High	1,091
37	Clover High	1,075
38	Lancaster High	1,062
39	Brookland-Cayce High	1,058
40	Beaufort High	1,044
41	Hilton Head Island High	983
42	Colleton County High	981

	Class AAA	Total Enrollment
1	Airport High	1,042
2	Wren High	1,030
3	D W Daniel High	1,024
4	Greer Middle College Charter High	1,022
5	Pickens High	986
6	Lower Richland High	982
7	Blue Ridge High	974
8	Berea High	966
9	Walhalla High	960
10	Gilbert High	955
11	Hartsville High	945
12	Southside High	933
13	Emerald High	928
14	Brashier Middle College Charter High	926
15	Crestwood High	901
16	Camden High	890
17	Hanahan High	887
18	Aynor High	881
19	Powdersville High	877
20	Darlington High	876
21	Legacy Early College	873
22	Bridges Preparatory School	853
23	Atlantic Collegiate Academy	846
24	N Charleston High	842
25	Palmetto High	839
26	GREEN Upstate High School Greenville	834
27	Seneca High	831
28	Chapman High	827
29	Oceanside Collegiate Academy	805
30	Georgetown High	797
31	Broome High	794
32	Union County High	791
33	Belton Honea Path High	781
34	Lakewood High	779
35	Christ Church Episcopal	777
36	Bishop England High School	763
37	Marlboro County High	761
38	Pendleton High	757
39	Swansea High	745
40	Loris High	738

	Class AA	Total Enrollment
1	Charleston Charter Math/Science	759
2	Battery Creek High	736
3	Woodruff High	723
4	Orangeburg Wilkinson High	721
5	Carolina Academy (High)	711
6	St. Joseph's High	709
7	Mountain View Preparatory	703
8	High Point Academy	701
9	Waccamaw High	698
10	Clinton High	686
11	Landrum High	672
12	American Leadership Academy SC-Lexington	671
13	Chesnee High	666
14	Keenan High	666
15	Horse Creek Academy	665
16	West-Oak High	662
17	Southside Christian School	660
18	Philip Simmons High	654
19	Crescent High	642
20	York Preparatory Academy	609
21	Newberry High	607
22	Pelion High	604
23	Strom Thurmond High	604
24	Woodland High	600
25	Silver Bluff High	597
26	Dillon High School	596
27	Andrew Jackson High	588
28	Liberty High	588
29	Academic Magnet High	575
30	Columbia High	572
31	Lake City High	570
32	Manning High	568
33	Timberland High	564
34	Lake Marion High	559
35	Saluda High	548
36	Mid Carolina High	546
37	East Clarendon Middle-High	532
38	Palmetto Scholars Academy	525
39	Central High	513
40	Chester Sr High	511
41	Blacksburg High	492

	Class A	Total Enrollment
1	Ninety Six High	489
2	Hampton County High	487
3	Fairfield Central High	485
4	Kingstree High	479
5	Barnwell High	472
6	Buford High	456
7	North Central High	454
8	Batesburg-Leesville High	453
9	Burke High	453
10	Mullins High	449
11	Edisto High	439
12	Cheraw High	437
13	Eau Claire High	436
14	Marion High	433
15	Riverwalk Academy	428
16	Chesterfield High	410
17	Latta High	401
18	Andrews High	393
19	Bamberg-Ehrhardt High	365
20	Virtus Academy of South Carolina	361
21	Abbeville High	348
22	Whale Branch Early College Hig	343
23	Carvers Bay Early College and Career High	342
24	Dixie High	331
25	Hannah Pamplico High	330
26	Lee Central High	328
27	Ridgeland Secondary Academy of Excellence	328
28	Johnsonville High	325
29	Lewisville High	323
30	Green Sea Floyds High	305
31	Hardeeville Junior/Senior High	305
32	St Johns High	303
33	C A Johnson High	297
34	Calhoun County High	296
35	Royal Live Oaks Academy of the Arts and Sciences	282
36	McBee High	262
37	Baptist Hill High	261
38	Clear Dot Charter	249
39	Ridge Spring-Monetta Middle/High	247

40	Thornwell Charter School	232
41	Coastal High	231
42	Wagener-Salley High	220
43	Lake View High	212
44	Lamar High	211
45	Lowcountry Leadership Charter School	209
46	Polaris Tech Charter School	193
47	Ware Shoals High	193
48	Whitmire Community School (High)	193
49	Military Magnet Academy	185
50	Scott's Branch High	179
51	Allendale Fairfax High	177
52	Williston-Elko High	176
53	Bethune-Bowman Middle/High	163
54	Great Falls High	158
55	Branchville High	154
56	Cross High	145
57	Governor's School for Science and Mathematics	138
58	Denmark Olar High	136
59	Hemingway High	123
60	McCormick High	119
61	Hunter-Kinard-Tyler High	115
62	Blackville-Hilda High	104
63	North Middle/High	99
64	Midlands STEM Charter School	96
65	Calhoun Falls Charter School	94
66	SC School For the Deaf and the Blind High	44



2026 – 2028 Reclassification/Realignment Timeline

January 13 - 14, 2026	SC High School League Executive Committee hears appeals to Classification placement
January 15 - 16, 2026	SC High School League Appellate Panel hears appeals to SC High School League's Executive Committee decisions
January 20, 2026	Send out finalized classification placement to member schools
January 23, 2026	Send out Classifications/Regions placements to member schools
January 26 – February 2, 2026	Classification Organizational Meeting
February 3 - 5, 2026	Classification(s) Executive Committee hears appeals to region placement
February 10, 2026	SC High School League Executive Committee hears appeals to Classification Executive Committee decisions
February 12, 2026	SC High School League Appellate Panel hears appeals to SC High School Executive Committee decisions
February 18, 2026	Send out final Reclassification/Realignment information to member schools