

Strategic Plan- Principal's Annual Summary for the 2018-19 School Year South River High School

South River High consistently self-reflects on its achievements yet always seeks to improve areas which, although good, can be better. During the 2018-2019 school year, our focus was to improve our school-wide attendance, creating a welcoming environment for all students and increasing our high stakes testing scores.

I am happy to report that we had success in just about every area. Our overall attendance increased by almost a full percent which is significant when we consider the impact on 2,200 students. Periodic checks during the school year showed students felt a feeling of belonging and believed teachers cared about their well being.

There never has been doubt our school has rigorous academic standards. In fact, the **Washington Post's** Most Challenging School List for 2019 lists South River High as the eleventh most rigorous high school in the state, and first in Anne Arundel County. Our Advanced Placement test results show that of the 1,000 students taking an exam, 71% earned a three or higher.

Even considering these positive factors, we still are challenged by our PARCC scores. Our English scores were very good with 70% of our 10th graders scoring at level four or five. Although our Algebra scores were the second highest in our county, they were not satisfactory. Scores statewide were considerably lower. We are reexamining our strategies in order to address this issue.

During the 2019-2020 school year, our efforts will focus on closing the achievement gaps which exist on our Algebra I and English 10 MCAP scores. The most striking gaps exist in the performance of our Special Education students and English Language Learners. Our goal will be to increase the percentage of special education students and English Learners passing MCAP Algebra I and English 10 by ten percentage points.

As a school we take great pride in our ability to make continuous progress on our goals. I like to say we are a great school getting better.