

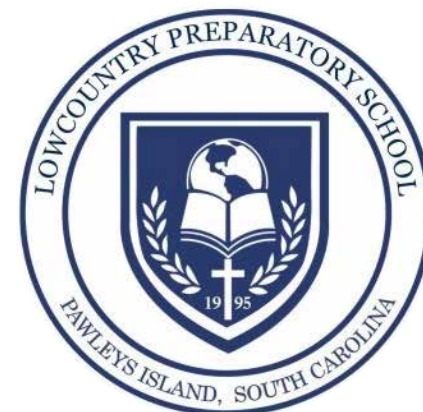
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A photograph of a school building with a light blue metal roof and white columns, partially obscured by several tall palm trees in the foreground. The sky is clear and blue.

Lowcountry Preparatory School  
Annual Report



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# International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme



IB Coordinator David Suber led the three-year process that culminated in our certification in March 2016. While the cost of the program is high—particularly the cost of training teachers and administrators—the benefits of status as an IB World School have been clear in both college placement and scholarship dollars. Hard fought placement of exceptional students in our pre-IB days have turned to early acceptances of similar students in our IB days.



IB status has also shifted our culture to one that is more focused academically and more aware of the benefits of high performance in the classroom.





# SCISA STEM Certification



Our SCISA STEM Certification took place in May 2018 following two years of preparation during which teachers articulated the impressive work they were already doing in mathematics and science, expanded that work, and more formally undertook related professional development. Lowcountry Preparatory School is only the third SCISA school among its 130-member schools to be certified. The SCISA Executive Director was so impressed with the methodology used by our school to achieve certification that he named Head of School Gibson as SCISA LEAD (Learn, Educate, Advance, Develop) of the SCISA STEM Certification Program for 2018.

# Stanford Results

Academic performance is measured by both internal assessments and external assessments. Each serves as a check on the other. For example, high performance on internal assessments and low performance on external assessments would suggest weak academic rigor. We pay close attention to our external assessments. Key among them is the Stanford 10. We take pride in the fact that on average our students perform more than two grade equivalents above current grade level. Among sixth graders testing in language



mechanics, for example, 44 percent of last year's students earned the "post high school" grade equivalent—not bad for sixth graders. For this academic year, our goal is three grade equivalents above grade level in all core courses, grades first through ninth.



# Coding

While just about everyone recognizes English, French, Spanish and Chinese, for example, as key international languages, many overlook coding as a key language on the international stage. Coding is the language of software, and software runs much of our daily lives. Eight of the top twenty-five jobs this year in the United States are in tech positions. Among those positions, coding features prominently. The demand for skilled coders continues to rise. We seek to introduce our students to coding early. Those truly interested in coding will subsequently be able to pursue it more seriously, possibly to include majoring in computer science as undergraduates.



# Robotics

Students are building and programming robots in a new course that we have added this year as part of our STEM program. Students have grasped the basics, namely that through the language of coding, students dictate the characteristics of the robot's operation—for example, speed and direction of motion. The students vary both by modifying the code. Our robotics instructor, Mr. Tim Warner, has selected “ROBOTC” as the programming language for the robotics class. It is particularly well suited for use in educational robotics. The program has a reputation for ease of use.



# French Exchange Partner

Our exchange partner in France is Saint Denis International School located in the town of Loches. The exchange provides an opportunity for true immersion training, which is critical in learning a language and a foreign culture.



# Operation Microsoft Office

Operation Microsoft Office was conceived at the end of Academic Year 2017-18 with the objectives of 1) teaching students in grades four and five how to use Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, and Excel within one academic year and 2) integrating more closely all members of the faculty and staff in the administration of our program across the Lower School, Middle School, and Upper School. Lower Schoolers proficient in Microsoft's three core components of Microsoft Office will be better prepared for success in the Middle School as they prepare for more rigorous academics in the Upper School, including the IB Diploma.







# Kognity Books

What are Kognity Books? They are a good example of continuous improvement of our science curriculum, STEM, and IB. They are also a good example of the initiative of our bright teachers. Mrs. Rebecca Green researched more effective means of teaching IB science this past summer and discovered this model. Kognity upgrades the teaching and learning experience through the provision of an interactive learning environment, feedback to students that is automated, and instant feedback to teachers in terms of the extent to which students are grasping material. IB schools around the world have adopted Kognity, with IB teachers describing it as, “an excellent way to learn better and to get better feedback automatically”.

# Teachers of the Year

Studies consistently demonstrate that the most important independent variable in learning is the teacher. Here at Lowcountry Preparatory School we take great pride in our sharp teachers. We also take good care of them. The Workplace Satisfaction Survey is administered twice per year. We want to know what is satisfying our teachers and what is not. The last such survey yielded an A- in overall workplace satisfaction—not bad for an anonymous survey. At the conclusion of each academic year, teachers in each division select the Teacher of the Year. The recognition carries much weight inasmuch as peers select the winner.



Wallace Taylor  
Lower School  
Teacher of the Year



Rebecca Schroeder  
Middle School  
Teacher of the Year



Abby Van Hoewyk  
Upper School  
Teacher of the Year



# Good Eats 2017

Attendees at \$500 per couple

Adams, Keene & Betsy  
 Brame, Renelle  
 Chapman, Randy & Jennifer  
 Dickerson, Julie & Jeff  
 Errico, Keith & Stacy  
 Gibson, Bruce & Diane  
 Kostova, Nadia  
 Lenhart, Ross  
 Little, Roy & Andrea  
 Lonon, Margaret  
 McClary, Salters & Woofie  
 Oxner, Harry & Stephanie  
 Pate, Fen & Dawn  
 Pate, LuLu  
 Peace, Bony & Dianne

Peace, Hampton & Bo  
 Peterson, Ted & Andrea  
 Ray, Dan & Linda  
 Single, Dan & Gwyn  
 Smith, Greg & Stacey  
 Solheim, Eric & Vesna  
 Starnes, Dave and Anne  
 Stedman, Warren & Beth  
 Stox and Co.  
 Suber, David  
 Swift, Catherine  
 Thurlow, David & Lynn  
 Whitmire, John



# Donors 2017-2018

## Blue Marlin: \$5,000 and Higher

Adams, Keene & Betsy  
 Brooks Auction Service, LLC  
 Oxner, Harry & Stephanie  
 Pate, LuLu

Ray, Dan & Linda  
 Raynor, Michael & Monica  
 Single, Dan & Gwyn

Smith, Greg & Stacey  
 Starnes, Dave and Anne  
 Vandy Foundation

## Black Marlin: \$2,000 to \$4,999

Baltimore Technology  
 Bristow LLC  
 Chapman, Randy & Jennifer  
 CRM Services  
 Davis, Ben & Maureen  
 Davis, John & Allyson  
 East Coast Honda Volkswagen  
 Errico, Keith & Stacy

Gibson, Scott & Kathy  
 Grabeman, David & Linda  
 Hall, Robert & Amy  
 Harrington Construction Co.  
 Harrington, Mike & Linda  
 LW Inc.  
 O'Neal, Bo & Jeanne  
 Prosser's Barbeque Inc.

Prosser, Lee and Nicole  
 Reed, Keith  
 Skvarka, Chris & Jenna  
 Waccamaw Heating & Cooling

## Striped Marlin: \$1,000 to \$1,999

Akers, Will & Carrie  
 Cohen, Donald & Priscilla  
 Duggan, Michael & Andrea  
 Elliott & Phelan, LLC  
 Fusion Capital

Gibson, Bruce & Diane  
 Miller, John  
 Miller, Robert & Gardenia  
 Musiol, Michael & Leigh Ann

Oxner & Stacy, PA  
 Rearden, John & Sunshine

## White Marlin: \$500 to \$999

Agru America, Inc.  
 Bell Legal Group  
 Brooks, Glen & Lindi  
 Brooks, Neal & Nakita  
 Chastain, Luis & Amity  
 Coates, Michelle Kosier  
 Deemer, William & Michelle  
 Dickerson, Jeff & Julie  
 Fariss, Bruce & April  
 First Citizens Bank

Greer, William & Danelle  
 Harmon and Felts, PA  
 Independent Coin Garden City  
 Johnson, James & Angela  
 Joseph, Timothy & Tara  
 Lenhart, Ross & Kathy  
 Little, Roy and Andrea  
 Madill, Scott & Larissa  
 Nation Law Firm  
 Peace, Hampton & Boo

Rosenberg, Jason  
 S.C. Pain & Spine Specialists  
 South State Bank  
 Stedman, Warren & Beth  
 Suber, David  
 Tidelands Orthopaedics  
 Thackson, Tammy  
 Thompson, Alan & Meredith  
 Williams, Bill & Shawn  
 Yamashita, Luiz & Susan

## Sailfish: \$250 to \$499

Barr, Derek & Jan  
 Black Mingo  
 Fesperman, Eddie & Holly  
 Johnson Wealth Management  
 of Merrill Lynch

Joseph and Joseph Dental  
 Koonce, Sam & Kay  
 Lonon, Meg  
 Lumpkin and Postal, P.C.  
 R-CAT, LLC

South Atlantic Bank  
 Strickland, Kevin



# Additional Kind Donors



Alteri, Jennifer  
 Alvarado, John & Stacey  
 Anderson, Brenda  
 Antonelli, Yvette  
 Ballard, Mark & Ali  
 Beachum, Chuck & Amy  
 Bellune, Tom & Lori  
 Blackburn, Devin & Ashley  
 Bowles, Brent & Tanya  
 Clinton, Scott,  
 Casselman, Nittaya  
 Collins, Pamela  
 Devecka, Janet  
 Dong, Alice  
 Graham, Russell & Megan  
 Harris, Ben & Kay  
 Hayes, Brian & Penny  
 Hensley, Mike & Valerie  
 Hill, Michael & Malinda  
 Key, Heyward  
 Kong, John

Lance, Honey  
 Lee, Stephen & Bin  
 Metz, Matthew & Kelly  
 Millener, Clay & Carla  
 Miller, Jill  
 Miller, Rhodes & Tee  
 Prosser, Rhett & Candy  
 Prosser, Jamie  
 Robinson, Alex and Mande  
 Sceviour, Jannine  
 Sexton, Steven & Jennifer  
 Swartz, Catherine  
 Tedrow, Richard  
 Thomas, Susan  
 Thurlow, David & Lynn  
 Williams, Mike & Tisha  
 Wolfe, Kerry

## 100% Staff Participation

Augustino, Gina  
 Bednarz, Joanne  
 Brode, Hope  
 Cook, Phil  
 Cox, Martha-Murray  
 Dunlap, Maggie  
 Furguson, Paige  
 Gibson, Kathy  
 Gibson, Scott  
 Green, Rebecca  
 Harrelson, Katrina  
 Harris, Kay  
 Hensley, Valarie  
 Hollingsworth, Lindsey  
 Kelly, Janet  
 Kimbrough, Debbie  
 Johnson, Meagan  
 LaBruce, Bernie  
 Little, Andrea  
 Lutz, Greg  
 Miller, Allisa  
 O'Neal, Jeanne  
 Parsons, Susan  
 Rhoades, Kristie  
 Schroeder, Rebecca  
 Sexton, Jen  
 Single, Gwyn  
 Suber, David  
 Taylor, Wallace  
 Van Hoewyk, Abby  
 Wallace, Jennifer  
 Walters, Stephanie  
 Warner, Tim  
 Wilson, Patti  
 Yates, Linelle





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