

AGENCY NAME:	SC Governor's School for Agriculture at John de la Howe		
AGENCY CODE:	L120	SECTION:	007

AGENCY'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Mission

To provide quality agricultural education that will enable its students to be the state's future leaders in agribusiness, business, and education.

Vision

To offer a rigorous agricultural education program that will challenge motivated high school students to develop their interest in agriculture and natural resources by providing classes and hands-on learning opportunities in agribusiness.

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Established in 1797, from the bequest of Dr. John de la Howe, a physician who immigrated to South Carolina in the 1760s. Dr. de la Howe's will provided land and resources to establish an "agricultural seminary" to help young people learn skills that would enable them to prosper for a lifetime. Guided by a 2017 Feasibility Study, the school's leaders developed the SC Governor's School for Agriculture at John de la Howe that serves high school interested agricultural and mechanical studies. The conversion was successful, and we opened our doors to students in August of 2020. Our first year we had 31 students during the pandemic. We almost doubled the enrollment the following year to 61 and now we have 91 students. We have one additional residence hall to renovate that is estimated to be completed in 2026. We are now traveling the state recruiting students. Our awesome students are recruited because of their heavy interest in agriculture, forestry, and natural resources. Our students must also not have discipline or attendance issues at their home school. They must also have at least a 2.7 GPA to apply.

In order for JDLH to reach its maximum potential it will be imperative to provide high quality educational programs, complete the deferred maintenance of facilities, and increase our partnerships and marketing. This past fiscal year the agency has been aggressively increasing partnerships, completing deferred maintenance of facilities, and increasing campus usage through our Education Center. In December of 2024, we were awarded national accreditation through COGNIA.

We started a 501c3 Foundation and elected new board members. They have already raised over \$200k! We hired an executive director for the foundation to help increase our endowment.

We have also entered into a shared services agreement with the Department of Administration for our finance and HR roles.

Respectfully,

Timothy R. Keown