James Privett teaches IB Chemistry HL-1 and HL-2 as well as Honors Chemistry. He has a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry and has been teaching at Sumter High School since 2004. Mr. Privett is certified in Chemistry, Physics, and General Science. He also has Gifted and talented endorsement.

Mr. Privett was born in 1971 in Sioux City, Iowa and grew up there until 1984 when he moved to Sumter, SC with his family.  He has travelled extensively inside the United States when he worked as a tractor-trailer operator. He has driven professionally in 47 of the United States and two provinces of Canada.

Mr. Privett attended the University of South Carolina and earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry from Francis Marion University.  He began his teaching career at Timmonsville High School where he spent one year teaching Chemistry and Physical Science.  He then spent the next four years driving professionally before returning to teaching at Sumter High School.

Mr. Privett believes that education never ends and that we continue to be students throughout our lives. It is essential that we figure out how we learn so that our education can continue in the most effective way, and he feels the International Baccalaureate is an excellent program for fostering this understanding. We are all capable of self-improvement through education if we find interest and motivation. As an educator, it is his obligation to foster the students’ educational development.