

Demographic Data

Vienna High School

2006-2007

Located near the center of rural Johnson County in the heart of Shawnee National Forest, Vienna High School District #13-3 is a high school district with a 2006 fall enrollment of 388 students, 200 males and 188 females (count taken 9/30/06). Children attend VHS from the feeder schools of Buncombe Elementary School District #43, Cypress Elementary School District #64, New Simpson Hill School District #32, and Vienna Elementary School District #55. The school district includes 7582 registered voters who reside in an area encompassing approximately 300 square miles. Transportation is vital to the school district, as over 75% of the students are eligible to be bused to the high school campus located at 601 North First Street, Vienna, Illinois 62995.

The high school is situated in the small township of Vienna, the county seat, with a fairly stable population of 1,234 and a county population of 12,878 based on the 2000 census information. The U. S. Census Bureau predicts the Johnson County population figures to change to 12,295 in the year 2010, and 12,045 in the year 2020. People who are incarcerated in the two Johnson County prisons are included in the county population figure. The campus is set in a residential area bordered by single-family homes on three sides and the National Forestry Service Ranger Station on the fourth side. The first graduation was held in 1894. The first township building was completed in 1920. In 1927 the first gymnasium was built, which still remains today. Then in 1949 there was a new addition built. In 1968 another gymnasium and more classrooms were added. Following this the old two-story building was replaced in 1974. The new building included a media center and instructional classrooms. A building project to connect the three buildings with a "commons area" was started in 1998. The community is agriculture-based; its inhabitants are predominantly white, non-Hispanic. The district's 2006-2007 enrollment is 96.3% White, 2.5% Hispanic, and .7% Black. The 2005 average unemployment rate in Johnson County was 6.2% (Illinois Dept. of Employment Security) compared to the average last year of 7.1% and compared to an average state rate of 5.4%, and an average national rate of 5.1%. A lack of business and industry in the area provides challenges for school-business partnerships. The district and community work tirelessly to provide opportunities for students of Vienna High School to engage in real-world experiences. Vienna High School provides a combination of six 70 minute periods, which change at the semester and two 60 minute periods, which go all year long. This allows opportunities for engaged learning activities, real world experiences, more time for teacher assisted homework, and PLATO remediation and enrichment technology. Offering job-shadowing experiences in the larger neighboring communities for all juniors and seniors fills one of these gaps. In addition, the school transports students to Shawnee College, ITT, and Southeastern College to participate in job fairs and career presentations.

Based on a feeder district survey conducted in September 2006 the school's enrollment will maintain around the 380 mark through the year 2010 and then will experience a considerable drop for three years. With these projections and taking into consideration the district's current constrained financial condition, the school's programs can not justifiably be enlarged or expanded, but will need to be annually analyzed, and monitored. District needs and additional

state requirements will be included in these considerations. Classes with relevance to the needs of 21st Century students will be maintained.

The Vienna High School District #13-3 houses grades 9-12. According to the 2005 school report card, District #13-3 had an enrollment of 43% low-income students. The district's attendance rate was 94.4% with a mobility rate of 10.09%. The chronic truancy rate for the district is 2.2%. The average class size is 20.4 and teacher-to-student ratio is 14.9 to 1. The graduation rate was 98.9% for the school year with a dropout rate of 1.1%. The percentage of dropouts at Vienna High School is way below that of the nationwide or statewide dropout rates and the graduation rate is far above state and national levels. Teachers averaged 11.8 years teaching experience with 29.1% having a master's degree or above.

For the 2006-2007 school year 44% of Vienna High School students receive free or reduced lunches. One hundred twenty students are currently receiving free lunches and 47 students are receiving reduced price lunches. For the 2006-2007 school year, 258 students are considered at-risk for quitting school. A list of at-risk students is compiled before the school term begins and updated early in the first quarter. The administration, counselors, special education teachers, and Title I staff meet to discuss how the district can meet the needs of these students. All of the alternative programs available to the district are considered. Vienna High School defines "at-risk" to be special education students, students who are more than 1 year behind in course work, students from low-income families, students who's GPA is below 2.50, and/or students who have a family history of dropouts.

District #13-3 employees 25 full-time faculty members including an Athletic Director, and 4 part-time faculty members, a Superintendent and Principal. One Guidance Counselor and a part-time social worker serve the needs of the students in the district.

Vienna High School has a progressive standard-based curriculum that includes a school-wide system of evaluation to identify areas strength and improvement. Efforts are made to articulate curricula with the feeder school districts and to improve integration of subject matter between courses. As a member of the Five-County Regional Vocational System, the district's vocational program includes courses in Business, Computers, Agriculture, Health Occupations, Home Economics, Transportation, Construction Technology and Industrial Technology. The Health Occupations teacher also serves as the school nurse. Approximately one-third of the students are working in a vocational sequence. Of these students, over fifty percent are considered handicapped and/or disadvantaged students (low-income, special education students and/or at-risk students). These are duplicated counts.

Spanish is the current foreign language course offering. A part-time technology manager is employed to supervise the school's modern, computerized technology equipment. The Vienna High School web page is maintained by technology staff and computer networking students. One physical education/driver's education teacher also serves as Athletic Director. A part-time reading specialist teaches reading classes, works with reading assessment and improvement, and maintains a state of the art media center.

The district serves many special education students. The faculty in the special education department includes three cross-categorical teachers and two aides. VHS is a member of JAMP Special Education Coop. JAMP provides administrative assistance in all aspects of the special education program. Vienna High School employs Title I teachers who divide their day between Title I duties and other teaching responsibilities. The Title I program provides tutorial services eligible students in reading, mathematics, and language arts. The principal serves as the gifted coordinator. The gifted program provides opportunities in the regular classroom to the identified gifted population. Gifted students participate in annual area Gifted Olympiads.

The district provides on going timely professional development for staff. Meetings are held early in the school year so that faculty grouped by fundamental learning areas can meet to analyze student performance over time. The end product of these meetings is the School Improvement Plan, which serves as a guide to drive curricular decisions. Home room teachers review individual student test data and work with students to develop appropriate goals for math and reading. A curriculum committee comprised of administrators, guidance counselors, and teacher representatives as well as a citizens advisory committee consisting of administrators, counselors, Vienna High School faculty, feeder school faculty, student council representatives, board members and citizens of the community constantly review and evaluate the district's programs, objectives, and Improvement Plans to assure alignment with the district's strategic plan and mission statement. Over the past 10 years Vienna High School has completed 3 cycles of strategic planning. The 2005 strategic plan includes 8 comprehensive goals and is available in the district office. Vienna High School endorses the School-to-Work concept by offering active dropout prevention and academic improvement programs such as DORS (Department of Rehabilitation Services), Work Related and Jobs for Illinois Graduates. Aside from agriculture, there are very few occupational opportunities in Johnson County. There is a high percentage of area residents who work for the federal, state, and local governments. Student dropouts are referred to the Adult Education Program and the Early School Leavers Program, both of which are offered through the Regional Superintendent of School's office. About 75% of the school's graduates pursue some type of education beyond high school completion, whether at a four-year college or university, a local community college, or vocational-technical school.

There is strong community support for the high school. Community organizations and businesses hold many functions in the gymnasium and commons area. Various sports programs in the community use the school's sports facilities. The Vienna High School Spirit League supports the band program through their fundraising efforts for the purchase of items for the band. Many of the extracurricular teams work to raise money for attendance at training camps. Although there is a scarcity, Vienna High School maximizes possibilities of cultural activities in the community. Vienna's proximity to Shawnee Community College, Southeastern Illinois Community College, John A. Logan Community College, Southern Illinois University, Paducah, Nashville, and St. Louis give students the opportunity for a variety of experiences.