

## **ANNUAL SCHOOL EVALUATION**

Holston High School

2011–2012

Holston High School presented a Comprehensive Plan for school improvement as it related to Washington County Schools' Comprehensive Plan. The objectives for the 2011-2012 school year included the following: 1) Provide an instructional program in Social Studies that leads to student success. 2) Enhance communication, interaction and collaboration between the school and parents. 3) Engage students in meaningful curriculum content through the purposeful and effective use of technology. 4) Meet all local, state, regional, and federal accreditation standards.

The administration and staff of Holston High School are to be commended for their hard work in meeting the 2011-2012 goals: The use of disaggregated of test data, targeted at-risk students and teacher based knowledge of the new social studies format led to increased student achievement in social studies. Science technology applications with iPads led to increased critical thinking and problem solving skills for students in the science curriculum.

The goals for the 2012-2013 school year are the following: 1) Provide an instructional program in Math that leads to be fully accredited. 2) Instructional use of data to assess and revise teacher instructional strategies and practices. 3) Engage teachers in professional development to develop and accomplish goals with the new teacher evaluation procedures. 4) Meet all local, state, regional and federal accreditation AMO standards.

The staff and students successfully met the goals identified and remain fully accredited in the Comprehensive Plan. The staff, students and parents are to be commended for their efforts and dedication to continue the tradition of excellence at Holston High School.

## **CURRICULUM INSTRUCTION**

Holston High School

2011–2012

- We revised and implemented a new schedule to optimize the instruction in all subject areas. We piloted the new modified block schedule for our county and it was very successful for our school.
- Our staff placed an emphasis on improving the instructional program in all Social Studies subject areas. We identified the students who were achieving at lower levels and tutoring and remediation was provided for those students. These students were scheduled to meet with a full time Social Studies tutor throughout the school year.
- Disaggregated data was utilized by teachers for assessment and planning. Those sources of data included, but are not limited to Benchmark Tests, Project Graduation, and State Standards of Learning tests by subject area.
- Professional development was provided and documented by the administration.
- Accommodations were provided for students with intervention plans. The teachers tracked the use of the plans and their effectiveness in all subject areas.
- Tutoring was provided in all four core subject areas.
- Collaboration was provided for teachers in the same subject area.
- Our teachers identified the students who were achieving below standards and a plan was implemented to assure that all students were meeting their graduation requirements.
- One of our business teachers began giving the WISE financial assessment for student certification. Her class scored over 75% and she received the Blue Star Award and was recognized by the WISE foundation with a \$1500 grant and the opportunity to attend a national conference in Kansas City, Mo,

**DATA ASSESSMENT**  
Holston High School  
2011–2012

- Correlate data to specific areas of the School Improvement Plan.
- The analysis of SOL test scores, Benchmark data, Project Graduation resources and nine week grading reports were used to determine the effectiveness of our instruction.
- The School Improvement Plan was revised and modified based on the analysis of available data.
- Professional development opportunities were provided to all teachers based on Assessment for Learning (AFL).
- The data was analyzed to determine if current instructional strategies were aligned with SOL standards and practices.
- Data was used from remediation programs, pre-tests, and post-tests to determine effectiveness.
- Holston High School was accredited by the Virginia Department of Education.
- Holston High School met AYP for the 2011-2012 school year.
- Emphasis was placed on instruction for the use of better assessments.

## **OPERATIONS & FACILITIES**

Holston High School

2011–2012

- Our school conducts safety audits as required by the state and develop a plan of action based on recommendations of the audit committee.
- The county completed construction on a new aquaculture facility.
- Construction of the new band room and renovation of chorus room was completed.
- The concession stand at the football field was expanded and a new set of bleachers was installed on the visitor's side of the field.
- Maintenance on our facility is continually upgraded on a regular cycle basis in order to prevent expensive repairs or the deterioration of the overall appearance.
- Classrooms were painted as needed throughout our building,
- Installation of the new electronic marquee was completed and it was put into use.
- Each department was issued ipads and new computers were issued to teachers as needed.
- The landscape in front of the school was updated.

## **PUBLIC RELATIONS & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

Holston High School

2011–2012

- The school web page is updated daily by our faculty and students.
- The morning newscast is produced by our students and it is broadcasted through our school website. This allows for the parents and community to view the announcements.
- Our school utilized the School Messenger to inform parents of their child's attendance and upcoming events.
- Teachers are required to update their Moodle or Quia web pages on a weekly basis.
- Our faculty and staff continued to maintain grades and other information for the parental access to Power School.
- Each teacher has access to parent/guardian contact information.
- Our clubs are involved in various community service projects throughout the community. The clubs took a major role in Relay for Life activities and all clubs participated in various fundraising projects and raised over \$5000 for the cause.
- The various booster clubs in our school are actively involved in decorating the stores in our town and promoting our various teams.
- One of our Art students designed the logo for the Damascus Centennial Celebration.
- Our FFA teaches a class at Rhea Valley Elementary to all third graders that promotes agriculture.
- Our athletic teams continue to work with the youth programs and recognize the different youth teams in our area.
- Our students display art work at various businesses throughout the year.
- Our students serve as mentors at Rhea Valley Elementary and Damascus Middle School.
- The school provided office space, a telephone, and computer access to two college guides who helped students explore post-secondary opportunities and apply to colleges, technical schools, and the military.

**SECURITY & SAFETY**  
Holston High School  
2011–2012

- Our school conducts a yearly safety audit through the Virginia Department of Education.
- Administrators, teachers and other staff members maintain a highly visible presence throughout the building and grounds.
- We identify safety issues and concerns through the use of discipline data, accident reports and information from other local agencies.
- We have a great working relationship with our local law enforcement agencies.
- Student evacuation, lock downs and other school safety drills are conducted monthly.
- Our staff, students and parents are educated on their roles in a crisis situation.
- Our school resource officer is visible throughout our building.
- All visitors are required to sign-in in the main office upon entering the building.
- Our entire staff wears ID badges and a badge is provided to substitute teachers.
- Our video monitoring system was upgraded and new cameras were added to cover critical sections of the grounds.
- The parking lot was reconfigured to accommodate the additions to the building.
- Power School is used to disaggregate student discipline data.
- The Assistant Principal monitors attendance and conducts meetings with parents and uses community resources, including the Juvenile Court when necessary, to improve attendance and discipline in the school.
- A discipline report is compiled each year to determine areas of concern.

## **STUDENT ACTIVITIES**

Holston High School

2011–2012

- Student activity advisors/coaches act as mentors to emphasize honesty, responsibility, citizenship, integrity, accountability and respect during all activities and events.
- Good sportsmanship is emphasized in athletics through announcements before each game, sign displays, and recognition of individual athletes with “Good Sportsmanship” Awards.
- “Cavaliers of the Month” are recognized on the school website, Uniting the Division, the school marquee, in daily announcements, and on the school newscast for all students, parents, faculty, and community members to see.
- Future Farmers of America competed at the national level in several different categories at the National FFA convention in Indianapolis, Indiana.
- The Gear-up program sponsored a school-wide assembly through Motivational Media Assemblies that addressed the necessity of making good choices.
- Student leaders serve as officers and advisors at county, state, and national levels for various committees and organizations, including the Superintendent’s Advisory Committee, FFA, Tri-Hi-Y Model General Assembly, FBLA, and 4-H Club.
- Student leaders are developed through a class curriculum of specifically designed projects that target sportsmanship, public speaking, community service, motivating peer groups, teamwork, time management, and problem solving.
- Student organizations promote events that utilize community leaders and community resources to emphasize good character. Resources utilized include: Washington County Sherriff’s Office, Alpha Natural Resources, Pepsi, Justin Foundation, River’s Way, and Damascus Town police.
- Students who are interested in a career in the U.S. military were provided with an opportunity to take the Armed Service Vocational Aptitude Test (ASVAB) in January.