

**ANNUAL SCHOOL EVALUATION**  
Patrick Henry High School  
2011–2012

Patrick Henry 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 Mathematics that leads to opportunities for student success in Geometry and Algebra II in accordance to local, state and federal mandates. 2) Provide opportunities for activities that enhance the development for the whole child. 3) Provide professional development activities for staff on instructional strategies for the block schedule. 4) Meet all local, state, regional, and federal accreditation standards.

The administration and staff of Patrick Henry High School are to be commended for their hard work in meeting the 2011-2012 goals. Patrick Henry High School did experience a slight dip in Math as measured with the rest of the state of Virginia by the SOL assessment. This by no means was a true reflection of student achievement in Math. There was a significant increase in student attendance and students who successfully completed a course through a credit recovery program. Teachers shared many instructional practices showcasing student engagement strategies throughout the year.

The goals for the 2012-2013 school year are the following: 1) Provide an instructional program in Mathematics that leads to opportunities for student success in all areas of math especially in Algebra I. 2) Provide enhanced collaboration and communication among schools. 3) Provide professional development for staff on instructional strategies that encourage Assessment for Learning, AFL. 4) Continue to meet all local, state, regional, and federal accreditation AMO standards.

Patrick Henry High School is to be complimented for their creative initiatives working to help every student obtain a diploma. The faculty and administration are to be commended for maintaining a culture of student achievement for every child. Staff, students and parents are to be commended for their efforts and dedication to continue the tradition of excellence at Patrick Henry High School.

# CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

Patrick Henry High School

2011–2012

**OBJECTIVE:** Provide an instructional program in Mathematics that leads to opportunities for student success in Geometry and Algebra II in accordance to local, state and federal mandates:

## Strategies

- Disaggregation of 2011 SOL Results
- Disaggregation of 2011-12 Benchmark Results
- Provide tutors for students with identified needs
- Provide an additional Math teacher in selected classes
- Provide a Math elective class for remediation

## Indicators

- SOL Scores
- NCLB Requirements
- Benchmark Results

Patrick Henry High School is proud of the effort put forth by our students and staff in regards to the 2011-12 Math SOL implementation. Despite the tremendous effort our students and teachers displayed, we are not satisfied with our results. Some of the information below (taken directly from the Virginia Department of Education website) will shed light on our math performance.

In 2011-12 Virginia implemented the new (2009) mathematics standards in an attempt to ensure that young Virginians are truly college and career ready when they graduate from high school. The mathematics standards and corresponding tests reflect the fact that today's students require more rigorous mathematical knowledge and skills to pursue higher education and to compete in a technologically sophisticated work force.

The Standards of Learning (SOL) for each subject identify the essential academic content for each grade level and course. The Virginia Board of Education revised the Mathematics SOL in 2009 to ensure that Virginia graduates will continue to compete successfully with their peers in other states and countries in the global economy.

The revision process drew upon the expertise of national organizations such as the College Board and ACT (publishers of the SAT and ACT college-admissions tests), college faculty and classroom teachers and mathematics specialists from Virginia school divisions.

The new mathematics standards also are equal in rigor and depth to the national model standards – known as the Common Core State Standards – that many other states have adopted.

The new mathematics tests reflect the increased rigor of the new standards. While most of the questions on the new tests are in the familiar multiple-choice format, approximately 15 percent of the items (depending on the test) are new technology-enhanced items.

Technology-enhanced items allow students to apply what they have learned and use critical-thinking skills in ways not possible with traditional multiple-choice questions. The items mirror common classroom tasks and assignments.

For example, “drag and drop” items require students to sort, order, classify, or label to provide an answer. The “drag and drop” functionality also gives students the ability to create graphs from a given data set. “Hot spot” items require students to identify all possible correct answers from a given set or list, plot points on a grid, or highlight a specific feature in a diagram or figure. “Fill-in-the-blank” items require students to complete open-ended problems and type answers into the blanks.

Technology-enhanced items on the new tests in Algebra I, Geometry and Algebra II tests were field tested with students during the 2010-2011 school year. (VDOE website).

Math scores across the Commonwealth were extremely low. Patrick Henry students experienced the same drop in scores as did many other Virginia high schools. In Geometry, 65% of our students were successful on the SOL test. Our students performed somewhat better in Algebra II with a pass rate of 71%. Pass rates statewide were 74 and 69 respectively.

Even though Patrick Henry High School experienced a drop in Math scores as measured by SOL Assessments, this is not a true reflection of student performance. According to the College Board, who the Virginia Department of Education used as expert advisors, Patrick Henry High School made tremendous gains in the percentage of students who are College Ready, going from 19.8% in 2011 to 28.2% in 2012. The national average for both years was less than 25%. According to the College Board, Patrick Henry High School students saw a slight increase in math performance while other high schools in Virginia realized a slight decrease as measured by College Readiness indicators. Even though Math SOL scores saw significant decreases statewide, Virginia topped the national average Math SAT score by 5 points.

Additionally, it should be reported that we continue to make progress in regards to our 2010-11 Curriculum and Instruction goal which was to improve our performance on the Writing SOL test. In 2011-12, 98% of our students passed the Writing SOL test, up from 89% the previous year.

# **PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACTIVITIES THAT ENHANCE THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE WHOLE CHILD**

Patrick Henry High School  
2011–2012

## Strategies

- Identify students who demonstrate at-risk behaviors.
- Provide interventions with services provided by SAP, Guidance, Day Treatment, etc.
- Selectively schedule students to increase opportunities for success.

## Indicators

- Improved attendance by individual students.
- Percent of at-risk students who remain on track academically.
- Survey of participating students.

In regards to our goal of provide opportunities that enhance the development of students who have been identified as being “at-risk”, we are proud to report that we experienced great success. Over 250 students were identified as being at-risk for one or more of the following reasons; attendance, SOL performance, classroom performance, and dropping out of school.

In the area of attendance, 143 students had personal meetings with our Assistant Principal. We had 53 parent meetings. Almost 25 students were referred to the ID team while only 12 students were charged in court. The early interventions were directly related to the relatively small number of court charges. As a result of a referral to Juvenile Court late in the school year, one student was ordered to complete Summer School which ensured she received her diploma.

65 students passed an SOL test after being identified as at-risk in that area. A list of the number of students who recovered an SOL credit is listed below by subject:

Writing – 17  
Reading – 2  
Earth Science – 3  
Biology – 1  
Algebra I – 12  
Geometry – 12  
Algebra II – 7  
World History I – 1  
US History – 10

Our students also experienced success in recovering Carnegie units after being identified as being at-risk. At least 15 students recovered Carnegie credits this school year.

Even though we had several students drop out of school this year, we experienced success in this area as well. We identified 24 seniors as being at-risk for dropping out, 18 of these students

successfully graduated. Of the six who did not graduate, four transferred into our school with too few credits to graduate.

In addition to providing school related services to our at-risk students we also provided counseling through our Guidance Office, SAP Counselor, and Day Treatment Counselor. Throughout the school year our counselors did therapeutic group sessions with some of our at-risk students. These sessions lasted about an hour and were conducted once every other week. The sessions were interactive and the participation of everyone in the group was strongly encouraged. Many issues were covered, consisting of team building skills, social skills, job skills, and building a support system for the students' future. We also covered some issues using a workbook called "Success for Teens" by the Success Foundation. This book covered issues such as time management, goal-setting, self-esteem, and self-motivation.

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Patrick Henry High School

2011–2012

**OBJECTIVE:** Provide professional development for staff on instructional strategies for the block schedule.

### Strategies

- Provide staff development on known effective instructional strategies used in block classes.
- Collaboration in curriculum pacing guides.
- Summer in-service training geared toward block strategies.

Our professional development was focused on block schedule teaching strategies during the 2011-12 school year. Scott Habeeb shared Assessment for Learning strategies with all high school teachers to start the school year. Every month our teachers shared best practices for teaching on a block schedule during our faculty meetings. A video was created showcasing engaging classroom lesson where teachers and students were engaged and learning.

## **ENHANCE COLLABORATION AND COMMUNICATION AMONG SCHOOLS, COMMUNITIES AND PARENTS**

Patrick Henry High School  
2011–2012

- Conducted meetings to inform parents of student scheduling
- Conducted parent/student financial aid meetings for graduating seniors
- Scheduled 8th grade student and parent meeting prior to 8th grade scheduling for high school
- Scheduled 9th grade orientation for parents and students, along with new students enrolled throughout the summer, which is held a couple days prior to school starting in the fall
- Conducted parent/teacher conferences throughout the school year
- Participated in the Washington County Community Scholars program
- Participated in the Gifted Program
- Conducted parent and student meeting with Emory and Henry staff prior to the beginning of the dual enrolled English course
- Distributed monthly senior newsletter
- Maintained web pages by teachers to better inform parents of student progress
- Used School Messenger to contact parents of important information and activities
- Emailed information to parents on a regular basis to inform parents of activities and important school information
- Conducted regular PTA and Booster meetings
- Implemented the AITES Grant which encouraged a working relationship with agencies such as the 4-H Center, CGI, Northrop Grumman, Southwest VA Higher Education Center, area college admissions offices, Virginia Tech
- Allowed military visits to help encourage postsecondary education/training
- Promoted students and parents to attend the county-wide College Tour/Night
- Took students to the county-wide Career Day
- Students attended field trips in our community – Barter Theatre and Alpha Natural Resources
- Participated in professional organizations
- Partnered with local civic groups, businesses, and individuals to provide college scholarships for PHHS students
- Conducted various awards ceremonies held throughout the year
- Held a National Honor Society induction
- Club Activities

- Food bank/food collection
- Relay for Life
- Operation Christmas Child
- United Way
- Adopt a Highway
- Adoption of families at holidays such as Thanksgiving and Christmas
- Blood bank

## **PROMOTE A SAFE AND NURTURING SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT**

Patrick Henry High School

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- Updated Crisis Plans (performed annually)
- Patrick Henry High School Crisis (SERT) Team met throughout the year and at the conclusion of each school year to discuss needed changes to the Crisis Plan
- Maintained a working relationship with local, county, and state law enforcement
- Invited law enforcement officials for lunch on campus
- Identified safety issues (bomb threats) and concerns and developed action plans
- Provided our facility for numerous law enforcement training activities
- Maintained student discipline records effectively and efficiently
- Accident reports were appropriately filed and maintained
- Updated and reviewed Bullying Prevention strategies
- Attended training sessions on cyber bullying.
- We hope to install a security buzzer.
- We would like to consider installing interior cameras.

*Provide Opportunities for Activities that Enhance the Development of the Whole Child  
(Continued)*

- FFA
  - Community service projects
  - Leadership opportunities
  - Various after-school activities
  - Washington County Fair participation
  - Virginia FFA Agriscience Fair
- FBLA
  - Fall leadership training
  - Christmas Angel service project
  - Certification in technology
  - Business contests
  - Field trips associated with technology/media
- SCA
  - Back to school bash
  - Fall and winter homecoming
  - SOL-cebration
  - Leadership opportunities

- Key Club
  - Veterans Day Celebration
  - Community Service
- Fine Arts
- Band competitions and parades
- Chorus competitions and concert
- Art competitions and shows
- Drama and forensics competitions
- Special Interest Clubs
- Book Club
- Heritage Club
- Guidance Department
  - Reality Store
  - Financial Aid workshops
  - WCCS
    - Community Service
    - Attendance
    - GPA requirements
    - No disciplinary referrals
- Athletics
- Fall - Golf, football, cross-country, volleyball, cheerleading
- Winter - Basketball (boys and girls), swimming, wrestling, cheerleading
- Spring - Baseball, softball, track

**UTILIZE PRESENT FACILITIES, RESTRUCTURE EXISTING  
FACILITIES, AND ACQUIRE NEW FACILITIES  
TO ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF STUDENTS AND PROGRAMS  
WITHIN THE SCHOOL DIVISION**

Patrick Henry High School  
2011–2012

- Band room construction is complete
- Chorus room renovation is complete