

*From 8th Grader
to
High School Freshman*

*A Parents' Primer to Special Education at
Verona High School*

January 10, 2013

Basic Comparisons

	HBW	VHS
Hours	8:40-3:00	7:55-2:33
Schedule	Bell Schedule (43 min)	Block Schedule (55 min)
Classes	Fulfill Grade Level Requirements	Fulfill Credit Requirements over 4 Years, State and Local Graduation Requirements
Attendance	Monitored Closely	Lose credit for 14 or more absences in a class; Detention(s) for accumulated "lates" to class
Grades	Monitored Closely Posted on Genesis Parent Portal	Lose credit for final grade of F Posted on Genesis Parent Portal
Course Assessments	8 th Grade-Mid-Year Benchmarks, End of Year Finals	All grades-Midterms (January) Finals (June)
Activities	Clubs, Annual Musical	Clubs, Multiple Drama Productions
Sports	H.B.W.A.A., Recreation, League	Seasonal Junior Varsity, Varsity
Program Management	Case Manager/Guidance Counselor	Case Manager/Guidance Counselor

Instruction

Always in the Least Restrictive Environment; that is “to the maximum extent appropriate, a student with a disability is educated with children who are not disabled” (NJAC 6A:14-4.2(a)).

Instructional program outlined in each I.E.P.

- General Education (GE) (Taught by a State certified teacher who is highly qualified in the subject area)
- In-class Instruction (ICI) (Co-taught by a State certified general education teacher and a State certified special education teacher both of whom are highly qualified in the subject area)
- Resource Center (Taught by a State certified special education teacher who is highly qualified in the subject area)

Additional Special Education Class Options

Essex County Vocational-Technical School

(West Caldwell, NJ)

- Apply in 8th grade for admission
 - Take part in vocational assessment (winter of 8th grade year)
 - Participate in a personal interview (spring of 8th grade year)
- If accepted, VHS students attend on a shared-time basis:
9th/10th grade in the a.m., 11th/12th grade in the p.m.; VHS the other half of the day
 - First year consists of a rotation of 'shops' (e.g., auto repair, culinary, business)
 - Second, third and fourth year is a concentration of one 'shop'
- Transportation provided by the Verona Public Schools

Transition/Job Sampling Classes

Both classes taught by a State certified Career and Workplace Readiness teacher

Classes usually taken junior and/or senior year

- Transition Class – Students are taught to develop communication skills, set realistic career goals, make informed career choices. Instruction also includes practical skills such as: completing job applications, writing a resume, banking, budgeting, self advocacy
- Job Sampling Class – Provides rotating job shadowing/sampling experiences in the local community. Personalized work goals and objectives are developed when placed in a job. Joint supervision and coaching by Verona High School teacher and mentor at the job site.

IEP vs. 504 Accommodation Plan

	IEP	504 Accommodation Plan
Eligibility	Determined on a triennial basis by the Child Study Team after comprehensive evaluation and following criteria outlined in NJAC 6:A-14	Determined on an annual basis by 504 Committee when an individual (a) has a physical or mental impairment that severely limits one or more major life activity, (b) has a record of such impairment, or (c) is regarded as having such impairment
Plan	Written plan that outlines full educational program and includes Special Education instruction, measurable goals/objectives. Reviewed on an annual basis	Written plan that outlines accommodations for general education program. Reviewed on an annual basis. In effect for school year.
Monitor	Case Manager (member of the Child Study Team)	Case Monitor (General Education personnel)

Testing

- *End of Course Assessment (Biology) Not required to pass for graduation.
- ACT/SAT Combo test (given in school to all students sophomore year)
- *Grade 11 – **High School Proficiency Assessment (HSPA)** (State mandated, graduation requirement)

Accommodations/ modifications outlined in I.E.P.

- *State is reevaluating testing. Names and requirements may change over the course of students' high school career.

Testing Continued

- PSAT (given sophomore/junior year)
- SAT
- ACT

Register with ETS/ACT to take test(s)

Apply through ETS/ACT for accommodations/modifications

Post Secondary

- Post-secondary transition planning begins at age 14 with a broad based Transition Plan outlined in I.E.P.
 - Plan is developed based on student's strengths, weaknesses and preferences for the future
 - Plan identifies high school course of studies to assist student in achieving post-secondary goals
- Transition plan updated annually
- Specific activities that will assist student in achieving post-secondary goals are outlined in I.E.P. beginning at age 16

- Student, Case Manager, Child Study Team and High School Guidance Counselor work closely together throughout high school
- Goal to provide student with necessary preparation to achieve desired post-secondary outcomes
- Case Manager and Guidance Counselor will assist student with application to 4 year college, 2 year college, trade based programs, the military or work.

- Case Manager and Guidance Counselor will assist student and family with application to appropriate post-secondary agencies (e.g., Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services, Social Security)

Related Services

- Appropriate related services continue to be outlined in the student's IEP
 - Speech/Language
 - Counseling
 - Occupational Therapy
 - Physical Therapy

Personnel

Child Study Team

- Mrs. Joan Serpico, Learning Disabilities Teacher-Consultant ext. 1022, jserpico@veronaschools.org
- Dr. Michael Shrem, School Psychologist, ext.1021, mshrem@veronaschools.org
- Mrs. Josephine Schiff, School Social Worker, ext. 7517, jschiff@veronaschools.org
- Ms. Kathy Wrobel, Speech/Language Specialist, ext.7512, kwrobel@veronaschools.org

Guidance Counselors

- Mrs. Kimberly Ferlauto, Director of Guidance, (S-Z), ext. 1019, kferlauto@veronaschools.org
- Mrs. Kathleen Grant , (A-G), ext. 1020, kgrant@veronaschools.org
- Ms. Colleen Green , (H-R), ext. 1018, cgreen@veronaschools.org

Special Education Teachers

- Ms. Linda Barone, lbarone@veronaschools.org
- Mrs. Elaine DeVita, edevita@veronaschools.org
- Ms. Jennifer Errico, jerrico@veronaschools.org
- Mr. David Fogel, dfogel@veronaschools.org
- Mrs. Jahn Maka, jmaka@veronaschools.org
- Mrs. Claudia Milojevic, cmilojevic@veronaschools.org

Administration

- Mrs. Elizabeth Skinner, Director of Special Services, ext. 7512, lskinner@veronaschools.org
- Mrs. Gina Venezia, Supervisor of Special Services, ext. 7512, gvenezia@veronaschools.org
- Mr. Glenn Cesa, Principal Verona High School, ext. 1010, gcesa@veronaschools.org
- Mr. David Galbierczyk, Assistant Principal Verona High School, ext. 1011, dgalbierczyk@veronaschools.org
- Mrs. Kimberly Ferlauto, Director of Guidance, ext. 1019, kferlauto@veronaschools.org