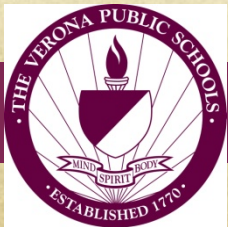


Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment Progress Summary

January 7, 2014



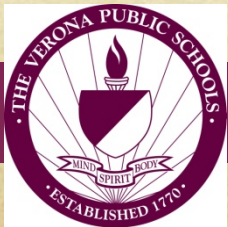
VERONA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Academic Achievement Focus 2009-2014

- The Board defined student achievement as an area of distinct focus in 2007.
- The Board, Administrators, Teachers, Staff, and Community committed to improving academic performance with the 2008-2013 Five-Year Strategic Plan.
- We will continue to do so with the new 2013-2018 Five-Year Strategic Plan (see slides #13, #14, and #15).

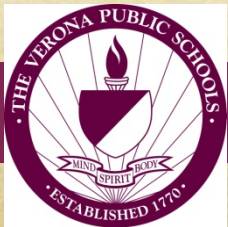
Following the Strategic Plans, we have implemented the following changes:

- Enhanced our Administrative Structure
- Understanding by Design (UbD)
- Genesis (Student Information System)
- Analyze student data



As a result of these actions...

1. Curriculum, using Understanding by Design (UbD), district-wide.
 - All Core Curriculum Scope & Sequence documents are online and openly available to parents & students (over 100 documents)
<http://www.veronaschools.org/domain/18>
2. Professional Learning has been revised (staff training) program based on the results we see in student performance & state mandates (UbD, SGOs, Marzano, PARCC ...).
3. Changed course offerings, sequence and teacher assignments, as needed.
4. Implementing the Marzano model for staff evaluations pursuant to state mandates (consistent with the methods we already defined for Verona).
5. Grown the North Essex Professional Development Consortium (which we established)
 - Now includes Glen Ridge, West Caldwell, Montclair, West Essex, Cedar Grove & Fairfield (new partners) & Verona!



Our results over the years ...

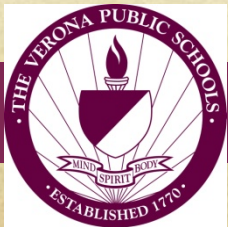
- *We have made steady and consistent progress where we have focused our attention (UbD, %PP, Specific Math/ELA Clusters).*
- *Our students and staff continue to meet the challenges of change and continue to perform very well in difficult circumstances.*
- *We will remain committed to continually improving, year after year, with a sound, sensible approach to change.*

NJ Report Card Data allows us to compare how we are performing alongside our DFG I peers (demographics being the most consistent predictor of academic performance).

- We gauge our success and areas of improvement against the DFG I average.
- With focus on specific clusters, we will reduce the gap between our students and our DFG I peers (students).
- However, we are focused on slightly different areas given our strengths, weaknesses, schedule of curriculum change, staff assignments, etc.

Important to note:

- Standardized tests comprise multiple clusters (sub-topics). We are targeting specific clusters for improvement as we go.
- We have certain grades/subjects where %PP is much higher than it should be – these are also areas of focus.
- We have targeted some grades/subjects where many %P can become %AP, given the range in scores



VERONA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The Results – Elementary Math (Grades 3&4)

- Our %PP is even lower (improving): Spring 2013: Verona 9.5% PP vs. DFG 9.3% PP
- Strong Cluster: Number & Operations in Base Ten and Geometry
- Focus Cluster: Number & Operations with Fractions

- Our %PP is even lower (improving): Spring 2013: Verona 13.7% PP vs. DFG 9.0% PP
- Strong Cluster: Geometry
- Focus Cluster: Number & Operations with Fractions

ASK 3 Math	08-09		11-12		New Common Core Clusters	12-13	
	V	DFG	V	DFG		V	DFG
Cluster							
Number & Numerical Operations	13.7	15.3	13.7	14.8	Operations & Algebraic Thinking	8.7	9.1
Geometry & Measurement	8.1	8.7	7.6	8.0	Number & Operations in Base Ten	4.7	4.6
Patterns & Algebra	7.7	8.2	8.2	8.3	Number & Operations - Fractions	5.8	7.0
Data, Prob, Discrete Math	5.5	5.8	6.1	6.0	Measurement & Data	10.1	10.4
Problem Solving	17.2	18.9	12.4	13.1	Geometry	5.1	5.1
%PP	14.3%	8.6%	6.5%	5.5%	%PP	9.5%	9.3%

ASK 4 Math	08-09		11-12		New Common Core Clusters	12-13	
	V	DFG	V	DFG		V	DFG
Cluster							
Number & Numerical Operations	14.1	15.5	14.1	15.4	Operations & Algebraic Thinking	6.6	7.2
Geometry & Measurement	6.6	7.1	7.3	8.1	Number & Operations in Base Ten	7.3	7.9
Patterns & Algebra	8.5	8.5	7.3	8.1	Number & Operations - Fractions	12.6	13.7
Data, Prob, Discrete Math	5.3	5.3	4.7	5.4	Measurement & Data	2.3	2.8
Problem Solving	15.3	16.5	14.1	14.8	Geometry	4.8	4.6
%PP	11%	9.90%	14.60%	6.10%	%PP	13.7%	9.0%

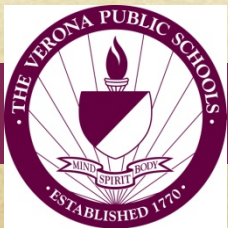


The Results – Elementary ELA (Grades 3&4)

- Our %PP is lower than our DFG I Peers in Grades 3&4: Grade 3 (15.8% vs. 17.2%) & Grade 4 (20% vs. 21.4%)
- Curricular Focus is on Writing and Reading Workshop
- Strong Cluster: Reading in Grades 3 & 4
 - Grade 3: Literature: 6.4 vs. 6.4 Grade 4: Literature: 8.2 vs. 7.8
 - Grade 4: Informational Text: 12.7 vs. 12.4 Grade 4: Informational Text: 15.5 vs. 15.4

ASK 3 LAL		08-09		11-12		ASK 3 ELA		12-13	
Cluster	V	DFG	V	DFG	Common Core Standards	V	DFG		
Writing	9.6	11.3	11.4	11.4	Writing	10.9	11		
Reading	18.3	19.2	18.2	17.9	Reading	19.1	18.8		
%PP	14.3%	14.7%	10.1%	11.7%	%PP	15.8%	17.2%		

ASK 4 LAL		08-09		11-12		ASK 4 ELA		12-13	
Cluster	V	DFG	V	DFG	Common Core Standards	V	DFG		
Writing	12	12.4	12.6	13	Writing	12.4	12.6		
Reading	25	25.4	22.2	22.1	Reading	23.7	23.1		
%PP	10.3%	13.7%	19.0%	16.6%	%PP	20.0%	21.4%		



The Results – HBW Math (Grades 5-8)

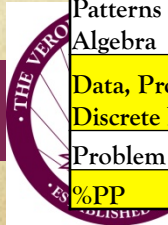
- Our %PP is lower than the DFG I Mean for ALL Four Grade Levels (look at %PP highlighted in green)!!
- Common Core State Standards will be tested in the spring for grades 6, 7, 8
- Focus Cluster: *Number & Operations – Fractions in grade 5 and Implementing CCSS in grades 6-8*

ASK 5 Math Cluster	11-12		ASK 5 Math New Common Core Clusters	12-13	
	V	DFG		V	DFG
Number & Numerical Operations	13.1	13.9	Operations & Algebraic Thinking	4.6	4.8
Geometry & Measurement	11.6	12.4	Number & Operations in Base Ten	8.8	8.8
Patterns & Algebra	6.6	6.8	Number & Operations - Fractions	8.3	9.1
Data, Prob, Discrete Math	4.5	5.4	Measurement & Data	10.3	10.4
Problem Solving	11.7	13.1	Geometry	5.0	5.1
%PP	6.0%	2.7%	%PP	6.7%	8.3%

ASK 6 Math Cluster	11-12		12-13	
	V	DFG	V	DFG
Number & Numerical Operations	10.2	10.4	8.7	9.1
Geometry & Measurement	9.4	9.8	9.2	9.3
Patterns & Algebra	11.3	11.6	11.0	11.3
Data, Prob, Discrete Math	6.7	6.6	5.5	5.8
Problem Solving	17.7	18.1	14.4	15.3
%PP	2.6%	3.8%	8.5%	9.7%

ASK 7 Math Cluster	11-12		12-13	
	V	DFG	V	DFG
Number & Numerical Operations	8.1	8.6	7.3	7.4
Geometry & Measurement	9.2	10.1	9.7	9.9
Patterns & Algebra	10.0	10.4	10.1	10.2
Data, Prob, Discrete Math	5.5	5.3	5.7	5.4
Problem Solving	16.9	17.7	18.1	18.3
%PP	14.8%	12.3%	18.6%	18.9%

ASK 8 Math Cluster	11-12		12-13	
	V	DFG	V	DFG
Number & Numerical Operations	8.8	9.8	8.3	8.8
Geometry & Measurement	10.6	10.8	9.6	9.6
Patterns & Algebra	8.0	9.6	9.9	10.5
Data, Prob, Discrete Math	6.2	5.9	5.6	5.3
Problem Solving	21.0	22.5	17.5	17.7
%PP	6.1%	6.6%	13.3%	15.1%



B

The Results – HBW ELA (Grades 5-8)

- Our %PP for 5th Grade has closed to a 0.4% gap (Verona 20.8% vs. DFG I Mean 20.4%)
- Reading Cluster has reduced significantly in both Grades 5 & 6

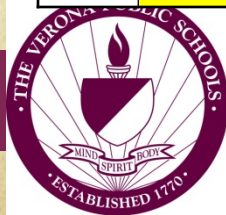
ASK 5 ELA	08-09		11-12		12-13		
	V	DFG	V	DFG	CCSS	V	DFG
Writing	13	13.5	12.5	12.8	Writing	12.8	13.2
Reading	30.5	30.7	24.1	25.7	Reading	25.2	25.6
%PP	10.4%	6.6%	18.0%	12.5%	%PP	20.8%	20.4%

ASK 6 ELA	08-09		11-12		12-13		
	V	DFG	V	DFG	CCSS	V	DFG
Writing	9.6	9.7	11	11.4	Writing	11.1	11.2
Reading	35.6	36.9	33.8	34.6	Reading	33.6	34
%PP	11.40%	8.20%	11.20%	10.30%	%PP	19.4%	16.0%

- Our %PP is lower than our DFG I Peers in both Grades 7 & 8: (9.9% vs. 15.4% & 6.4% vs. 6.5%)
- Both Writing & Reading Clusters are higher than DFG I Peers

ASK 7 LAL	08-09		11-12		ASK 7 ELA 12-13		
	V	DFG	V	DFG	CCSS	V	DFG
Writing	11.3	11.2	11.4	11.8	Writing	12.3	11.8
Reading	35.6	36.1	34.2	34.8	Reading	33.5	33.3
%PP	5.70%	6.40%	12%	12%	%PP	9.9%	15.4%

ASK 8 LAL	08-09		11-12		ASK 8 ELA 12-13		
	V	DFG	V	DFG	CCSS	V	DFG
Writing	12	12	11.7	11.9	Writing	12.3	12.1
Reading	37.1	38.1	38.6	39	Reading	37.9	37.3
%PP	2.20%	1.50%	1.80%	1.50%	%PP	6.4%	6.5%



The Results – VHS (HSPA - 11th Grade)

- LAL focus on improving %AP and %PP. Math focus on improving %PP.
- Focus on culture change on Advanced Placement participation & performance
- Focus on Dual-Enrollment, College Credit, & New Elective courses

		2008		2009		2010		2011		2012		2013	
		Verona	DFG	Verona	DFG	Verona	DFG	Verona	DFG	Verona	DFG	Verona	DFG
LAL	%AP	11.7%	22.8%	19.9%	25.9%	14.7%	34.3%	23.5%	43.4%	29.3%	38.0%	38.7%	45.4%
	%PP	8.0%	6.2%	9.6%	5.6%	4.7%	3.8%	4.6%	3.5%	1.4%	2.7%	1.9%	2.6%
Math	%AP	30.7%	42.5%	27.9%	41.2%	26.7%	42.7%	27.5%	43.4%	30.6%	46.7%	39.6%	48.5%
	%PP	13.9%	10.0%	18.4%	11.5%	23.3%	10.8%	16.3%	11.1%	11.6%	8.9%	8.4%	8.6%

✓ HSPA LAL %PP has steadily declined to below DFG average, now 2 years in a row

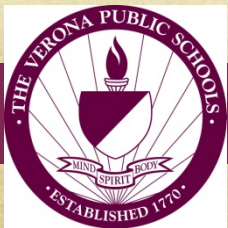
✓ HSPA LAL %AP continues to close the gap to DFG Average.

- VHS increased 231% vs. DFG increase of 99% from 2008-2013

✓ HSPA Math %PP is at lowest level in 6 years and is now below the DFG Average

✓ HSPA Math %AP continues to close the gap to DFG Average.

- VHS increased 29% vs. DFG increase of 14% from 2008-2013

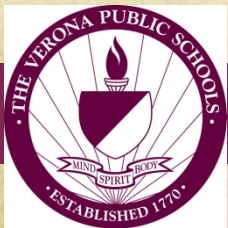


The Results – VHS (Advanced Placement)

We identified Advanced Placement participation and performance as an area for improvement in 2006. To achieve that, we have:

- Made it easier for students to enroll
- Changed the content, updated curriculum, conducted staff training, changed teaching assignments
- ✓ We have increased participation while maintaining performance as recognized by College Boards Award.
- ✓ We now have an enrollment of 186 in current school year.

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
% 3's or better	76%	66%	49%	59%	71%	64%	72%	64%	Aug 2014
# tests administered	70	119	225	145	170	183	271	368	427
Total # AP Students		77	108	82	75	89	127	171	186



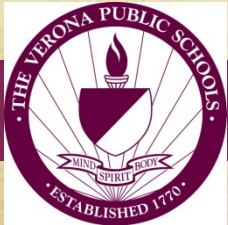
The Results – VHS (Advanced Placement)

- AP Physics: Offered for the first time in 2011: 2 of 9 students earned a 3 or better. 2012: 10 of 13 students earned a 3 or better.
- AP Chemistry: In 5 years '06-'10 only 11 students earned a 3 or better. From 3 years since ('11-'13) 30 students earned a 3 or better.

AP Chemistry	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total Tests	11	22	30	4	10	6	13	15
# of 3's or better	1	5	3	0	2	3	12	15
% of 3's of better	9%	23%	10%	0%	20%	50%	92%	100%

- AP Language & Composition: This is one of our most impressive results. The number of students enrolled in the class have tripled since 2006; moreover, 95% of the students earned a 3 or better last spring.

AP Lang/Comp	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total Tests	13	18	18	15	16	10	36	43
# of 3's or better	10	14	13	12	15	9	33	41
% of 3's of better	78%	77%	72%	80%	94%	90%	92%	95%



The Results – College Board’s 4th Annual AP District Honor Roll (2nd Year in a Row)

Verona Public School District Placed on the College Board’s 4th Annual AP® District Honor Roll for Significant Gains in Advanced Placement® Access and Student Performance

- One of 477 school districts in the U.S. and Canada being honored by the College Board
 - For increasing access to AP® course work while (88 to 171 students)
 - Maintaining or increasing the percentage of students earning scores of 3 or higher on AP Exams (3%).

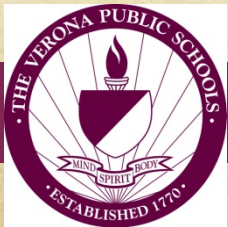
Total Students who took AP Exams, excluding Spanish Language			Annual Growth in the Number of AP Students (excluding those who only took Spanish Language) from 2011-2013	Percentage of AP Students who Scored 3+ on at least one AP Exam other than Spanish Language			Annual Growth in the Percentage of AP Students who Scored 3+ on at least one AP Exam other than Spanish Language
2011	2012	2013	$(171/88)^{(1/2)}-1$	2011	2012	2013	$(71\%/67\%)^{(1/2)}-1$
88	127	171	39%	67%	74%	71%	3%



Academic Achievement Focus 2013-14

Strategic Goal #4: Curriculum, Assessment, and Instruction

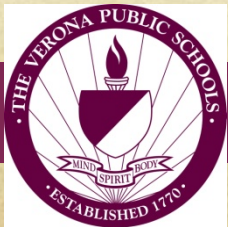
- Develop student scales (self-assessments)
- Curriculum Council:
 - Redesign to include representation from all stakeholders (K-12).
 - Create a tentative curriculum cycle '14-'18.
 - Analyze student performance (data)
- Implement EbD (STEM) in grades 3&4
- Continue to integrate literacy into subjects:
 - DBQ (Document Based Questions) in SS.
 - Research and develop DBQ (Data-Based Questions) in Science.



Academic Achievement Focus 2013-14

Strategic Goal #4: Curriculum, Assessment, and Instruction

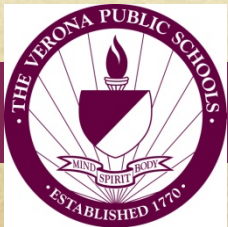
- Survey HBW & VHS students about current electives, their success, and enrollment numbers to make decisions for future electives.
- Continue to look for alignment (stages 1, 2, and 3) within the UbD framework with emphasis on assessments (formative & summative) and transfer.
- Develop common assessments (i.e. SGOs/benchmarks).



Academic Achievement Focus 2013-14

Strategic Goal #5: Professional Learning

- Continue Professional Learning/Development with the DEAC committee (each school will be represented with ScIP).
- Continue collaborative efforts with North Essex Professional Development Consortium (NEPDC).
- Implement and provide support for all staff using the Marzano Model.
- Develop a comprehensive training schedule for Marzano Model, SGOs, Teacher Evaluation Regulations.
- Input student data into Genesis (NJASK, SAT, SGOs, HSPA) to make informed decisions.



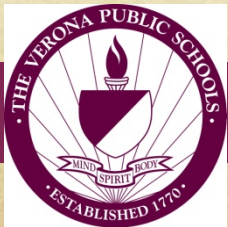
Humanities

Second year of full implementation of reading workshop, grades 3-4

- ❑ Expanded Reading Workshop to K-2 for the 2013-2014 school year
- ❑ Interdisciplinary approach for certain RW units (Science or Social Studies related)
- ❑ Students are instructed at their individual reading levels (DRA)
- ❑ Promote small group instruction through Guided Reading.

Infusion of *Nonfiction* across all grade levels (K-12):

- ❑ Periodicals (e.g., NY Times Upfront, Scope, The Week)
- ❑ Newspapers (e.g., NY Times)
- ❑ Primary Sources (2013-2014 school year: Introduce primary sources starting in Grade Six.)



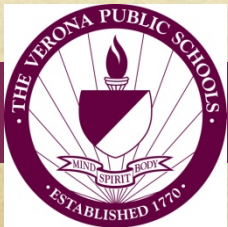
Humanities

Continued implementation of Writing Workshop, grades K-6

- ❑ Revised writing calendars with focus upon writing in the content areas (tie to research)

Document Based Questions (DBQ) - infuse literacy into Social Studies because DBQs require students to read primary sources and write an essay based upon a prompt incorporating the documents.

- ❑ Administered on a quarterly basis in all required classes (Grade 7-11)
- ❑ A common rubric was developed by teachers to grade the DBQs.



STEM

First year of Implementation of EbD STEM program in Elementary

- UbD style STEM curriculum in progress as “Verona model”
- **Emphasis:** Science, Engineering, and Math Practices with a collaborative approach
- Integrating elementary technology teachers into STEM program beginning Jan 2014

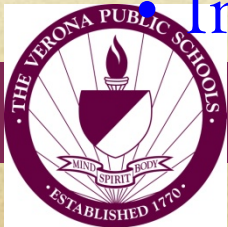
Planning phase for **expanding EbD to HBW for 14-15**



STEM

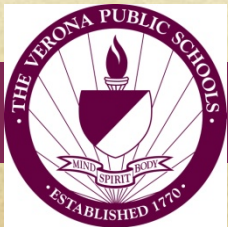
Next Generation Science Standards

- Final Draft Published April/May 2013
- Recommended for adoption by State Committee June 2013
- Decision for adoption/implementation to be made by State BOE/ NJDOE by June 2014
- Verona Science Curriculum will require rewrite/revision from K-12 (5 year cycle ...)
- Includes Engineering standards



STEM

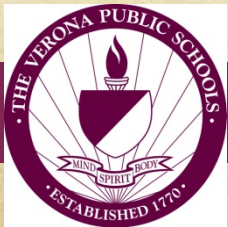
- **Revised curricula for:**
 - **Sixth Grade Above Math:** Aligned fractions w/ Customary measurement, Aligned Decimals w/Metric measurement
 - **Geometry:** Units are more uniform in duration, Topics are merged, aligned, and sequenced in more meaningful ways



STEM

STEM in VHS

- New VHS Math Course Implemented for 2013-14: Discrete Math
 - Option for non-calculus students.
 - Topics include: Voting and Apportionment, Finance, Statistics, Game Theory, Graph Theory
 - Curriculum Written Summer 2013
- Anticipated VHS Science Course Offerings for 2014-15
 - AP Environmental: Full year
 - Human Anatomy and Physiology: 1 Semester elective



College Acceptances - 2013

Bloomsburg University
 Boston College
 Boston University
 Brandeis University
 Bryant University
 Cabrini College
 Caldwell College
 California University of Pa.
 Catholic University of America
 Centenary College
 Champlain College
 Clarion University of Pa.
 Clark University
 Clarkson University
 Clemson University
 Coastal Carolina University
 Colgate University
 Colorado State University
 County College of Morris
 CUNY/Macaulay Honors College
 Delaware State University
 Curry College
 Dominican College of Blauvelt
 Drew University
 Durham University
 East Carolina University
 East Stroudsburg University
 E Connecticut State University
 Elizabethtown College
 Elon University
 Emmanuel College
 Essex County College
 Fairfield University
 Fairleigh Dickinson University
 Fashion Institute of Technology

Hampshire College
 High Point University
 Hobart & William Smith College
 Hofstra University
 HoHoKus School of Trade
 Indiana University Bloomington
 Iona College
 Ithaca College
 James Madison University
 John Carroll University
 Johnson & Wales University
 Kean University
 Kenyon College
 Keystone College
 King's College
 Kingsborough Comm. College
 La Salle University
 Lafayette College
 Lehigh University
 LIU Post
 Loyola University
 Lynchburg College
 Manchester University
 Marist College
 Marshall University
 Marywood University
 McGill University
 Messiah College
 Miami University, Oxford
 Michigan State University
 Monmouth University
 Montclair State University
 Moravian College
 Muhlenberg College
 New England College

Polytechnic Institute of NYU
 Post University
 Providence College
 Quinnipiac University
 Radford University
 Ramapo College
 Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
 Rhode Island College
 Richard Stockton College of NJ
 Rider University
 Rochester Institute of Technology
 Roger Williams University
 Rowan University
 Rutgers University
 Sacred Heart University
 Saint Anselm College
 College of St. Elizabeth
 Saint Joseph's University
 Saint Michael's College
 Saint Peter's University
 College of Saint Rose
 Salisbury University
 Salve Regina University
 San Diego Miramar College
 San Diego State University
 Seton Hall University
 Shippensburg University of Pa.
 Siena College
 Simmons College
 Slippery Rock University of Pa.
 St. John's University
 St. Lawrence University
 Stony Brook University
 SUNY College-Albany & New Paltz
 Susquehanna University

University of Colorado at Boulder
 University of Connecticut
 University of Delaware
 University of Findlay
 University of Hartford
 University of Iowa
 University of Maryland
 University of Massachusetts
 University of Miami
 University of Minnesota
 University of Mississippi
 University of New Hampshire
 University of New Haven
 University of N. Carolina/Charlotte
 University of Pacific
 University of Pittsburgh
 University of Rhode Island
 University of Rochester
 University of San Francisco
 University of the Sciences
 University of Scranton
 University of South Carolina
 University of Vermont
 University of Washington
 Virginia Commonwealth University
 Wagner College
 Wentworth Inst. of Technology
 West Chester University
 West Virginia University
 Western New England University
 Wilkes University
 William Paterson University
 Wilmington University
 Worcester Polytechnic University
 York College of Pennsylvania

