



# Verona Area High School

300 Richard Street

Verona, WI 53593

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High School Code: 502-330

[www.verona.k12.wi.us](http://www.verona.k12.wi.us)

## Community

Verona Area High School (VAHS) is located on the fast-growing southwest side of Madison and serves students residing in Fitchburg, Verona, and a small area of Madison. Verona, once a small farming community, has experienced rapid growth. The 2016 Census Bureau population estimate stands at 12,969 residents, a 22% increase since 2000. Fitchburg, established as a city in 1983 is home to 28,875 residents.

## Students

The enrollment at VAHS as of September 2017 was 1556. Based on September 2017 enrollment data, 64.3% of our population categorized themselves as white/caucasian, 35.7% of all VAHS students categorized themselves as non-white, with 6.5% African-American, 18.5% Latino, 4.0% Asian, and 0.25% Native American, 0.06% Pacific Islander and 6.3% identifying as two or more. 140 students (9.0%) receive ELL services. Approximately 25 % of VAHS students qualified to participate in free or reduced lunch programs for the 2016-2017 school year. VAHS currently serves about 109 students with disabilities, about 7.1% of the total student population.

## Curriculum

VAHS offers a comprehensive curriculum and has its foundation in serving all learners through differentiated teaching. The core curriculum in grades 9-11 does not track students by ability; instead advanced opportunities are offered through differentiated curriculum within the course. Consequently, VAHS courses do not carry designations such as "Honors" in their title.

VAHS offers 19 AP courses which are open to students in all grade levels; students are not limited on the number of AP courses they may take. Also offered are Project Lead the Way (PLTW) courses in both the Biomedical and the Engineering strands. Junior and senior students also have the opportunity to take articulated dual credit courses in select core content areas as well as World Language and Biology 2. Additionally, juniors and seniors have the opportunity for Youth Options through the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison College and Edgewood College.

VAHS also offers a Youth Apprenticeship Program (YAP) open to juniors and seniors for a one- or two-year program. This is a cooperative program along with Madison College, the Dane County School Consortium and area employers. Students in the YAP complete their high school diploma, earn college credit and obtain paid work experience in an area of interest to them. Current YAP Areas Include: Agriculture/Vet Tech, Architecture/Construction/Skilled Trades, Automotive Technology, Biotechnology/STEM, Nursing Assistant/Pharmacy Technician Assistant, Engineering/Drafting, Finance/Accounting, Hospitality/Tourism/Food Service, Information Technology, Manufacturing/Welding.

For the Class of 2018, a total of 23.5 credits are required for graduation, including 4.0 English, 3.0 Social Studies, 3.0 Science, 3.0 Mathematics, 1.5 of Physical Education, 0.5 of Health, and additional elective credits.

Principal  
Ms. Pam Hammen (608) 845-4410

Associate Principals:  
Mr. Alan Buss (608) 845-4505

Mr. Jorge Avalos (608) 845-4412, Mr. Pheng Lee (608) 845-4560,  
Ms. Tamara Sutor (608) 845-4411

School Counselors:

House 1 Ms. Carri Hale (608) 845-4426, Ms. Lesley Morrison  
(608) 845-4588, Mr. Walter Williams (608) 845-4681

House 2 Mr. Shawn Harris (608) 845-4653, Ms. Kelly Knueve  
(608) 845-4626, Mr. Jeremy Solomon (608) 845-4429

## **Class Rank and Grading**

Class rank is not reported on the transcript or for college admission purposes. Cumulative grade point averages are currently reported using the following mark points:

A=4.00 B+=3.33 C+=2.33 D+=1.33 F=0 (no credit)

A-=3.66 B=3.0 C=2.0 D=1.0

B-=2.66 C-=1.66 D-=.66

Only final semester grades are used in computing cumulative grade point average. Grades from all courses are computed equally without weighting.

## **Alternative Education**

The Learner Education Alternative Pathway (LEAP) program is an opportunity for students to earn their diplomas through non-traditional methods. The program is intended for students who are at least 17 years of age and who are one or more years behind in credits earned. Credit deficient students work with our at-risk instructors to provide an individualized path toward graduation. Our at-risk teachers provide students with accelerated credit opportunities, integrated and online curriculum, project learning, and work/volunteer experience options to meet VAHS graduation requirements.

## **ELL/Bilingual**

The English Language Learner/Bilingual (ELL/Bilingual) department is an integration of teachers from various core content areas: English, Math, Science, and Social Studies. The ELL/Bilingual department offers courses in English with language support that parallel the courses in the core departments. Students are held to the same rigorous performance standards as in all the core departments. One of the fundamental principles guiding ELL instruction at VAHS is that the students develop content and language acquisition simultaneously. The high school has also provided numerous hours of professional development training for teachers so they are prepared to make content accessible to English language learners in all courses.

## **Learning Environment**

The Verona Area School District is working toward full implementation of Personalized Learning. Toward this end, VAHS embraces the use of technology for teaching and learning, communication, collaboration, and productivity. A robust infrastructure provides access to a variety of resources throughout the building in classrooms, computer labs, offices and the Library Media Center. Mobility is also supported via a secure wireless network which allows laptops, iPads, smartphones and other devices access to the Internet to support learning. All students and teachers are utilizing iPads as one way to increase their ability to personalize learning for all students. In 2016-17, all students were issued iPads as a result of the school adopting a 1 to 1 learning philosophy.

Classes are scheduled on a block schedule rotation. Periods 1, 3, 5 and 7 meet on Day 1, and periods 2, 4, 6 and 7 meet on Day 2. This schedule also incorporates an advisory model with enrichment opportunities offered daily.

The VAHS Library contains over 12,000 volumes, both electronic and in print, for students and staff to access. In addition, school and at home access to an extensive array of databases is also provided. VAHS also provides access to state-of-art software in the school's recording studio, graphic design lab, as well as a comprehensive film production studio for news

production.

Performance groups use a variety of venues, including the 700-seat auditorium with studio/rehearsal and fly space, a music recording studio, film/video studios, a ceramics studio, and an in-school art gallery. The school offers three gyms, a weight room, and a multi-purpose room. Within the campus area, students access a swimming pool, tennis courts, a stadium, and baseball, soccer, and softball fields. Language students may participate in several world travel opportunities. Science and agriculture-related classes enjoy an adjacent school forest, an animal laboratory, and an in-school greenhouse.

## Staff

The certified staff of VAHS is comprised of 136 staff members. In addition to teachers, this staff includes school counselors, school social workers, school psychologist, nurse, special education coordinators, technology coordinators, learning resource coordinators, and an athletic director. There are five building administrators and one police liaison. In addition, VAHS has 58 support staff members, including secretaries, custodians, food service workers, special education assistants, bilingual education assistants, interpreters and technology/LMC assistants. Staff development is a priority, and includes ongoing training to further implement Personalized Learning and increase technology integration.

## Graduate Data

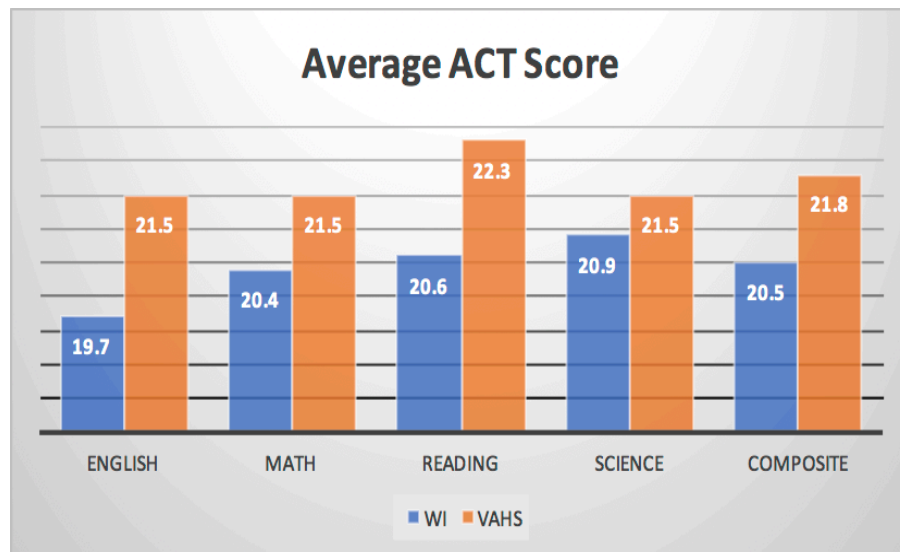
The VAHS Class of 2017 reported 375 graduates. Post-secondary plans at the time of graduation were the following:

Enrollment in 4-year college/university.....	57%
Enrollment in technical college/2-year.....	23%
Job Training.....	3%
Enlistment in full-time military.....	1%
Full-time or seeking employment.....	7%
Undecided/Not Reported.....	9%

## Test Results

### ACT Results

The ACT was taken by 372 members of the class of 2018, approximately 99% of the class. Here is a breakdown of how VAHS performed in comparison to state averages:



### PSAT Results

The PSAT is an optional test available to sophomores and juniors that allows junior test-takers to qualify for all associated National Merit Scholarships. We had two members of the class of 2018 receive the distinction of being named National Merit Scholarship Semi-Finalists, and two more were honored as Commended Students.

### AP Results

A total of 548 students reported 1,012 Advanced Placement exams in 24 different subject areas in May 2017. The results of examinations with more than 10 participants are:

Subject Area	Total	Scores of 5	Scores of 4	Scores of 3
All subjects	1,012	108 (15%)	197 (24%)	229 (28%)
Biology	46	2	9	22
Calculus AB	64	12	15	16
Calculus BC	26	7	4	9
Chemistry	33	3	2	10
Comp Govt & Pol	16	2	7	1
Comp Sci A	20	1	8	7
English Lang	243	18	55	83
English Lit	55	5	12	24
Environmental Sci	20	3	4	3
Human Geography	69	11	30	13
Macroeconomics	20	3	3	1
Music Theory	11	3	5	1
Physics 1	62	3	11	14
Physics 2	19	6	4	7
Psychology	129	49	32	18
Statistics	96	8	17	27
US History	9	2	3	2
World History	51	8	11	20

## VAHS Course Offerings

### **Agriculture**

Vet. Science ES  
Agriculture Structures/How To  
Soils and Plant Science ES  
Advanced Animal Systems/Vet Science  
Science of Veterinary Medicine  
Power Mechanics  
Advanced Power Mechanics  
Agriculture Mechanics  
Horticulture ES  
Natural Resources Management  
Biotechnology (Dual Credit)  
Advanced Biotechnology (Dual Credit)  
Agriculture Food Science  
Agribusiness Workplace Apprenticeship  
Veterinary Technician Assist. Youth Apprenticeship

### **Art**

Art Foundations  
Ceramics 1, 2 & Advanced  
Sculpture/Welding  
Computer Art & Design 1, 2, & Adv.  
Drawing 1 & 2  
Painting 1 & 2  
Photography 1&2  
Intro to Video Production (also Advanced)  
Creative Film Studies & Production  
VCAT-News Production (also Advanced)  
Advanced Art Studies

### **Business Education**

Your Money  
Business, Marketing, and Finance  
Law & Ethics  
Digital Visual Communication  
Layout & Design  
Managing your Financial Life  
Social Media and Advertising  
Economics  
College Accounting (Dual Credit)  
Web Design  
eTechnology  
Yearbook Production  
Finance/Accounting Youth Apprenticeship  
Hospitality and Tourism Youth Apprenticeship

### **Computer Science**

Exploring Computer Science 1 & 2  
Game Design  
AP Computer Science A

Exploring Software Development  
Mobile App Design  
Information Technology Youth Apprenticeship

### **Math**

Math Concepts  
Pre-Algebra  
Algebra 1, parts 1 & 2  
Advanced Algebra, parts 1 & 2  
Geometry, parts 1 & 2  
Intermediate Algebra (Dual Credit)  
College Algebra  
Precalculus  
Advanced Mathematics  
Statistics  
AP Statistics  
AP Calculus AB  
AP Calculus BC  
Calculus and Analytic Geometry 3

### **Music**

Concert Band 9  
Symphonic Band  
Wind Ensemble  
9-Chorale 1  
Chorale 2  
Concert Choir  
9-Concert Orchestra  
Symphony Orchestra  
Intro to Band/Orchestra  
World Drumming  
Joyful Noise Music Mentor  
Guitar 1 and 2  
Piano 1 and 2  
Creating Music  
AP Music Theory  
Exploring Studio Technology  
Advanced Studio Technology  
Instrumental Jazz 1  
Vocal Jazz

### **Physical Education/Health**

Health Education  
Fitness for Life  
Physical Education Foundations  
Individual Sports  
Team Sports  
Lifeguard Training/CPR for Professional Rescuer  
Water Safety Instructor/Instructor Candidate  
Strength, Speed and Agility  
Character & Leadership Development  
Adaptive PE Mentorship

**Science**

Biology 1 & 2  
Biotechnology (Dual Credit)  
Advanced Biotechnology (Dual Credit)  
AP Biology  
Environmental Science-Wisconsin Ecology  
AP Environmental Science  
Earth Science  
Physical Science  
Applied Chemistry  
Chemistry  
AP Chemistry  
General Physics  
AP Physics 1 & 2  
AP Physics C. Mechanics  
Biotechnology Youth Apprentice  
PLTW: Principles of the Biomedical Sciences  
PLTW: Human Body Systems  
PLTW: Medical Interventions  
PLTH: Biomedical Innovations

**Social Studies**

United States History  
World Studies  
Introduction to Sociology  
Social Psychology  
Ancient Civilizations  
Government & Politics  
Global Issues  
History of US Foreign Policy  
Psychological Foundations of the Adolescent  
Cultural Perspectives in America  
Rock & Roll Society & American Culture  
Sports & History  
AP Psychology  
AP World History  
AP United States History  
AP Comparative Government and Politics  
AP Human Geography

**Technology Education and Engineering**

Exploring Technology  
Computer Hardware Essentials (Dual Credit)  
Wood Processes 1 & 2  
Electronic Engineering  
Applied Electricity  
Metal Processes  
Engineering Drafting  
Computer Aided Drafting and Design  
Welding Technology (also Advanced)  
Principles of Construction  
Engine Maintenance  
Power Mechanics (also Advanced)  
Sculpture/Welding (also art)  
PLTW: Introduction to Engineering Design

PLTW: Principles of Engineering  
PLTW: Engineering Design & Development  
Automotive Technology Youth Apprentice  
Construction Youth Apprentice

**World Languages**

French 1st through 6th year  
German 1st through 6th year  
Spanish 1st through 5th year  
Spanish for Native Speakers

**Percentile vs. Cumulative GPA for Six Semesters for the Class of 2018 at  
Verona Area High School, Verona WI  
n = 385 students**

