

VOA HIGH SCHOOL State of the School Information 2022 – 2023 School Year



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Agenda

VOA HIGH SCHOOL: WHO WE ARE

- Mission and vision
- Strengths
- Challenges



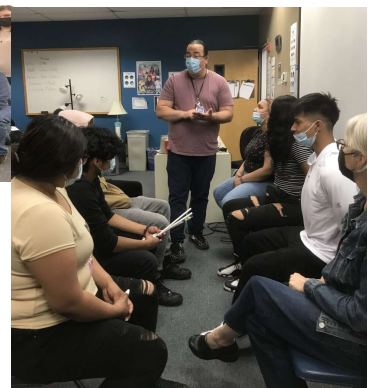
OUR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

- Goals and strategies
- Sharing student progress



TITLE I

- Overview of Title I
- How we're using our Title I funds
- Title I and Family Engagement



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VOA HIGH SCHOOL: Who We Are

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Who We Are

Mission

Volunteers of America Minnesota's mission is to help people build hope, resilience and well-being in their lives. VOA High School's mission is to serve the whole student to support individual growth.

Vision

VOAMN envisions communities in which all lives are uplifted. Our organization prioritizes the values of compassion, respect and integrity. VOA High School envisions every student becoming actively involved in their education, their school, their community and, above all, their own success.

VOA High School focuses upon student engagement, knowing it is the best indicator for school and future success. We aim to increase graduation rates (4, 5, 6 and 7 year), strengthen our Project Based Learning programming, develop partnerships that will connect our students to the world and make their learning relevant, build civic engagement connected to learning experiences, provide instruction to fill students' knowledge gaps so they are able to access high school standards more readily, and to support EL's through language, reading and writing support in every classroom regardless of content area. VOA HS's current enrollment includes seniors (78%) and 11th grade students (17%) and 10th grade students (5%). Our student body is comprised of youth with diverse identities including Black, African American, Hmong, Latino, Native American and Caucasian students. 25-30% of students reside in homes where English is not the first language spoken. VOA HS offers students a variety of programming and flexibility in scheduling to make school more possible. Aside from Project Based Learning (PBL), we offer Independent Study, D3-College and concurrent high school enrollment, experiential learning in the wider Minnesota natural environment, Digital curriculum options and a hybrid schedule.

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Our Current Reality

Strengths

VOA High School continues to show strength in relationship-building, engagement, offering effective student supports, serving EL's with licensed and bilingual full-time staff, supporting county-involved youth, offering multiple modes of learning and a robust amount of extra learning opportunities

Challenges

Regular student attendance, low 4- year graduation rates, improving retention, making school relevant for older, working students with multiple barriers to school success. Getting our largest school demographic, male students of color, across the graduation finish line.

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Our School Improvement Plan

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What's a School Improvement Plan?

Our school improvement plan:

- Sets the **goals** that our school community is working to achieve
- Identifies the **strategies or activities** that will help us reach those goals together



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<p>2022 - 2023 Academic Goals</p> <p>Credit earning by male students enrolled on or before October 1st will increase from .78 (average per quarter in SY 22) to 1.0 (average per quarter SY 23) * includes all extended learning.</p> <p>Credit earning by all students enrolled on or before Oct 1 will increase from .34 (average per quarter SY 22) to .75 (average per quarter SY 23). *core day only</p> <p>Including social emotional learning and skill building in each student's daily schedule</p> <p>Improving PBL or project based learning by providing solid standard education to our classrooms and taking students into the community to learn</p> <p>Promoting literacy in all classes, especially for ELs, by using standardized reading interventions and diagnostics upon enrollment</p>	<p>2022 - 2023 Every Student Succeeds Act GRADUATION GOALS</p> <p>The 4-year graduation rate for all students will increase from 13.75% in 2022 to 31.75% in 2025.</p> <p>The 7-year graduation rate for all students will increase from 40.51% in 2022 (for 2019 cohort) to 55.55% in 2025 (for 2022 cohort)</p> <p>How will we meet our school's goals? By:</p> <p>Providing students with ample, coordinated, out-of-class supports to promote increased engagement, improved academic outcomes and student to school connections.</p> <p>Inviting all families to build community, each quarter, by participating in a Parent/family/student Advisory</p> <p>Creating hands-on and career connected math classes and focusing on pre-Algebraic skills in every classroom</p>	<p>2022-2023 Effective Staff and Family Involvement Goals</p> <p>100% of VOA High School teaching staff will provide more diverse learning experiences during Project Based Instructional blocks by June 2023.</p> <p>For SY 23, VOA High School will design and implement a Parent/Family and Student Advisory with 25% of enrolled students and/or family members participating.</p>	<p>Volunteers of America® VOA HIGH SCHOOL</p> <p>Our School Plan For 22-23</p>
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How We Measure Student Progress

We want to make sure our students are learning as much as possible, so we use state and district assessments to determine their strengths and areas for growth. The results of these assessments help us figure out how we can better support our students in the classroom.

Assessments help us answer questions such as:

- *Are we teaching what we think we are teaching?*
- *Are students learning what we intend for them to be learning?*
- *Are all students improving and being appropriately challenged?*

Some of the assessments our students will take this year are:

- MCA
- FAST
- ACT

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How We'll Share Student Progress with You

Throughout the year, we'll share information with you about how your student is doing in the classroom.

We'll do it in the following ways:

- Parent-Teacher conferences on October 18th and 19th (Fall Conferences), February 21nd (Winter Conferences).
- Quarterly report cards mailed home and 3-week progress reports emailed or delivered via phone calls.
- Regular calls from staff about improvements, successes and concerns as well as general school programming information and events.



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Title I

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What is Title I?



Title I is a federal program that provides **money to schools and districts** to help them ensure all children have an **equal opportunity to get a high-quality education** and achieve proficiency on our state's academic standards and assessments.

Title I supports our School Improvement Plan, and the funding we receive helps us reach our goals.

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VOA High School is a schoolwide Title I program, which means all our students are able to benefit from the services we provide with our Title I funding.

For the 2022-2023 school year, we received \$83,840 in Basic Title I funding, and for \$2,008 for Family Engagement...This makes up about 5% of our school budget.

We are required to use Title I funding to improve the academic achievement of all students and engage YOU, our families, in that process!



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How We're Using our Title I Funding

Curriculum, Instruction and Classroom Support

- Staffing: Student Services-Manager, ALC+ and School Social Worker, Licensed Academic Manager
- Teacher education – Project Based Learning professional development
- PBL: student project supplies, field trips and expert professional fees

Family Engagement

- Family cultural events (See school calendar)
- Academically focused meetings and conferences
- Family Student Advisory meetings (4x)

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As a family member in a Title I School, you have the right to...



- **Request information from the district** about whether your student's teacher meets State licensing approval for the grade and subject being taught, is teaching with a waiver, and/or has certification for the field being taught
- Request information about the qualifications of any paraprofessional providing instruction
- Know how your child's **school is rated** on its state test scores
- Expect **regular communication** with your school in a language that you can understand
- Work with other families and staff to develop a **compact** between our school and our families
- Help plan how **money for family involvement** should be spent
- Work with teachers, other families, and the school principal to develop a **family engagement plan**
- **Ask for a meeting** with your school principal or your child's teacher at any time

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Opportunities for Families to be Involved!

We want your input on our:

- School Improvement Plan goals and strategies
- Family Engagement Plan
- School-Family Compact

You can find these documents on our school website and contact the school at any time to give feedback!

- Participate in VOA High School events for families. We seek input at these functions.
- Participate in the Family, Parent and Student Advisory quarterly meetings
- Talk to your youth's teacher about events and issues that may be affecting their work, attendance or behavior.

We'd love to see you at the following school events:

- Parent-Teacher Conferences on October 18 and 19th and February 21st
- PBL Shares after each quarter ends
- Nov 7, Jan 26, March 30
- Family cultural events in Nov, Feb, May
- End of year celebration for all students and families
- Anytime you want to meet with staff at VOA HS
- Check out our VOA school calendar with family events highlighted in teal.

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School Staff Information

Director

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We appreciate you!

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