

STRATEGIC SCHOOL PROFILE 2001-02

High School Edition

Hall High School
West Hartford School District

JOHN E HUDSON, Principal
 SHELLEY SOLOMON, Asst. Principal
 DONALD SLATER, Asst. Principal

Telephone: 860-232-4561
 School Type: Traditional/Regular

Education Reference Group (ERG): B ERG is a classification of districts whose students' families are similar in education, income, occupation, and need, and that have roughly similar enrollment.

This profile was produced by the Connecticut State Department of Education in accordance with CT General Statutes 10-220(c).
 Data were provided by the local school district during the fall of 2001.

STUDENT ENROLLMENT

School Grade Range 9-12
 Total Enrollment 1437
 5-Year Enrollment Change 22.9%

**FACILITIES**

of Permanent General Classrooms 85
 # of Portable Classrooms 0
 Year of Original Construction 1970

SCHOOL NEED

Current and Past School Need	Year	School	ERG High Schools	State High Schools
Estimated % of Students Eligible for Free/Reduced-Price Meals	2001-02	8.1	3.8	15.5
	2000-01	5.7	3.3	16.4
% of K-12 Students with Non-English Home Language	2001-02	18.2	7.0	11.6
	1998-99	18.2	7.0	11.6
% of Juniors and Seniors Working More than 16 Hours Per Week	2001-02	15.9	24.1	29.1
	1996-97	15.2	25.9	30.2

Enrollment in Special Programs	Students in School	Percent in School	% in ERG High Schools	% in State High Schools
Bilingual Education and English as a Second Language Services (K-12)	33	2.3	1.4	2.6
Compensatory Education	0	0.0	0.6	7.3
Gifted and Talented Program	1	0.1	3.4	2.3
Special Education	191	13.3	11.3	11.7

STUDENT RACE/ETHNICITY

Race/Ethnicity	Number	Percent
American Indian	4	0.3
Asian American	119	8.3
Black	120	8.4
Hispanic	130	9.0
White	1064	74.0

Total Minority 2001-02 26.0%

Total Minority 1996-97 19.1%



EFFORTS TO REDUCE RACIAL, ETHNIC, AND ECONOMIC ISOLATION

Connecticut law requires that school districts provide educational opportunities for their students to interact with students and teachers from diverse racial, ethnic, and economic backgrounds. This may occur through programs with other schools, distance learning, or other experiences. Below is the description submitted by this school of how it provides such experiences.

Hall High School is a diverse population. Our minority population represents 26% of our student body with over 225 students who speak a language other than English at home.

Hall High School is actively involved in many extra curricular activities with surrounding urban and suburban communities that promote interaction and understanding among students. Participation in Central Connecticut Athletic Conference athletic events and programs such as Greater Hartford Academy of the Performing Arts, the Harris Agri-science and Technical Center in Bloomfield, and area vocational/ technical schools provide expanded opportunities for all students. Our students are involved in inter-district programs that promote increased communication and teach leadership skills with diverse groups of students such as Common Ground, Connecticut Forum, Close Up, the National Conference on Community, Justice's Camp Anytown, and the Anti-defamation League's World of Difference programs. Students also participate in regional academic events such as debates, mock trial, Spanish Trivia, Latin Day, the Math Olympiad, the Chemathon and Chemistry Olympics and drama and music competitions with other schools within the region and the state.

Within the school, an emphasis is placed on promoting respect for self, for others and for the community through a wide variety of curricular and co-curricular activities designed to increase acceptance of individual differences and embrace our diversity. Through programs sponsored by the Anti-defamation League's World of Difference Institute, we have brought programs to the school for students; staff and parents aimed at reducing prejudice and discrimination through communication and education throughout the school year and will continue to do so. Our ESOL students are integrated into all subjects as much as possible to help them feel a part of the larger school community and they are encouraged to share information about their culture within the classes. Additional activities include the Empty Bowls Soup Kitchen community service project, the various multicultural speakers and authors who shared personal experiences addressing issues of social justice, the establishment of a Diversity Action Resource Team, a Multicultural Club, Sexual Awareness For Everyone (S.A.F.E.), AIDS Awareness Week, and Transitional Assistance Program for Success (TAPS), and the completion of the Wall of Respect. Hall has initiated several new initiatives in addition to TAPS to increase communication and family involvement in our ongoing efforts to make everyone feel connected and accepted within the school community i.e., "New Parents Welcome Breakfast" and an informational meeting prior to the school's Open House program.

SCHOOL RESOURCES

Instructional Time*	School	ERG High Schools	State High Schools
Total Hours of Instruction Per Year	976	987	998

*State law requires at least 900 hours for grades 1 through 12.

TECHNOLOGY



% of Classrooms, Libraries, and Laboratories Wired for:	School	ERG High Schools	State High Schools
Video	100.0	75.8	69.7
Voice	100.0	82.4	75.0
Internet Access	100.0	95.1	90.0
Multi-Room Network (LAN)	100.0	87.5	58.0

Computers	School	ERG HS	State HS
# of Students Per Academic Computer	4.3	4.4	3.8
% of Computers that are High or Moderate Power	100.0	98.5	97.3
% of Computers with Internet Access, All Speeds	100.0	96.3	90.1
% of Computers with High Speed Internet Access	100.0	96.3	89.8
% of Internet Computers with Filtering Software	100.0	86.5	84.9

This school does not have a functional satellite link.

LIBRARY MATERIALS

Free on-line access to periodicals, newspapers, and other resources is available to all Connecticut schools through the Connecticut Digital Library.

Library Materials	School	ERG HS	State HS
# of Print Volumes Per Student*	27.8	19.4	17.1
% of Print Volumes Purchased in the Last Three Years	5.0	8.0	10.6
# of Print Periodical Subscriptions	56	87.1	55.6
# of Non-Print Materials	897	1407.8	768.9

*Because a certain number of volumes are needed for a library of adequate breadth and depth, a small school may need a higher number of volumes per student.

STAFFING RESOURCES



Average Class Size	School	ERG	State
Algebra I	26.0	20.5	20.2
Biology I	22.6	20.2	19.5
English, Grade 10	24.5	20.3	19.7
American History	24.5	21.6	20.3

School Staff Count Full-Time Equivalent	2001-02	2000-01
# of Certified Staff		
Teachers	89.0	84.3
Administrators	5.8	5.3
Library/Media Staff	2.0	2.0
Counselors, Social Workers, and School Psychologists	8.7	6.8
Other Professionals	0.7	1.7
# of Non-Certified Instructional	0.0	0.0

Professional Staff Race/Ethnicity	2001-02	2000-01	1996-97
% Minority	3.4	2.7	0.0
Professional Staff Experience and Training	School	ERG High School	State High School
Average Number of Years Experience in CT	13.7	14.2	14.5
% with Master's Degree or Above	78.4	81.0	76.0
% Trained as Mentors, Assessors, or Cooperating Teachers	29.3	26.7	23.5

SCHOOL PROCESSES

Student and Teacher Statistics	School	ERG High Schools	State High Schools
% of Students Retained in Grade after 2000-01 School Year	1.4	2.0	5.2
Teacher Attendance, 2000-01: Average # of Days Absent Due to Illness or Personal Time	6.8	7.2	7.7
% Certified Staff Assigned to Same School the Previous Year	63.8	83.2	84.3

Types of Supplemental Instructional Services Provided to Students Lacking Basic Skills	Available in Mathematics	Available in Language Arts
Pull-out Remedial Instruction	No	No
In-Class Tutorial	No	No
After School Program	No	No
Summer School (2001)	No	No
Other	No	No



% Juniors and Seniors Enrolled in a Course or Courses for College Credit	School	ERG High Schools	State High Schools
During the 2000-01 School Year	46.9	28.7	22.8
During the 1996-97 School Year	39.1	24.4	16.0

Advanced Placement Courses	School	ERG High Schools	State High Schools
Number of Courses for which Students were Tested	23	13.9	9.3
% of Grade 12 Students Tested	36.2	23.4	16.3
% of Exams Scored 3 or More*	83.8	78.0	70.5

*A score of three or higher is generally required for earning college credit.

Interactive Distance Learning: This school does not utilize interactive distance learning. Interactive distance learning ranges from on-line courses with student-instructor interaction via the internet to live classroom interactions through two-way audio and video transmissions.



Total Number of Credits Required for Graduation	School	ERG	State Requirement
Required for Class of 2001	21.8	21.3	20.0

% of Class of 2001 Graduates who Earned Credit in Selected Subjects	School	ERG High Schools	State High Schools
Algebra I or Equivalent	96.0	93.4	90.0
Chemistry	58.8	79.2	66.5
4 or More Credits in Mathematics	73.2	71.7	60.6
3 or More Credits in Science	75.6	90.5	82.5
4 or More Credits in Social Studies	60.4	47.1	48.1
Credit for Level 3 or Higher in the Same World Language	77.7	74.0	55.5
2 or More Credits in Vocational Education	42.7	48.5	58.4
2 or More Credits in the Arts	54.3	44.4	40.5

STUDENT PERFORMANCE

Connecticut Academic Performance Test, Second Generation, % Meeting State Goal: The state goal was established with the advice and assistance of a cross section of Connecticut educators. The goal represents a demanding level of achievement which is reasonable to expect of students in the spring of their 10th grade year. Students receive certification of mastery for each area in which they meet or exceed the goal.


Conn. Academic Performance Test, 2 nd Gen. % Grade 10 Meeting State Goal	School 2000-01	School 2001-02	ERG 2001-02	State 2001-02
Reading Across the Disciplines	70	69	64	44.8
Writing Across the Disciplines	67	66	68	51.0
Mathematics	62	64	65	44.1
Science	74	70	60	43.2
All Four Tests	45.0	45.0	38.8	23.7
Participation Rate	92.8	96.3	95.3	92.4



In the table above, the percentage of students meeting the state goal is the percentage of those students who had a valid test score. The results reflect the performance of students who were enrolled in the school at the time of testing, regardless of the length of time they were enrolled in the school.

SAT [®] I: Reasoning Test	Class of 1996	Class of 2001		
	School	School	ERG	State
% of Graduates Tested	99.2	90.2	92.8	77.6
Mathematics: Average Score	554	551	537	503
Mathematics: % Scoring 600 or More	39.6	37.8	30.3	22.1
Verbal: Average Score	548	553	529	502
Verbal: % Scoring 600 or More	37.2	38.2	26.4	20.5

Student Attendance	School	ERG HS	State HS
% on October 1, 2001	97.0	95.1	92.6

Physical Fitness, Grade 10 	School	ERG	State
% Passing All 4 Tests	52.0	46.4	37.5

Dropout Rates	School	ERG	State
Cumulative Four-Year Rate for Class of 2001	5.8	4.2	11.2
2000-01 Annual Rate for Gr. 9 through 12	1.8	1.1	3.0
1995-96 Annual Rate for Grades 9 through 12	1.1	1.7	4.6

Class of 2001: Number of National Merit Scholarship Semi-Finalists: 2



Activities of Graduates	Class of	School	ERG	State
% Attending Two- or Four-Year Colleges	2001	92.4	87.5	76.3
	1996	93.3	85.9	72.3
% Employed or in Military	2001	5.5	7.4	17.1
	1996	2.0	9.0	18.7

EVIDENCE OF SUSTAINED IMPROVEMENT IN STUDENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Below is a summary, submitted by this school, of the major trends in student performance and accomplishments that indicate sustained improvement over time. Also, areas of need are identified and plans to address these needs are presented.

Student Performance

Hall's students continue to score significantly above the state and national average on the SAT I and SAT II examination for the 2002 school year. Over 97% of our students participated in the test. 569 AP exams were taken by Hall students. 63% of the scores were at the highest two levels (4's and 5's). Hall's overall average score for 2002 was 3.86, which is higher than the national average of 2.97 and the CT average of 3.19. Hall also had 7 National Merit Semi-Finalists.

Student Accomplishments

In addition to excelling in academics, technology, and the fine and performing arts, Hall students are consistently high achievers in co-curricular activities. The Jazz Bands, Concert Band, as well as the vocal music, theater arts and fine arts programs bring international, national and regional awards to the groups and many of the individuals within them. One student achieved a perfect score in the National Latin Examination, while two qualified for the rigorous USA Math Olympiad. A student placed fourth in the nation in the Siemens Westinghouse Science & Technology Competition, while another was a Presidential Scholar finalist. Yet another won an international car design competition for the second year in a row and another is the only student member of the Civilian Space Exploration Team. Finally, community service is an integral part of co-curricular life at Hall, with both individuals and groups receiving state and national recognition of their varied efforts to help others.

Plans for Improvement

- Expand student recognition programs
- Improve communication and collaboration with Hall community
- Continue staff development in the areas of differentiated instruction

SUPPLEMENTAL SCHOOL INFORMATION

The space below was optionally used by this school to describe aspects of the school not presented elsewhere in the profile. For instance, character education or programs designed to improve school climate may be described.

Hall High School is one of two high schools located in West Hartford with a student population of approximately 1500 students. The school takes great pride in its racial, religious and cultural diversity. Our African, Asian, and Hispanic American populations make up 28% of our student body. Twenty-five languages are spoken by our students at home, and many religious faiths are represented in our student body.

Academically, our students continue to be accepted into the most prestigious colleges and universities throughout the country. Seven students this year have been recognized as National Merit Semi-Finalists that went on to be National Merit Finalists.

Our faculty members are often named to "Who's Who Among American Teachers," and are regularly the recipients of professional awards and recognitions at both the state and national level. In addition, they present annually at conferences in their respective academic areas. Hall has 30 sports offerings played on many athletic fields spread across over 55 acres of land. In addition, students can choose from some 30 extracurricular activities and several publications, including the yearbook and an award-winning monthly newspaper. Community service is highly valued at Hall and many students participate on a regular basis.

Strategic School Profiles may be viewed on the internet at www.state.ct.us/sde. A more detailed, searchable SSP database, data tables, and additional CT education facts are also available at this site.

For the school/district website, see www.whps.org

