

ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS: SCHOOLS TO WATCH

MODEL SCHOOL—VISITOR'S GUIDE

Victor Junior High School



Designated in 2006

Victor Junior High School

- Victor Central School District
- Ontario County • New York State
- Principal: Carl M. Christensen
- School Address: 953 High Street Victor, N.Y. 14564
- Phone (585) 924-3252,

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School Web site www.victorschools.org

2005-07 School Statistics

From NYS Accountability Report

Community: Victor NY

Enrollment: 618

Grade Levels: 7-8

School Schedule: Modified Block/Rotational

3 Team Structure across grade levels

Student Demographics

52% Male

48% Female

2% Hispanic/Latino

94% White

0% American Indian/Alaskan Native

2% African American

2% Asian/Pacific Islander

9.0% Students with Disabilities

8.0% Free/Red Lunch/Econ. Disadvantaged

0.4% English Learners

2005-2006 School Report Card

ELA Performance Index 173 AMO 117

Math Performance Index 180 AMO 81

Science Performance Index 195 AMO 100

School In good for 2007-2008 School Year

Named a High Achieving/Gap Closing School 2004-2006

School Characteristics and Replicable Practices

Academic Excellence

- Named High Achieving/Gap Closing school by NYSED from 2004-2006
- Teaming structure across both grade levels
- Modified Block/Rotational schedule, 60 minute classes
- 100% of teachers trained in Differentiated Instruction
- Enrichment program built into students schedules based on student interest
- Supplemental AIS classes built in students schedule
- Nationally recognized K-12 Physical Education program
- Interdisciplinary units built into grade 7 & 8 core curriculum
- 5 year curriculum review cycle in all subject areas
- Acceleration opportunities for students in both 7th and 8th grade
- Activity Period provided at end of each school day for advisory, extra help, clubs and intramural sports program
- Bullying Prevention Program designed and delivered by Junior High staff and Administration

Essential Elements Schools to Watch

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Developmental Responsiveness

- Shadowing program for incoming 7th grade to spend day with a 7th grade peer
- Full compliment of clubs and activities based on student interest
- Enrichment program offered to all students and built into a students schedule for a semester
- Student dances provided and staffed by student council
- 2006-07 offered "Awareness Week" to give students an appreciation of living life with a disability, culminating activity was a full school assembly by Jason "J-Mac" McElwain and his high school coach
- Parents as Partners annual goal of shared decision making team to make parents a more active part of the junior high Program
- Principals weekly list-serve newsletter delivered to over 850 email addresses
- 70% of teachers maintain personal websites and many post student grades on-line
- Every classroom outfitted with ceiling mounted projectors, and staff have own laptop
- Currently have a Mac lab and 4 rolling IBM laptop carts (4 more planned for 2008-09)

Social Equity

- Maintain a very low suspension rate year to year and high attendance rate
- Accelerated classes offered at both grade levels and open to all students. Currently over 50% of the 8th grade are successfully completing Integrated Algebra and over 40% are enrolled in Earth Science.
- Studio Art is available for 8th grade to complete for high school credit.
- Implemented English 8C course in Fall 2005 for students who need to be challenged and enriched in English (This course is not credit bearing)
- All students have equal access to after school activities
- All students can take advantage of any club or activity offered
- All Students can enroll in enrichment offerings
- Awareness week offered for students to gain appreciation for students diversity and differences
- All students are eligible for modified sports program and selective classification opportunities
- Full continuum of special education offerings for students with disabilities

Organizational Support

- Philosophy statement developed through shared decision making process and posted in every classroom
- School Vision is aligned with NYS and District philosophies and incorporates aspects of the Essential Elements of Middle Level Education documents
- Principal and Assistant Principal coordinate department meetings, team meetings, curriculum meetings, department chair meetings, PPS staff, and guidance staff
- Three team structure at each grade level and encore team
- Teachers have common core team planning time
- Co-teachers have common planning time built in to plan for differentiation of instruction for SWD's
- District mentor program provided for all first year teachers
- Victor Teacher Center provides over 100 professional development opportunities to district teachers annually
- Core teachers meet as 7-8 and 7-12 departments monthly
- 5 year curriculum review process for all subject areas
- After school help, evening homework help, tutoring, and boost program offered for struggling students