

Goal 2 – Graduation

Official VDOE Results for 2021 Cohort

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Venue: Richmond City School Board Meeting

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Headlines

On-Time Graduation Rate (OGR)

- Our overall rate is UP 7.3 percentage points to 78.8%.
- RPS no longer has the lowest rate in VA.
- Our Hispanic/Latino/a/x rate is UP 24.8 percentage points – the highest growth for this VDOE subgroup of any division in the state.
- Three RPS schools are in the top 5 for OGR growth out of all VA high schools (344 high schools in the state).

Dropout Rate

- Our overall rate is DOWN 8.2 percentage points to 15.0%.
- Our Hispanic/Latino/a/x rate is DOWN 25.2 percentage points.
- RPS recovered 40 dropouts last year.

Accreditation

- Though the state did not apply accreditation criteria for 2021, if it had, 100% of RPS high schools would have met the graduation standard for accreditation. The last time this happened was 2014.

Cohort 2021: Final On-Time Graduation Rate by School

| School | 2019-20 | 2020-21 | Change |
|--------------------------------|---------|---------|--------|
| Armstrong High School | 76.8% | 79.3% | +2.5% |
| Franklin Military Academy | 100% | 100% | N/A |
| George Wythe High School | 50.2% | 61.6% | +11.4% |
| Huguenot High School | 67% | 81% | +14% |
| John Marshall High School | 91.6% | 93.9% | +2.3% |
| Open High School | 100% | 97.9% | -2.1% |
| Richmond Alternative School* | 42.9% | 63.8% | +20.9% |
| Richmond Community High School | 100% | 100% | N/A |
| Thomas Jefferson High School | 96.2% | 92.9% | -3.3% |
| Division | 71.5% | 78.8% | +7.3 |

*RAS includes VAVA students. See slide 6 for a further analysis of the impact of VAVA on our data.

Cohort 2021: Final On-Time Graduation Rate by VDOE Subgroup

| VDOE Subgroup | 2019-20 | 2020-21 | Change |
|----------------------------|---------|---------|--------|
| Black/African-American | 80.7% | 80.6% | -0.1% |
| Hispanic/Latino/a/x | 32.9% | 57.7% | +24.8% |
| White | 86.2% | 93.3% | +7.1% |
| Economically Disadvantaged | 79.4% | 82.1% | +2.7% |
| Students w/ Disabilities | 70.3% | 75% | +4.7% |
| English Learners | 38.5% | 54.1% | +15.6% |

Cohort 2021: Final Dropout Rate by School

| School | 2019-20 | 2020-21 | Change |
|--------------------------------|---------|---------|--------|
| Armstrong High School | 17.9% | 13.8% | -4.1% |
| Franklin Military Academy | 0% | 0% | N/A |
| George Wythe High School | 46.8% | 31.9% | -14.9% |
| Huguenot High School | 28.9% | 14.6% | -14.3% |
| John Marshall High School | 7.1% | 1.5% | -5.6% |
| Open High School | 0% | 2% | +2% |
| Richmond Alternative School* | 27.1% | 22.1% | -5% |
| Richmond Community High School | 0% | 0% | N/A |
| Thomas Jefferson High School | 3.2% | 4.3% | +1.1% |
| Division | 23.2% | 15.0% | -8.2% |

*RAS includes VAVA students. See slide 6 for a further analysis of the impact of VAVA on our data.

Cohort 2021: Final Dropout Rate by VDOE Subgroup

| VDOE Subgroup | 2019-20 | 2020-21 | Change |
|--------------------------|---------|---------|--------|
| Black/African-American | 12.4% | 11.5% | -0.9% |
| Hispanic/Latino/a/x | 65.2% | 40% | -25.2% |
| White | 11.6% | 3.6% | -8% |
| Econ Disadvantaged | 12.6% | 10% | -2.6% |
| Students w/ Disabilities | 24.5% | 23.9% | -0.6% |
| English Learners | 61.5% | 45.2% | -16.3% |

Understanding RAS & VAVA Data

| | Cohort 2020 Size | Cohort 2021 Size |
|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| VAVA | 49 students | 138 students |
| RAS without VAVA | 84 students | 102 students |

| | On Time Graduation Rate | | | Dropout Rate | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|--------|--------|--------------|-------|--------|
| | 2020 | 2021 | Change | 2020 | 2021 | Change |
| Division | 71.5% | 78.8% | +7.3% | 23.0% | 14.8% | -8.2% |
| Division without VAVA | 70.7% | 77.0% | +6.3% | 23.9% | 16.2% | -7.7% |
| Richmond Alternative School | 42.9% | 63.8% | +20.9% | 27.1% | 22.1% | -5% |
| RAS without VAVA | 15.0% | 16.7% | +1.7% | 38.0% | 50.9% | +12.9% |
| Just VAVA | 100.0% | 100.0% | N/A | 0.0% | 0.0% | N/A |

Cohort 2021: Dropout Recovery Efforts

As a result of last year's dropout recovery initiative, 40 students were re-enrolled in school. Given this occurred during a global pandemic, we are especially proud of these students for returning to school to complete their education. The status of these students is outlined below.

| Earned Diploma | Earned GED | Still Enrolled (5th Year Graduate) | Enrolled in Another Division |
|----------------|------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 14 | 2 | 12 | 12 |

Analysis: Impact of Intervention Programs

- Secondary Success Center is for students who previously dropped out of an RPS high school. The program is specifically designed to meet the unique needs of adult learners and to make participation as convenient as possible.
- Con Ganas is a specialized program for English Learners who are 17 or older. It provides intensive language and academic support to help students graduate in three years or less.

| Program | Current Enrollment | Graduates | Cohort 2021 Impact | Cohort 2022 Impact |
|--------------------------|--------------------|-----------|---|--|
| Secondary Success Center | 59 | 11 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UP 1.6% in Division OGR • UP 7.4% in Hispanic/Latino/a/x OGR • UP 3.8% in HHS OGR • UP 3.7% in GWHS OGR • DOWN 2.1% Dropout Rate • DOWN 7.3% in Hispanic/Latino/a/x Dropout Rate | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Down 5.2% in Division Dropout Rate • Down 14.6% in Hispanic/Latino/a/x Dropout Rate |
| Con Ganas | 63 | 12 | | |

Analysis: Impact of Intervention Programs (Continued)

- Newcomer Academy** is for newly arrived, immigrant English Learner students, ages 14-17, who have been in the country for up to one year. Through project-based, bilingual instruction, newcomer ELs receive instruction that helps them acquire English language skills at an accelerated rate, improve literacy in their native language, and ultimately graduate with an “Advanced” diploma.

| | Division EL Student Failure Rate | Newcomer Program EL Student Failure Rate |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| All Core Subjects | 39% | 22.4% |
| Math | 29.9% | 32% |
| Science | 34.1% | 25.9% |
| History | 28.3% | 21.4% |
| English | 23.4% | 15.8% |

Analysis: Discrepancy Between Prediction and Final Data

| | OGR Projection | | | Dropout Rate | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------|------------|------------|--------------|------------|------------|
| | Actual | Prediction | Difference | Actual | Prediction | Difference |
| Division | 78.8% | 84.1% | +5.3% | 15.0% | 13.2% | -1.6% |
| Armstrong High School | 79.3% | 83.2% | +3.9% | 13.8% | 13.1% | -0.7% |
| Franklin Military Academy | 100.0% | 100.0% | N/A | 0.0% | 0.0% | N/A |
| George Wythe High School | 61.6% | 66.5% | +4.9% | 31.9% | 29.2% | -2.7% |
| Huguenot High School | 81.0% | 81.7% | +0.7% | 14.6% | 12.7% | -1.9% |
| John Marshall High School | 93.9% | 97.7% | +3.8% | 1.5% | 1.6% | +0.1% |
| Open High School | 97.9% | 98.0% | +0.1% | 0.0% | 2.0% | +2.0% |
| Richmond Community High School | 100.0% | 100.0% | N/A | 0.0% | 0.0% | N/A |
| Thomas Jefferson High School | 92.9% | 93.9% | +1.0% | 4.3% | 3.3% | -1.0% |
| Richmond Alternative School | 63.8% | N/A | | 21.3% | N/A | |

Analysis: Discrepancy Between Prediction and Final Data (Continued)

We have identified two primary reasons there was a discrepancy between our predictions and the actual data:

- Disengagement at End of Virtual Year – More students than anticipated disengaged towards the end of last year, meaning predictions at some schools ended up being overly optimistic.
- Richmond Alternative School – We realized our predictions did not include RAS given the complexity of their data (see slide 6). Fortunately, now that we have ended our relationship with VAVA, we will have cleaner data for RAS. As noted later in this presentation, we also need to tighten our protocols on how and when a student is assigned to the RAS graduation cohort. For example, should a student who is placed at RAS in January of their senior year be assigned to RAS's cohort or remain in the home school's?

Steps To Make Predictions More Accurate

- More Precise Prediction Tiers – We will add a 4th tier to make our prediction analysis even more precise.
Current Tiers:
 - On-Track: Student is appropriately scheduled to graduate in June
 - Tier 1: Student is 1 to 2 credits off-track (June & Summer Grads)
 - Tier 2: Student is 3 to 5 credits off-track (Summer Grads)
 - Tier 3: Student is 5+ credits off-track (5th Year Grads)
- Clearer Protocols for Where to “Credit” Students – We need to revisit how students are “credited” to schools for graduation and dropout data, especially when a student is transferred to RAS late in one’s high school career (but this is also true of administrative transfers to other schools).
- Streamlined Re-Enrollment Process – We need to create a “Centralized Referral System” so all students who have dropped out but then re-engaged are quickly and efficiently referred to the appropriate alternative program. This will reduce idle time, ensure we fully re-engage the students, and make our predictions about recovered students more reliable.