VASHON ISLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCHOOL PROFILE 2024-2025



VASHON HIGH SCHOOL

The Vashon Promise

Where every student is welcomed, known, and treasured and graduates confident and competent to thrive in a future they imagine.

www.vashonsd.org/vhs

WHO WE ARE

Vashon Island High School has a student population of approximately 495 students in Grades 9 through 12. We are accredited by the Association of Educational Service Districts. We are committed to a rigorous college preparatory curriculum with high expectations and grading standards. Approximately 85% of the graduates from the class of 2024 elected to further their studies after high school: 69% of graduates opted to attend four-year colleges, 10% to community colleges, 4% to vocational schools and 2% to the military. Our goal is to help students become more deliberate, active learners who are aware of the importance of their academic and vocational goals. We continually strive to help students develop a clear sense of direction.

Vashon Island is a rural community of approximately 12,000 residents located west of Seattle in the Puget Sound between Seattle and Tacoma. Short ferry routes make these cities and the Kitsap Peninsula easily accessible. The community's residents demonstrate strong support for the school system and high interest in academics and the arts. Vashon Island School District is the only public school system that serves island youth and accepts off-island students at the district's discretion.

Vashon Island High School has attracted a dedicated and highly trained instructional staff, all with degrees in their fields of teaching. The high school values its 18:1 student/faculty ratio.

The certificated staff includes two administrators, twenty-eight teachers and two full-time counselors. 78% of the staff have earned Master's Degrees, one has earned a Doctorate Degree and six teachers are National Board Certified.

John Erickson
Principal
jerickson@vashonsd.org

Sabrina Kovacs
Assistant Principal
skovacs@vashonsd.org

Jeff Jones Counselor A-K jjones@vashonsd.org

Tara Vanselow
Counselor L-Z
tvanselow@vashonsd.org

Jackie Merrill
Office Manager
jmerrill@vashonsd.org

Deb Franson Registrardfranson@vashonsd.org

Char Phillips
Athletic Secretary
cphillips@vashonsd.org

9600 SW 204th Street Vashon, WA 98070 (206) 463-9171

www.vashonsd.org/vhs

ACADEMICS

Requirements

Vashon high school has a 6 period day with a homeroom four days a week. Students earn .25 credit a year for homeroom. Students can earn up to 26 credits; the state requirement for graduation is 24 credits.

- 4.0 English Credits
- 3.0 Mathematics Credits
- 3.0 Social Studies Credits
- 3.0 Science Credits
- 1.5 Physical Education Credits
- 1.0 Career & Technical Education Credits
- 2.0 Fine Arts Credits
- 0.5 Family Health Credit
- 2.0 World Language credits
- 4.0 Elective Credits

Advanced Placement Courses

Calculus AB

Chemistry

Comparative Government

English Literature

Environmental Science

Human Geography

Physics

Statistics

Studio Art

U.S. Government and Politics

U.S. History

Advanced Placement Testing 2023-24

- 174 students took a combined 244 exams
- 82% of all VHS AP scores were 3 or higher

Scholastic Aptitude Test 2023-24

Spring 2024

- 65 students tested
- Reading/writing mean score: 638
- Math mean score: 593

Fall 2023

- · 20 students tested
- Reading/writing mean score: 612
- Math mean score: 593

English

9-12th grade English

AP English Literature & Composition

Speech & Debate

Honors designation available for 9-11th grade English

Mathematics

Algebra, Advanced Algebra Geometry, Precalculus, Financial Algebra, AP Statistics, AP Calculus

Science

Biology, Chemistry, AP Chemistry, Physics, AP Physics, AP Environment Science, Marine Science and Forensics

Social Studies

US Government, AP US Government & Politics, US History, AP US History, World History, Honors World History, Human Geography, AP Human Geography, AP Comparative Government

World Language

Spanish 1-3

GPAs and class ranks are not weighted.

OTHER PROGRAMS

Seal of Biliteracy

Students may earn up to 4.0 competency-based credits for each language other than English. Students are only awarded credits if they haven't already earned credit through classes taken and qualify for the Seal of Biliteracy.

Since 2017, 111 students have received the Seal of Biliteracy in one of the following languages:

Spanish French

Japanese American Sign Language

Russian Arabic German Italian Polish Korean

Community Service

All students are required to devote at least 25 hours to community service during their time at VHS.

Foreign Exchange Opportunities

We extend opportunities to add to our cultural diversity and host an average of five foreign exchange students per year. Vashon students are encouraged to study abroad through recognized student exchange programs. The High School has a sister school in Himeji, Japan, with exchange visits every other year.

Link Programs

FamilyLink is an alternative education program that partners with parents of approximately 90 K-12 students. StudentLink is an independent study-based program serving approximately 40 high school students.

Running Start

This dual enrollment program allows students to attend a community or technical college while still in high school. They are granted both high school and community college credit for courses completed.

Recognition

Vashon High School recognized as the 10th in the state of Washington by U.S. News & World Report in 2024.

Clubs, Affinity Groups, Advocacy Groups and Athletics

American Exchange Project Associated Student Body

Chess Club
Debate Club
Drama Club
French Club
Green Team
Guide Dogs

Amnesty International

Japan Ćlub Music and Band National Honor Society Outdoor Adventure Club

Production Club RPG Club Science Club Spanish Club

Ultimate Frisbee Club

Yearbook

Disability Advocacy
Gender Queer Affinity Club
Girls to Girls

Journeymen La Chispa Racial Equity Pact

Circles Teen Council

Teens Leading Change

Baseball Basketball Cheer

Cross Country

Football Golf Soccer Softball Tennis

Track and Field Volleyball Wrestling