

STRATEGIC SCHOOL PROFILE 2003-04

High School Edition

Hall High School
West Hartford School District

DONALD SLATER, Principal
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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).

STUDENT ENROLLMENT

School Grade Range 9-12
 Total January Enrollment 1554
 5-Year Oct. Enrollment Change 23.6%

**FACILITIES, 2002-03**

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
% of Students Eligible for Free/Reduced-Price Meals	2003-04	9.0	4.5	19.8
	2002-03	8.8	4.0	17.6
% of K-12 Students with Non-English Home Language	2003-04	17.4	6.8	11.2
	1998-99	18.2	7.0	11.6
% of Juniors and Seniors Working More than 16 Hours Per Week	2003-04	10.0	20.2	23.0
	1998-99	12.1	24.6	31.3

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)	36	2.3	1.2	3.0
Compensatory Education	0	0.0	2.6	8.5
Gifted and Talented Program	0	0.0	4.1	2.1
Special Education	234	15.0	11.2	11.4

JANUARY STUDENT RACE/ETHNICITY

Race/Ethnicity	Number	Percent
American Indian	3	0.2
Asian American	116	7.5
Black	133	8.6
Hispanic	153	9.8
White	1149	73.9
Other	0	0.0

Total Minority 2003-04 26.1%

Total Minority 1998-99 20.4%



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 transitional school district as identified by the State of Connecticut, with a diverse population. Our minority population represents 26.5% 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 and the Greater Hartford Science Academy 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 and 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 creating a respectful, safe and welcoming environment and achieving equity in education through a wide variety of curricular and co-curricular activities designed to increase acceptance of individual differences, embrace our diversity and provide equity of instruction. We continue to bring programs to the school for students, staff and parents aimed at reducing prejudice and discrimination through communication and education throughout the school year. Additional activities included the Empty Bowls Soup Kitchen community service project, the various multicultural speakers and authors who shared personal experiences addressing issues of social justice, Gay/Straight Alliance, SADD, SAGE, AIDS Awareness Week, and TAPS, Transitional Assistance Program for Success. HEART, Hall's Equity and Respect Team made up of students, parents and staff was established to increase family communication and involvement as part of our efforts to make everyone feel connected and accepted within the school community. Events such as Grade 8 parent nights in January to begin the transition process and the New Parents Welcome Breakfast/Panel Presentation during new student orientation as well as the new student barbecue during orientation build community.

SCHOOL RESOURCES

Instructional Time*	School	ERG High Schools	State High Schools
Total Hours of Instruction Per Year	976	991	1,000

*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	77.9	73.0
Voice	100.0	84.9	81.3
Internet Access	100.0	95.6	94.2
Multi-Room Network (LAN)	100.0	92.1	77.2

Computers	School	ERG HS	State HS
# of Students Per Academic Computer	4.1	4.1	3.3
% of Computers that are High or Moderate Power	99.5	85.3	76.5
% of Computers with Internet Access, All Speeds	98.2	97.3	95.2
% of Computers with High Speed Internet Access	98.2	97.3	93.5
% of Internet Computers with Filtering Software	100.0	100.0	96.8

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*	26.7	18.7	16.1
% of Print Volumes Purchased in the Last Three Years	2.3	8.1	9.9
# of Print Periodical Subscriptions	67	77.6	49.1
# of Non-Print Materials	1,243	1,636.9	784.4

*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	22.6	19.3	20.3
Biology I	20.2	20.4	19.8
English, Grade 10	18.6	20.3	20.1
American History	23.6	21.6	20.9

School Staff Count Full-Time Equivalent	2003-04	2002-03
# of Certified Staff		
Teachers	91.9	90.7
Administrators	5.8	5.8
Library/Media Staff	2.0	2.0
Counselors, Social Workers, and School Psychologists	10.7	10.7
Other Professionals	0.7	0.7
# of Non-Certified Instructional	0.0	0.0

Professional Staff Race/Ethnicity	2003-04	2002-03	1998-99
% Minority	4.9	3.3	4.1
Professional Staff Experience and Training	School	ERG High School	State High School
Average Number of Years Experience in CT	13.4	13.6	13.9
% with Master's Degree or Above	74.0	82.2	76.5
% Trained as Mentors, Assessors, or Cooperating Teachers	30.1	28.8	25.2

SCHOOL PROCESSES

Student and Teacher Statistics	School	ERG High Schools	State High Schools
% of Students Retained in Grade after 2002-03 School Year	2.5	1.7	5.1
Teacher Attendance, 2002-03: Average # of Days Absent Due to Illness or Personal Time	6.1	7.1	8.4
% Certified Staff Assigned to Same School the Previous Year	86.2	87.1	85.8

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 (2003)	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 2002-03 School Year	44.9	34.8	25.8
During the 1997-98 School Year	41.1	26.1	19.0

Advanced Placement Courses	School	ERG High Schools	State High Schools
Number of Courses for which Students were Tested	18	14.7	9.7
% of Grade 12 Students Tested	34.0	25.1	17.6
% of Exams Scored 3 or More*	88.1	79.9	71.5

*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 2003	21.8	21.5	20.0

% of Class of 2003 Graduates who Earned Credit in Selected Subjects	School	ERG High Schools	State High Schools
Algebra I or Equivalent	97.0	93.6	89.7
Chemistry	67.5	79.5	68.8
4 or More Credits in Mathematics	71.0	71.9	61.3
3 or More Credits in Science	82.2	91.6	84.9
4 or More Credits in Social Studies	60.1	47.4	47.8
Credit for Level 3 or Higher in the Same World Language	79.3	74.3	55.8
2 or More Credits in Vocational Education	39.3	46.2	55.9
2 or More Credits in the Arts	58.9	46.1	40.2

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. Students receive certification of mastery for each area in which they meet or exceed the Goal. The Goal level is more demanding than the state Proficient level, but not as high as the Advanced level, reported in the No Child Left Behind Report Cards.


Conn. Academic Performance Test, 2 nd Gen. % Grade 10 Meeting State Goal	School 2000-01	School 2003-04	ERG 2003-04	State 2003-04
Reading Across the Disciplines	70	68.3	69.6	48.0
Writing Across the Disciplines	67	67.3	71.4	53.7
Mathematics	62	65.5	67.0	46.1
Science	74	69.1	66.1	47.4
All Four Tests	45.0	45.4	45.7	27.7
Participation Rate	92.8	97.6	98.7	96.9



The figures above were calculated differently than those reported in the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Report Cards. Unlike NCLB figures, these results reflect the performance of students with scoreable tests who were enrolled in the district at the time of testing, regardless of the length of time they were enrolled in the district.

SAT [®] I: Reasoning Test	Class of 1998		Class of 2003	
	School	School	ERG	State
% of Graduates Tested	93.7	89.3	91.6	76.2
Mathematics: Average Score	558	554	546	508
Mathematics: % Scoring 600 or More	39.9	38.4	34.0	23.8
Verbal: Average Score	569	557	537	504
Verbal: % Scoring 600 or More	42.3	36.8	29.2	21.1

Student Attendance	School	ERG HS	State HS
% on October 1, 2003	96.9	96.2	94.7

Physical Fitness, Grade 10 	School	ERG	State
% Passing All 4 Tests	47.5	46.4	38.4

Dropout Rates	School	ERG	State
Cumulative Four-Year Rate for Class of 2003	8.7	3.6	9.5
2002-03 Annual Rate for Grade 9 through 12	1.1	0.9	2.1
1997-98 Annual Rate for Grades 9 through 12	0.8	1.5	3.5

Class of 2003: Number of National Merit Scholarship Semi-Finalists: 9



Activities of Graduates	Class of	School	ERG	State
% Attending Two- or Four-Year Colleges	2003	91.7	88.4	76.8
	1998	89.3	87.6	73.7
% Employed or in Military	2003	5.0	7.0	15.7
	1998	7.8	8.1	17.8

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.

Hall students' participation rate in the SAT I and SAT II for the 2003 -2004 school year was 97%. Our students continue to score significantly above the state and national average on the SAT. The average score for the eighteen advanced placement tests that were taken in the spring of 2004 was 3.9 out of a possible 5. On the spring 2004 CAPT tests, Hall students exceeded all of our yearly adequate progress (AYP) targets. Our participation rate was 99%, the percentage of students at or above the proficiency level was 95% in math and 100% in reading.

Student Accomplishment

Hall continues to excel in academics, technology and the fine and performing arts. Our students are actively involved in a wide range of extra-curricular activities. The jazz and concert bands, as well as the vocal music, theater arts and fine arts programs have earned international, national and regional awards honoring the talents of the students involved. Three of our students placed 1st, 2nd and 3rd on the American Math Competition 12. Hall students captured 6 of the 32 regional slots on the American Chemical Society's International Chemistry Olympiad. Hall's Mock Trial team won the state championship this year. In athletics several of our teams won class and state championships including our gymnastic team who won the state championship and our indoor track team who won the class LL indoor track championship. Community service is an integral part of life at Hall, with both individuals and groups working hard to help others in need. Our students are actively involved helping the hungry and the homeless and the ill and the aging.

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 in West Hartford. It has a student population of approximately 1500 students. The school takes great pride in its racial, religious and cultural diversity. Our African, Asian and Hispanic populations make up about 28% of our student body. Our students speak more than 25 languages at home and many religious faiths are represented within the school. Academically our students continue to be accepted into the most prestigious colleges and universities in the country. This year six of those students recognized as National Merit Semi-finalists went on to become National Merit Finalists.

Our faculty members are regularly the recipients of professional awards and recognitions at both the state and the national level. In the 2003 -2004 school year, one Hall teacher was awarded the Connecticut Music Education Association Teacher of the Year and another was the Radio Shack's National Teacher of the Year. In addition, Hall teachers present at conferences in their respective academic areas both regionally and nationally. Hall has 30 sports offerings played both on the fields and on the courts and over 30 extra-curricular activities and several publications that students are actively involved in. 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/schools/hall/index.htm

