


# Vestavia Hills City Schools

Vestavia Hills City Schools  
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# Vestavia Hills City Schools

2023-24 ANNUAL REPORT




## Message from the Superintendent

The mission of Vestavia Hills City Schools is to ensure each student learns without limits by pursuing knowledge and igniting curiosity about the world through a system distinguished by a safe and nurturing environment, the courage to be creative, appreciation of diversity, multiple paths to a bold future, and unparalleled community support. Our school system is a reflection of the priority our community places on education. When excellent teachers are supported by engaged parents, collaborative partnerships, and local government, students are far more likely to succeed in their academic endeavors.

The 2023-24 school year was a compelling reflection of this quality of commitment. Students from Pre-K through their senior year learned and applied knowledge in profound ways, strengthened their character by focusing on core values, and prepared to confront the inevitable challenges they will face. They excelled in their endeavors as evidenced by the remarkable number of accomplishments including a record number of scholarships offered to students along with state championships in academic, art and athletic competitions. Our students traveled throughout the state and nation to learn, perform, and compete. They continued a wonderful tradition of giving back to the community through impressive philanthropic efforts.

Our team of teachers and staff continued to excel in their professionalism and commitment to the almost 7,000 students who attended VHCS. Parents, PTOs, the VHCS Foundation, Help the Hills, Community Partners, service clubs, and many others continued to prioritize supporting our schools. Because of these invaluable partnerships, we can more confidently pursue our mission to provide every student the opportunity to learn without limits.

The 2023-24 Annual Report summarizes another remarkable year in Vestavia Hills City Schools. Parents and community members alike can clearly see the value of the investment made in our school system. I believe the accomplishments and highlights in this report demonstrate our commitment to strive for excellence in all the experiences we provide for students. Thank you for supporting the mission of Vestavia Hills City Schools!



# Learning Without Limits

Vestavia Hills City Schools continues to set the standard for academic excellence in Alabama. In the 2023-24 school year, 255 seniors graduated with the Advanced Academic with Honors Endorsement on their diplomas, and seniors earned more than \$45 million in scholarship offers — a school record. The class of 2024 also showcased exceptional achievements, with 13 National Merit Semifinalists, 1 Semifinalist, and state championships in Math Team and Speech and Debate. An impressive 94% of graduates will be attending colleges and universities in 29 states. Our commitment to providing multiple learning pathways was evident through the expansion of Career & Technical Education courses and pathways, including Principles of Engineering, Therapeutic Services, Data Analytics, and Broadcast Production. The development of a community-supported K-5 STEM program, coming in the 2024-25 school year, will further enhance our students' opportunities for creativity and critical thinking skills.

## Extracurricular Achievement

Vestavia Hills City Schools continues to excel in extracurricular activities, providing students with opportunities to explore their passions and develop leadership skills. The Rebels achieved remarkable success in 2023-24 athletics competition, with 19 teams qualifying for postseason play. Five VHHS teams and 22 students won state championships in their respective sports, and at least two dozen seniors will continue their athletic careers on the collegiate level. Our longstanding achievement in the arts was equally impressive, with students earning state titles in theatre and dance, 136 students graduating with the Arts Achievement Seal, and dozens more receiving awards in choir, band, and visual arts.

## Character and Community

Vestavia Hills City Schools is dedicated to fostering a culture of character, service, and community engagement. In the 2023-24 school year, our schools earned recognition for their commitment to character education, and four of our schools are now State and National Schools of Character. Our partnership with The Hope Institute at Samford University played a vital role in promoting appreciation of diversity and commitment to core values throughout our school system. Community service and philanthropy were also central to the school system's success. RISE, a student-led organization, raised an impressive \$227,164 for the O'Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center, while Youth Leadership students accumulated more than 5,000 service hours. The Class of 2024 demonstrated their commitment to literacy by collecting more than 4,000 books for the Alabama Books for the Black Belt Campaign, earning them AP with We Service Recognition from the College Board.



## Safe and Nurturing Environment

Vestavia Hills City Schools remains unwavering in its commitment to providing a safe and nurturing environment for all students. Our schools prioritize student wellbeing with a team of dedicated school resource officers, nurses, counselors, and support staff; comprehensive safety and security measures at every school; and strong community partnerships. We also enhanced our ability to support student wellbeing in the 2023-24 school year through Youth Mental Health First Aid training for teachers and staff, a partnership with IMPACT Family Counseling, and new initiatives with Thriveway and Peer Helpers programming. By fostering a safe and supportive learning environment, Vestavia Hills City Schools ensures that every student has the opportunity to thrive.

## Partnership and Progress

The 2023-24 school year showcased the unparalleled community support enjoyed by Vestavia Hills City Schools. We continued to grow our continuum of support with the City of Vestavia Hills, the Chamber of Commerce, the VHCS PTOs, the VHCS Foundation, and dozens of businesses and organizations in the Community Partners program. These partnerships set our community apart. And as Vestavia Hills City Schools looks to the future, we remain committed to continuous improvement and innovation. With a focus on personalized learning, work-based opportunities, and student leadership, we are well-positioned to provide multiple paths to a bold future for every student. The 2023-24 school year serves as a testament to our unwavering dedication to excellence in education, character development, and community engagement.



## Our District 2023-2024

6,913

65 Pre-K  
3,076 K-5th  
1,627 6th-8th  
2,145 9th-12th

Our students hail from 43 countries...  
and speak 34 languages.

95.38%

Average daily attendance

1,171

Gifted students

149

English Learner students

705

Students in Extended Day Program

## Our Team

918

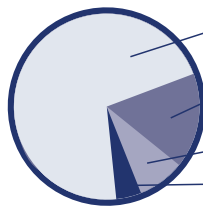
Total Employees

608

Certified / Faculty

310

Classified / Faculty



67% Master's Degree

24% Bachelor's Degree

6% Doctorate

3% 6th-Year (Specialist)

21

Counselors and 1 social worker

13

School resource officers

54

Custodians and 9 maintenance staff who covered 1.3 million square feet of building space

15

Bus transportation staff who drove 125,000+ miles

37

CNP staff who prepared 688,000+ meals

19

School nurses with 14,000+ clinic visits

## Our Achievements

4

National Schools of Character

94%

of seniors entering

88

colleges in

29

states

255

Advanced Academic with Honors Diplomas awarded

122

Seal of Biliteracy graduates

13

National Merit Finalists and

1

Semifinalist

78

Career & Technical Education credentials earned

136

Arts Achievement Seal graduates

\$45+

million in scholarship offers

695

students took

1,572

AP exams

86%

scored a 3+

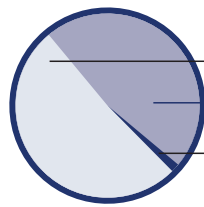
## Our Budget

\$111.8

million FY 2024 Budget

\$9.32

million - cost of one month's operations



54% Local

42% State

4% Federal / Other

