

## UNDERSTANDING THE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT

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School: Neuqua Valley High School

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Your site visit experience offers you the opportunity to learn how schools operate as a large community promoting the growth of a learner. School environment is determined by the school's culture, its history, its belief in how to do things and what is worth doing. Become familiar with the school environment by completing the table below. Accomplish this by using the host school's website, the Illinois Public K-12 School Rankings based on the Report Card and school personnel interviews.

<b>Demographics</b> <i>The following elements look at the demographic information of a school.                      The demographic information of a school can provide an excellent look at the diversity of the school environment.</i>		
What is/are the...	Answer	Resource for the Answer: Person's name and title, document or website.
Current school enrollment	3,698	Illinois Report Card (Northern Illinois University)
Percentage of various races and ethnicities	White- 58.2% Black- 5.5% Hispanic- 6.8% Asian- 25.7% American Indian- 0.3% Mixed- 3.4% Pacific Islander- 0.1%	“
Number of males and females as per school report card	Male- 1,986 Female- 1,975	<a href="http://high-schools.com">high-schools.com</a>
Percent of low income students	7.4%	Illinois Report Card (Northern Illinois University)
Percent of students with IEPs	7%	“
Percentage of English Language Learners	0.6%	“
Composite percent of students who meet and exceed state standards	78.3%	“
# of FTE (full time equivalency) teachers	1725	“
<b>School Organization</b> <i>The following elements identify various aspects of the organization of the school.                      By understanding the school organization, teachers can better plan their lessons and their day.</i>		
School Mission Statement	“We believe in fostering a climate that encourages learning and & personal growth.”	NVHS Website
Length of school day for students	7:25 AM-2:25 PM	“
Length of school day for contracted staff	7 hours, 35 minutes	IPEA Contract
Number of minutes per class or time allotted for each subject	48	“
Number of minutes for “specials” Art, P.E., Music, etc.	48	“
Elective classes offered	Art Music Family and consumer education Media Communications	“

Extracurricular activities offered	Theater After school music programs book club anime club pre-professional organizations	“
Types of duties which teachers are assigned	Teachers are required to	
Types of communication between the school, home, and community	email newsletters are sent to parents and faculty on a regular basis, and calls home are made home to parents to notify them of upcoming events.	“
Types of all-school or grade level assemblies	Spirit assemblies anti bullying assemblies Veterans’ Day assembly Anti-drug assembly	“
School colors and mascot	Blue and Gold Willie the Wildcat	“
Student and faculty dress code	Students: -Clothes must adequately cover the torso, shoulders, back, and legs -No hats -Undergarments must be covered -No profanity displayed on clothing  Teachers: -Business casual (Fridays are casual) -Rules for students apply	NVHS handbook (found on NVHS website)
<p><b>Assistance</b></p> <p><i>The following elements identify various types of assistance available to students and faculty. Identifying and understanding the various types of assistance available to students and teachers provides a teacher with a greater sense of community.</i></p>		
Student intervention plans such as Response to Intervention (RTI)	An early problem solving system is used; regular classroom monitoring catches student issues early so they can be targeted and given proper attention through an RtI process	Indian Prairie website ( <a href="http://ipsd.org">ipsd.org</a> )
Provisions for students so that they can participate in extracurricular activities (e.g. transportation)	Late bus transportation is provided so all students can participate in extracurriculars	NVHS website
Types of technology available for teachers	ELMO Smart board/digital projector Personal tech (when appropriate)	Mr. Rossi (teacher I observed with)
Types of technology available for students	School-issued chromebook computers desktop computers available in the library	Mr. Rossi
Types of professional development available to staff	Teachers may earn salary schedule credit for college courses taken towards achieving a higher degree in teaching  Teachers are invited and encouraged to give professional presentations  Teachers are allowed to attend conferences and have visitation days if it benefits the districts philosophy	IPEA Contract
<p><b>Policies</b></p> <p><i>The following elements provide a greater understanding of the policies that exist in a school environment.</i></p>		

Read and summarize the School's digital etiquette policy for students.	During school hours, personal electronic devices are only to be used in non-instructional areas unless otherwise specified by the teacher.	Student handbook
Staff credentials to sponsor extracurricular activities	Teachers may not be involved in more than three activities outside of their required hours. When sponsoring/coaching a club, sport, or other extracurricular activity, prior experience or interest in the subject of the club is encouraged and preferred, but not required	Mr. Rossi/IPEA Contract
Philosophy of the school library or learning center	The library supports and encourages self-guided curiosity and learning, and strives to make the library a place to freely explore those ideas as well as provide a valuable resource in helping students improve their school studies.	Neuqua librarian
Study hall policies for students and teachers	During study halls, students may go to any option-approved areas, including: cafeteria, resource centers, music practice rooms, class houses, library. They may not leave campus at any time.  Teachers are available to help students in study hall periods during their office hours.	Student handbook
Lunchroom policies for students and teachers	Students may purchase a lunch from the cafeteria or bring their own lunch. Reduced price is available for students who qualify. All school rules apply to students in the lunchroom. Students are not allowed to leave the lunchroom during their lunch period.  Teachers have a specified lunch period based on their teaching schedule	“
Hallway policies: during class time and between classes	Students have five minutes to get to their next class after the bell. There is no running allowed in the hallway, students must stay on the right side of the hallway. Students must have a pass if they are in the hallway during a class period.	“
School discipline policy	The school reserves the right to discipline students for breaking any of the school rules. Acts of disobedience result in punishment up to suspension. Acts of misconduct result in punishment up to expulsion	“
Emergency procedure plans (fire, tornado, evacuation, and lockdown)	Each classroom has a specific plan for each kind of emergency, including exit routes for a fires and shelter locations for tornadoes. In the case of a soft lockdown, students and faculty are to lock the doors and stay in their current classrooms; in a hard lockdown situation, the doors are locked, the lights turned off, and all students and teachers crouch away from the door in their respective classrooms.	“