



Veritas Academy

A Renzulli School of Learning
35-01 Union Street, Flushing, New York 11354
P: 718-888-7520 F: 718-888-7524
www.theveritasacademy.com

Jason Vanderwalker, *Principal*

Deborah Kiernan, *Assistant Principal*
Frank Raccuglia, *Assistant Principal*

Dear Prospective Incoming Students and Families,

Greetings, my name is Jason Vanderwalker and I am the Principal of Veritas Academy. As potential incoming students and families, I would just like to start by saying welcome and thank you for considering our school as you begin the process of looking for your chosen high school next fall. I understand that this can be a daunting process and even more so now in the current times that we are in. We just want you to know that we understand the current challenges, and hope to help in the decision-making process by providing you advanced, clear, and detailed information about our school that may fit your family's needs when looking for the right high school. As you learn of us through information shared by your current middle school and see the opportunity for our upcoming virtual open houses in November, we hope you join us to learn more and strongly consider us for the coming school year.

Veritas Academy is a small, close-knit school community in the Flushing High School complex. We have approximately 620 students and we pride ourselves on our warm and welcoming safe learning environment that provides social emotional learning support to all students. We have built our instruction around the Renzulli Learning model that builds on the talents of all students. This model provides students opportunities to learn in ways that provide them choices within learning tasks and to excel academically by exploring topics of their interest. This is most evident through our elective classes that offer a variety of different unique learning opportunities for students. Our overall instructional program provides all students a well-balanced college preparatory education over their 4 years of high school. As you review other samples of information about our school and participate in upcoming information sessions, you will receive a comprehensive description of our instructional program and overall community at Veritas Academy.

Once again, I thank you for considering our community as you begin your search process for your chosen high school for the coming year. At Veritas, we understand that this is a big decision and it's not just a school, it's your home for the next four years before moving on to the next stage after graduation. Thank you for considering us and if you have additional questions, please don't hesitate to reach out at any time to our team. We look forward to meeting you during our open house events.

Sincerely,

Jason Vanderwalker

Jason Vanderwalker
Principal

OUR MISSION



VERITAS offers each student an opportunity to find and develop his or her unique profile of gifts and talents.

We are committed to providing challenging, in-depth, and enjoyable learning experiences for all students through our Schoolwide Enrichment Model.

Our collaborative school culture focuses on the development of talents in all students and provides a broad range of advanced-level enrichment activities. Instructional technology infused through all subject areas ensures that students develop the necessary skills for the demands of the 21st century job market.

The school culture celebrates individuality and creativity. Our goal is to develop a lifelong love of learning in our students so that they become successful and creative problem solvers, ethical citizens of the world, and know they can make a difference.

UNIFORM POLICY

All Veritas Academy students are strongly encouraged to participate in our dress code policy. It is a traditional practice in our school and an integral part of Veritas culture for both students and staff. In a school campus serving three high schools, Veritas Academy wants to maintain a safe & professional environment conducive for optimal learning by promoting school spirit and embracing a strong sense of community.

Affiliations with various prestigious community organizations including:

- University of Connecticut
- St. John's University
- LaGuardia Community College
- Queens College: Windows of Opportunity
- Hunter College
- Gilder Lehrman Institute of American Studies
- American Museum of Finance
- Anne Frank Center
- Big Onion Walking Tours

PARTNERSHIPS

PROPOSED KEY FEATURES

- **Modern Languages: Spanish**
- **SAT/ACT/Regents Preparation**
- **Challenging and rigorous college preparatory curriculum**
- **Independent interest/talent-based research studies**
- **Individual support with the college application process**
- **Community Service requirement**
- **Real-world project-based learning**
- **Advanced Placement courses**
- **Special Education services**
- **Small and supportive school environment**
- **Advisory program with academic support**
- **Internship, externship, and residency learning opportunities**
- **Celebrations of student achievement**
- **Strong partnerships with families**
- **Resume building, interview etiquette, college visits**
- **Honors track for advanced students**
- **College Now**
- **AP for All**
- **College Access for All**
- **Individualized teacher to student mentoring program**

After-school & extra-curricular activities and clubs include and have included:

Athletics, Chess, Cooking, Horticulture, Yearbook, The Inner You, Game Club, Nature's Alliance, Participatory Budget, Student Council, Dance Club, Newspaper and many more... Extra-Curricular activities can vary from year to year depending on students' interests.

This document contains important information.
Please have someone translate it for you.
這個檔案有重要的訊息。請找人為你翻譯內容。

Este documento contiene información importante.
Favor de preguntarle a alguien que se lo traduzca.

이 문서에는 중요한 정보가 들어 있습니다.
번역해 주실 분을 찾아서 내용을 정확하게 확인하시기 바랍니다.

VERY ADVANCED · VERY PERSONAL · VERY SCHOLARLY · VERITAS!



VISION

Veritas will be a nurturing, safe, and professional environment that supports educational success while furthering the social, emotional, and physical development of all students. Veritas will offer an array of core and elective courses that will be standards-based, academically engaging, and meet the needs, experiences, and cultures of diverse learners.

MISSION

Veritas is a Renzulli school that focuses on the enrichment of all students. Veritas uses the schoolwide enrichment model which provides opportunities for students to voice their interests through targeted surveys that inform the development of elective courses. In these courses, students have opportunities to co-construct curriculum with their teachers in a student-centered learning environment.

Additionally, this model provides enriched learning experiences and higher learning standards for all children through three goals:

- developing talents in all children
- providing a broad range of advanced-level enrichment experiences for all students
- providing advanced follow-up opportunities for young people based on their strengths and interests

At Veritas, various student support structures work in a systemized way to provide students with social and emotional support that incorporates individualized and group counseling. Students engage in learning activities both inside and outside of the school that build students' self-efficacy, confidence, and self-esteem to enable them to become civic-minded citizens.

Veritas aims to implement a rigorous, standards-aligned curriculum that develops critical thinking skills that equips learners with the ability to read, write, communicate, and problem solve in a constantly changing society.



Instructional Focus

2020 – 2021

The Instructional Focus of Veritas Academy is for all students to learn in a well-designed rigorous environment that challenges all students to think and write critically to become active problem solvers. This is achieved through supporting advanced literacy skills and placing an emphasis on high levels of discourse among students through a routine use of student engagement protocols across all classrooms. Our focus is designed to support our students in being adaptive and collaborative in order to reach success in ever-changing learning environments.



2020-2021 Schoolwide Goals

Academic

We will develop our critical thinking skills in order to enable us to read, write, communicate, and problem solve in an ever changing society.

Social/Emotional

In a world where we can be anything, we will choose to be kind.



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School Profile 2019-2020

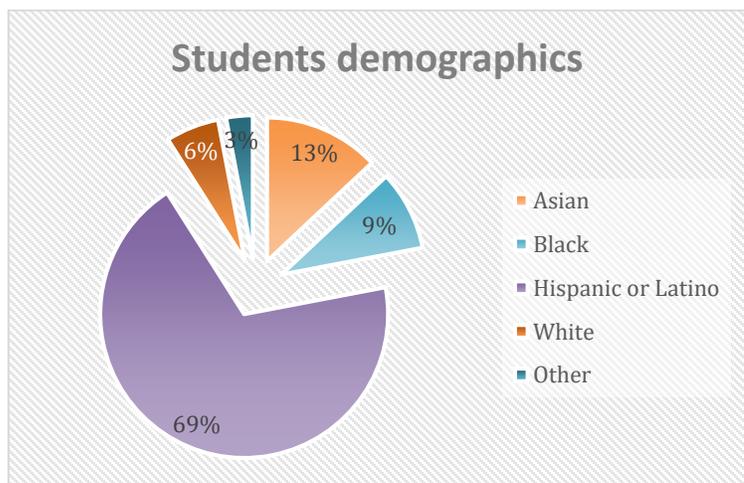
Mission Statement

Veritas Academy is a Renzulli school of learning that focuses on the enrichment of all students. Veritas uses the school wide enrichment model which provides opportunities for students to voice their interests through targeted surveys that inform the development of elective courses. In these courses students have opportunities to co-construct curriculum with their teachers in a student-centered learning environment.

The School

Veritas Academy is a public school in NYC with an enrollment of approximately 620 students in grades nine through twelve. The high school opened in the fall of 2013. Our graduation rate was 89% while the city was 76 %. Our attendance rate is 89.5%. The school is accredited by the New York State Board of Regents. The Veritas Academy staff is a team of 57 educators who have committed to the teaching and learning process of our students. All either poses or are completing their Master's degrees.

Our Students



CEEB Code 331917

Jason Vanderwalker
Principal

Main Office:
(718) 888-7520

Counseling Office

Antonio Bausone, M.S.Ed.
Director of Guidance Services
(718) 888-7520 Ext. 5032

Jessica Callahan
College Advisor
(718) 888-7520 Ext. 6035

Katherine Garzon
Academic/CollegeCounselor
(718) 888-7520 Ext. 6036

Website:
www.veritas.nyc



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Academics

The Veritas Academy school year is organized on a semester schedule. The academic programs at Veritas Academy include English, Spanish, History, Mathematics, Science, Art, and Physical Education. To graduate with a high school diploma, students must complete requirements in each of these departments. Students must complete physical education each term. Our students also have the opportunity to take AP and college level classes. Grades are recorded on the students' transcripts and their GPA is computed every February and June. In addition, students are strongly encouraged to complete 100 hours of community service prior to graduation.

Grading scale

A 90-100 | B 80-89 | C 70-79 | D 65-69 | F Below 65

The grade point average, computed at the end of each semester, includes all courses or classes in which a student received a grade, with the exception of physical education. AP courses are weighted 1.10.

College Credit courses: The school has a partnership with La Guardia Community College and Queens College, where students are able to choose classes based on their interest. Every semester there are a variety of classes offered such as: Introduction to Sociology, Introduction to Business, Psychology, Education, and College Algebra and Trigonometry.

AP Classes Offered: As a Flushing Campus, students are able to choose from AP classes that are offered in the building which include: AP Biology, AP English Literature, AP Computer Science A, AP Spanish Language, AP World History, AP U.S History, AP Psychology, AP Macroeconomics, AP English Language, AP Environmental Science, and AP Statistic

A sample of the Colleges and Universities where our students have been accepted

Adelphi University	CUNY-Lehman College	Pace University	SUNY- Oswego
Allegheny College	CUNY-Queens College	Penn State	SUNY-Purchase
Bard College	CUNY-Queensborough CC	Philadelphia University	SUNY- Stony Brook
Bennington University	Curry College	Quinnipiac	SUNY- Fredonia
Boston University	East Stroudsburg College	Sienna	SUNY- Broome
Cornell College	Emory & Henry College	St Francis University	SUNY- Plattsburgh
CUNY-Baruch College	Farmingdale College	St Joseph	SUNY- Polytechnic Institute
CUNY-Borough of Manhattan CC	Fashion Institute of Tech	St. Johns University	University of Connecticut
CUNY- Bronx CC	Fordham University	Stevenson University	University of Hartford
CUNY- Brooklyn College	Hofstra University	SUNY-Alfred University	
CUNY-City College	Iona College	SUNY- Brockport	
CUNY- NYC College of Tech	Ithaca College	SUNY- Buffalo State	
CUNY-College of Staten Island	LIU Post	SUNY- Geneseo	
CUNY-Guttman CC	Macaulay Honors College	SUNY-New Paltz	
CUNY-Hunter	Mercy College	SUNY-Old Westbury	
CUNY-Kingsborough CC	Molloy College	SUNY- Oneonta	
CUNY-La Guardia CC	Nassau CC		
	NYIT		

Veritas Academy Graduation Requirements (Number of Credits required)	
English	8
Social Studies	8
Mathematics	6
Science	6
LOTE	2
Art, Music, Dance	2
Health	1
Physical Education	4
Electives	7



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Parent Involvement Policy

Veritas Academy believes that parental involvement in the education process is a vitally important factor. Parents are a child's first educator. Our Parent Involvement Plan strives to nurture a meaningful and mutually satisfying and productive relationship between the students, parents, staff and community-based organizations involved with Veritas Academy. We wish for our parents and guardians to become involved and feel WELCOMED and help us make a difference in their children's education. The following is a description of measures in place to ensure growing parental involvement at Veritas Academy:

- Veritas Academy parents/guardians show their support for the school by participating in the Parent-Teacher Association and on the School Leadership Team, attending Curriculum Night, and Parent-Teacher Conferences.
- Communication between the parents and the school is a top priority for the Veritas Academy. Parents are kept informed and involved in their children's academic life through School Messenger, e-mails, PupilPath and the school website, www.veritas.nyc
- Veritas Academy also distributes on a regular basis parent, student and staff needs assessment surveys. These results help determine areas of interest, as well as those in need of improvement or change. Technology workshops are given as per parent requests as well as on pre-determined topics such as PupilPath, and College Readiness. With the assistance of administrators, staff, parents and students, Veritas helps its students not only achieve, but surpass all performance standards.
- Each semester, the students who have achieved Honor Roll, Outstanding Community Service and/or 100% Attendance are celebrated during PTA assemblies. Our Student Recognition bulletin board proudly displays Honor Roll, Community Service and Perfect Attendance achievers. Veritas Academy strives to instill in its students a feeling of pride in their accomplishments in order to motivate them toward ever-increasing successes.

Veritas Academy hopes to establish and maintain a strong parent, staff and student relationship, one which will honor and celebrate its students' academic success, progress, attendance, and discipline. We want all parents to be involved in their children's school lives and strive to find any and all ways to accomplish this goal.



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Jason Vanderwalker, Principal

Incoming 9th and 10th Grade

Open House

Thursday, November 5, 2020

6:00 PM

and

Monday, November 9, 2020

6:00 PM

<https://tinyurl.com/ParentOpenHouseVeritas>

*Please register for one of the two dates and you will
receive an email with the sign in information.*

We Look Forward to Meeting With You!

Please contact Ms. Callahan, College Advisor with any questions

JCallahan@schools.nyc.gov (718)888-7520 Ext-6036