**Hillsboro-Deering High School’s School and Community Profile**

Hillsboro-Deering High School is part of the Hillsboro-Deering Cooperative School District that was established in 1954 by the towns of Hillsboro and Deering, New Hampshire. Today, the district serves the communities of Hillsboro, Deering, Washington, and Windsor, and services approximately 1,300 students. Located equidistant from Concord and Keene, the towns are traditional rural communities. The main campus is located on Hillcat Drive, just north of the intersection of Main Street and School Street in Hillsboro. Hillsboro-Deering Elementary School houses grades K-5 and has an enrollment of 525. Washington Elementary School covers the same grades with an enrollment of 49. Hillsboro-Deering Middle School has enrollment of 282, while the High School currently has 414 students. The high school’s alternative program is located off campus in West Deering. There are currently 18 students enrolled in the alternative program; five of those students take classes at the high school. The staff consists of three teachers in English, math, and social studies, and one director, who is a NH certified school psychologist.

Census data from 2011 estimates the population of Hillsboro at 6,026 (65% of the school district), Deering at 1,926 (21%), Washington at 1, 115 (12%), and Windsor at 225 (2%). The communities are economically, racially, culturally, and ethnically similar. No identifiable minority group comprises more than 0.6% of the population. The median household income is $59,152, and the district reported 40% of students receiving free or reduced lunch during the 2011-2012 school year.

Hillsboro-Deering High School expends approximately $15,443 per student, while the state average for high schools in 2011 was $13,101. For Hillsboro, the percent of taxes dedicated to the local schools is 51%, while the state education tax is 8%. Deering dedicates 55% of its taxes to local schools and 4% to the state education tax. Washington devotes 40% to local schools and 14% to the state education tax, and lastly, Windsor commits 41% to local education and 18% to the state education tax.

Hillsboro-Deering High School includes students in grades 9-12, with the total enrollment of 414 students divided between 220 males and 194 females. The school population has declined over the past several years. The average dropout rate for the 2012-2013 school year was 0%, down from .89% the previous year. The average daily student attendance rate for 2012-2013 was 89.24%, and the average attendance rate among teachers was 96.2%. Currently, 68 students are home-schooled.

There are 42 teaching faculty members at Hillsboro-Deering High School, creating a student-to-teacher ratio of 12:1, with an average class size of 22 students. Approximately 66% of the students pursue post high school education upon graduation.

All students are required to take four credits of English; three credits of math, science, and social studies, respectively; one credit of fine arts, physical education, and health, respectively; a half credit of technology; and 7.5 credits of electives, for a total of 24 credits needed for graduation. The majority of the courses offered at H-DHS are general education courses. Honors courses and Advanced Placement or Dual Enrollment courses are offered in some content areas, but all are open enrollment. During the 2012-2013 school year, 126 students were enrolled in advanced coursework, and 120 students were enrolled in dual enrollment coursework, completing at least one class in an postsecondary institution.

During their high school careers, students are able to take courses for college credit through the NH College System’s *Project Running Start* and *Project Lead the Way*. Hillsboro-Deering High School has also established an effective partnership with New England College; juniors and seniors may enroll in available college courses, and their tuition is waived. Additionally, H-DHS has hosted several intern teachers from both Keene State University and New England College to work with our teaching staff.

Hillsboro is geographically located in an area conducive to continuing education. Close by there are a number of colleges: New England College, Southern New Hampshire University, St. Anselm College, Colby Sawyer College, Keene State University, Franklin Pierce University, New Hampshire Technical Institute, and the University of New Hampshire-Manchester. The campuses of Plymouth State University and the University of New Hampshire are both less than 90 miles away.

Students at Hillsboro-Deering High School are recognized for achievement in various forms. Juniors and seniors with academic and social merit are awarded induction into the National Honor Society. Students who earn Honor Roll are recognized in the area newspapers throughout the school year. Currently, as part of the school’s New Hampshire Scholars Initiative, approximately 60 students are on target to graduate with this recognition based on their academic workload, GPA, and other requirements. These students are recognized at the school’s annual awards ceremony, are given a medallion to wear at graduation, and are recognized by the governor at a state-wide event. There are presently 49 students in grades 7-12 who are members of the Superintendent’s Club, an honor for those students who have maintained high honors for at least four terms and who continue to maintain honor roll status. These students are recognized at an annual dinner and are given a plaque by the Superintendent. Each spring, the school honors students from all spectra in an awards assembly that recognizes individual student achievement in academics, music, drama, athletics, attendance, etc. Additionally, seniors are honored each spring in the annual awards night for their academic achievements and scholarship awards.