

Graduation Requirements for the Class of 2010

The Alabama Department of Education requires a student to earn 24 Carnegie units for a high school diploma. One credit is earned for each yearlong course passed, and one-half credit is earned for each semester course. Additionally, students are required to pass the Reading, Language, Mathematics, Biology, and Social Studies sections of the Alabama High School Graduation Exam (AHSGE).

Types of Diplomas Offered

Subject	Standard	Advanced
English	4.0	4.0
Mathematics	4.0	4.0 *
Science	4.0	4.0
Social Studies	4.0	4.0
Physical Education	1.0	1.0
Health	0.5	0.5
Fine Arts	0.5	0.5
Computer Applications	0.5	0.5 *
Foreign Language	0.0	2.0
Electives	<u>5.5</u> 24.0	<u>3.5</u> 24.0

*The Advanced Diploma requires students complete at least the level of Algebra II/Trig in math and two years of the same foreign language.

Postsecondary

Seventy percent of the last graduating class enrolled in four-year institutions while twenty percent chose two-year colleges. About ten percent will attend college out-of-state.

Scholarships totaling over 13 million dollars were offered to 214 graduates in the class of 2009.

Mission Statement

The mission of Virgil I. Grissom High School is to prepare students for responsible participation as citizens in a global technological society by providing all students opportunities to achieve their highest academic, social, and creative potential using diverse tools of learning.

School Recognition

- The math and science departments received the 2007 Siemens Foundation Alabama AP Award.
- The Academic Team consistently wins city, district, and state championships, and qualifies for national competitions.
- The Mu Alpha Theta Math Team consistently places among the top three teams in the state and the top ten in the nation.
- Grissom athletic programs boast current and past state championships.
- Band, Drama, Choral, ROTC, and Newspaper programs are consistently rated Superior in competitions.

Personnel

Faculty Members: 123
Master's Degree: 89 72%
Teacher/Student Ratio: 1:16

Principal Mr. B.T. Drake

Asst. Principals Mr. Kevin Brown
Mrs. June Kalange
Mrs. Laura Worshim

Counselors Mrs. Mary Cagle
Ms. Susan Eison
Mrs. Heather Porter
Mrs. Sandra Sumrall
Ms. Lorie Hall

Registrar Mrs. Joyce Crim

Virgil I. Grissom High School

A Blue Ribbon School of Excellence



**2009 – 2010
Profile**

**7901 Bailey Cove Road
Huntsville, AL 35802**

**(256) 428-8000
Fax (256) 428-8001**

ACT/CEEB Code 011466

www.hsv.k12.al.us/schools/high/ghs

School Profile

Enrollment

Grissom High School's student body for 2009-2010 numbers 2035.

533	Freshmen
553	Sophomores
491	Juniors
458	Seniors

Accreditation

Grissom High School is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) and by the State of Alabama Department of Education.

Academic Calendar

Seven 50-minute periods of instruction make up the student day. The school calendar requires 180 student days beginning August 10, 2009, and ending May 26, 2010. Graduation exercises are scheduled for May 27, 2010.

Grading System

Academic progress reports are issued every nine weeks. Course grades are recorded numerically and by letter.

A	= 90 – 100
B	= 80 – 89
C	= 70 – 79
D	= 60 – 69
F	= Below 60

Grade Point Average (GPA) is computed on a 4.0 scale using all end of course grades. One extra point per course is awarded for AP and Dual Enrollment work. Beginning in 08-09, one-half extra point per course is awarded for courses designated as "Honors". Mid-year grades will be available in January 2010.

Class Rank

Class Rank is provided at the end of the junior year and the end of the senior year.

Academic Indicators

American College Testing Assessment (ACT)

Class of 2009

All Students	(N= <u>382</u>)
Mean Composite:	<u>24.3</u>
Mid 50% Range:	<u>21-27</u>

Core curriculum students	(N= 302)
Mean Composite:	<u>25</u>

Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT)

Class of 2009

All Students	(N= <u>103</u>)
Mean Critical Reading Score:	591
Mid 50% Range:	<u>520-670</u>
Mean Math Score:	<u>610</u>
Mid 50% Range:	<u>530-690</u>
Mean Writing Score:	<u>589</u>
Mid 50% Range:	<u>510-660</u>

Advanced Placement

2008 – 2009 academic year

Tests administered: 610

Score of 3 or better: 559 (92%)

National Merit Scholarship Competition

Class of 2009

Semifinalists: 18*

Commended Students: 12

*All Semifinalists achieved Finalist standing for 2009.

Course Offerings

Advanced Level Course Offerings (21):

- Honors English 9, 10, 11 *
- Honors Levels III and Ind Study French, German, Latin, and Spanish
- Honors Unified Geometry
- Honors Algebra II/Trigonometry
- Honors Pre-Calculus
- Math Seminar I, II, & Honors Seminar III
- Honors Biology *
- Zoology
- Honors World History & Geography *
- Honors US History to 1877 *
- Robotics

* Courses previously named AD or AL

Advanced Placement (AP) Course Offerings (21):

- English Language & Composition
- English Literature & Composition
- Calculus AB & BC
- Computer Science A & AB
- Statistics
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Environmental Science
- Physics B & C
- American Government & Politics
- Comparative Government & Politics
- European History
- Macroeconomics
- Microeconomics
- Psychology
- United States History
- Spanish, Latin, French, German