



Mission Statement

The Valhalla Union Free School District is dedicated to educating students to develop desired moral, ethical and cultural values; to stimulate and expand continual learning; and to cultivate an understanding and appreciation of the rights and responsibilities of citizens of a democratic society.

An Invitation to Apply for the Position of SUPERINTENDENT

What Makes Valhalla Unique

Valhalla provides a comprehensive educational program focused on the development of our students' academic, artistic and athletic talents. A special emphasis is placed on educational fundamentals and the individual needs of each student at all levels, enabling every child to establish a strong foundation as he/she/they progresses through school. We highlight kindness, community service and social-emotional learning, while prioritizing student enrichment and achievement. In our small school district, our students are articulate, our staff members are caring and our community members are receptive.

The district's comprehensive array of special education, English Language Learner and intervention services are points of pride, each designed to support students in our mission to achieve higher learning standards. All students have access to extensive computer technology and STEM programming through laboratory and classroom experiences, and engagement with emerging technologies and problem-based learning experiences.



Students are continuously engaged in a strong curriculum, which is underscored by critical thinking, effective writing, mathematics and a growing knowledge of world languages, music and the arts. Personalized learning is used to develop global citizens. Our community believes in offering an excellent education to all of our children – and our Board of Education, administration, faculty and staff members are dedicated to ensuring that.

The district's small size warrants a strong school/home connection, which is showcased by staff members personally knowing families and demonstrating care for their well-being. This allows each child to flourish with great cooperation between our community members and those who work in the district. We shine because of our community – the students, parents/guardians, staff members, outside stakeholders and partnering businesses.

The U.S. Department of Education named Valhalla High School a 2017 National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence, and the New York State Education Department deemed it a Recognition School for the 2018-19 and 2019-20 academic years. We annually have students recognized by the National Merit Scholarship program and often by the Triple-Impact Competitor Scholarships program. The Valhalla Union Free School District has won 19 state and national communications awards over the past five years. Over 98% of graduating seniors pursue higher education, with many being accepted to some of the most prestigious institutions in the country. Athletically, over the past decade, our students have won the New York State Championship multiple times (volleyball, track and field and baseball).

Board of Education

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Candidate Profile

The Valhalla community is seeking an engaging and transparent leader who values relationships, collaboration and innovation. Our next superintendent should have a firm understanding of the New York State education system, as well as experience as a teacher and/or administrator. They must be knowledgeable in facilitating curriculum development, implementing progressive instructional programs and identifying strategies for growth. Our community has expressed a strong desire for an effective communicator who is goal-oriented and a firm decision-maker with a clear strategy focused on student and district achievement. They should be approachable, visible and involved in the Valhalla community and able to navigate challenging situations with diplomacy and tact. The district's incoming leader must have intuitive skills in strategic planning, finance, collective bargaining and instructional technology. The successful candidate should be compassionate, a morale-building leader and an advocate for children, who is well-versed in equity and diversity.



Our History and Community

The Valhalla Union Free School District is a suburban school district located in central Westchester County, approximately 30 miles north of New York City. Our district includes parts of the towns of Mount Pleasant, Greenburgh and North Castle. The district was established in 1923; the Kensico School was the last addition in 2001. Our district is home to the historic Kensico Dam, a popular county park. Nearby major highways and Metro-North Railroad stations provide easy travel between Valhalla and Manhattan. Westchester Community College and the Westchester Medical Center are both located in Valhalla.

Submissions

Qualified applicants should submit the following:

- ◆ Letter of Interest
- ◆ Résumé
- ◆ Application
- ◆ Three Current Letters of Reference
- ◆ Official Transcripts
- ◆ Certifications

District Profile

◆ Student Enrollment: 1,407

Virginia Road School (Grades K-2): 320
Kensico School (Grades 3-5): 313
Valhalla Middle School (Grades 6-8): 322
Valhalla High School (Grades 9-12): 424

◆ Demographic Breakdown:

White 55%, Hispanic 26%,
African-American 8%,
Asian 7%, Multi-Racial 4%

◆ Administrators: 11

Instructional Staff: 160

Full-Time Non-Instructional Staff: 80

◆ 2019-20 Budget: \$55,590,597

State Aid: \$5,342,668

Tax Levy: \$44,421,540

◆ District Size: 18 square miles

◆ District Population: 15,000

Timeline

Application
Deadline

January 22, 2021

Applicants are asked not to contact the Valhalla Board of Education directly.

Instead, please direct all application materials to:

Dr. Harold A. Coles

District Superintendent

Southern Westchester BOCES

17 Berkley Drive

Rye Brook, NY 10573

914-937-3820, Ext. 4577

"Viking Strong!"



The successful candidate will be offered a competitive regional salary commensurate with experience and benefit package.

The successful candidate must live within a 50-mile radius of the district.

Application materials can be found at:

www.swboces.org/ValhallaUFSDsearch or <http://www.valhallaschools.org>

Application deadline: January 22, 2021