

2021

ANNUAL REPORT

Greater Fall River Vocational
School District



Message from Dr. Ferreira

The 2020-2021 School Year was non-traditional with the continued spread of the COVID 19 virus. We started the year with a ten day period for staff without students. This time was used to review curriculum maps for all programs and to identify learning loss from the 2020 school year. Additionally, staff members were trained with Mobile Minds to improve instruction and assessment on the Google Suite Platform. Administrators and staff worked diligently through the summer months to finalize schedules and calendars, ensuring a positive and productive academic year. The fall started with remote instruction, folding in students with our hybrid model as guidance allowed. By the winter, numerous students were in person for part of their schedules. The spring brought all students to in person learning.

The Cooperative Education Program placed students appropriately as local businesses opened up. The sports programs opened slowly, as the MIAA attempted to keep athletes safe during the continued outbreak. Our Information Technology Department was hard at work, preparing bandwidth and devices for our one to one roll out with Chromebooks.

Graduation looked more traditional this year, even though safety precautions were still high. Diplomas were handed out, tassels were moved from right to left, and commencement speeches were given. Seniors were allowed to properly close their high school chapters.

I sincerely thank all stakeholders for the tireless hours of preparation and execution. So much could have gone wrong, but we simply would not let it. We took to heart the old proverb that the whole is greater than the sum of its parts. Regardless of setbacks, staff and students continued to persevere and push on. This attitude allowed us to complete a school year with a “normal” feel, even though we were still in the middle of a world-wide pandemic. We look forward to happier days as we continue to work with federal and state agencies to ensure safe measures and protocols for all members of the Greater Fall River Vocational community.



Elvio A. Ferreira, Ed.D.
Superintendent-Director

Technical Program Updates

The Technical Program for 2021 was far less than normal. The year began with only half the student population in our scheduled rotation. Students were allowed to be face to face with instructors one of the two weeks of the technical cycle. During the alternate week, students participated in remote technical work through Google Suite. While not ideal, instruction could continue and students were exposed to the State Frameworks associated with their technical areas.



Programs moved into a more traditional two week model as the year progressed. By April 2021, all students who chose to be face to face had the opportunity to be in school both weeks of the technical cycle. Program instructors did their very best to present material to students in a cohesive manner, allowing for engagement and mastery of content areas.

With the changing guidance from federal and state agencies, the district was able to hold our Outstanding Vocational Student event in the Auditorium. Accounting for social distancing and safety precautions, all eighteen programs selected and celebrated students and achievements in their respected fields.



Additionally, the school was able to participate in the SKILLS USA Program at the local, state, and national levels. Diman Regional sent fourteen students to the National Competition held in June. The Technical Program administrator and instructors are looking forward to the 2022 school year, with a hopeful return to traditional education and initiatives.

Academic Program Updates

The Academic Program for 2021 was also less than ideal. Instruction started in a remote fashion and transitioned into a hybrid model by the winter of 2020. Instructors did their very best to adjust instruction and assessments to fit the online model. All school work was done through the Google Suite and on school issued devices. Students progressed through re-aligned curriculum to be prepared for local and state assessments.

Even though we were in the middle of an international crisis, Diman Regional had its entire course selection open to students. The district was able to maintain all faculty and programs by utilizing creative budgeting and taking full advantage of federal and state stimulus funds.



The Academic Program continued to offer Honors, College Preparatory, and Advanced Placement options for all interested students. Additionally, Diman Regional continued its partnership with Bristol Community College and the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth. The College Access Pathway (CAP) program welcomed students into college level courses while remaining full time students at Diman Regional. College Access Pathway (CAP) students were also provided with specific planning and advising information during the month of January. In an effort to best support this program, CAP students

attended a morning long field trip at Bristol Community College. While on the college campus, students met with professors and deans from associated programs. During these meetings, course and program expectations were discussed. Students were also encouraged to obtain a student ID and were provided with an opportunity for advising

As a manner of supporting continual program growth and development, Diman held Fall Advisory in October via virtual platforms. During this advisory event, academic departments met with invited advisory members in an effort to review current curricula and possible changes needed for future success.

In the spring, Diman Regional participated in the state's MCAS testing program. While adjustments were needed, the vast majority of students in grades 10 and 11 were able to complete testing and requirements for graduation. Results are expected in the early fall.

Division of Continuing Education

- **Journeyman Electrical code (CMR 227 22:00 Initial education)**-Journeyman classes enrolled 55 students working toward their professional license as electricians in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, as well as for the state of Rhode Island. Four students completed the 600-hour prerequisite for testing. Every student who took the exam passed on the first attempt.
- **Plumbing Program**-Greater Fall River re-engaged its Plumbing Program during the 2021 school year. Thirty-five students enrolled in various programs. Additionally, new curriculum was developed to ensure alignment with state boards, focusing heavily on Tier III and IV.
- The Division of Continuing Education expanded its programs by initiating a course for a Hoisting License, a Credential Program for Hot Work, and a Sheet Metal Fabrication Program.



Licensed Practical Nurse Program

Admissions: Full Time Day 44
Part Time Day 10

Graduates: Full Time Day 31
Part Time Day – 9

Program Ranking:

The district received communication in the 2021 school year that the Diman Regional Technical Institute School of Practical Nursing had been ranked second in the state of Massachusetts (<https://www.practicalnursing.org/lpn-programs/massachusetts/#top>). The program has also been ranked first for the Career and Technical Schools in the state of Massachusetts. This achievement is due to the hard work and commitment demonstrated by the faculty and all the updates to the program over the past four years. The program has upgraded the components offered to include mid-fidelity Simulation and mandatory attendance at NCLEX review sessions. These requirements have resulted in a 100% pass rate for the past two years. The program has also added an additional full-time instructor, enabling us to provide a smaller clinical instructor/student ratio. This has also contributed to the 100% pass rate as students have been able to better develop clinical judgement and reasoning.

Graduates:

NCLEX PN 1st time test taker pass rate currently 100%

The program maintains full approval by Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing, and ongoing COE Accreditation through 2024.



DIMAN BY THE NUMBERS

Enrollment by Gender (2020-21)		
	District	State
Male	795	467,362
Female	655	443,625
Non-Binary	2	478
Total	1,452	911,465



Grade Level Break Out

9	10	11	12	SP	Total
374	367	359	352	0	1,452
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Thank You

As the Greater Fall River Vocational School District aims to provide students with a world class education, we are extremely grateful for the continuous support we receive from our School Committee, sending communities and local representatives. Diman's history has been shaped by those who built our strong foundation and continue through the Diman Alumni Association and the Diman Bengal Education Foundation. As always, we strive to build upon these successes.

Whether you are part of our past, present or future, we cannot thank you enough for remaining dedicated to Diman Regional Vocational Technical High School and the Greater Fall River Vocational School District.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Jeffrey Begin Swansea	Paul Jennings Chairperson Westport
Donald DiBiasio Somerset	Joan Menard Fall River
Father Jay Mello Fall River	Rajiv Nehra Fall River