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Narrative

This section allows schools and districts to share highlights, achievements, and other important information about programs, activities, and services that are offered in their own words. Please note that the narrative is optional, so only categories in which the district chose to share information will be displayed. If there are questions about the information provided in the narrative section, please contact the school or district directly.



Highlights:

- Anti-Defamation League (ADL) Peer Trainers attended Kean University's Human Rights in Action Pre-College Program: "How to Be an Upstander". Students turn-key their training for freshmen and sophomores.
- Seneca earned recognition as a No Place for Hate school as designated by the Anti-Defamation League. This designation challenges students to think more critically about diversity, biases and bullying.
- Seneca has its second cohort of freshmen in the ASE Auto Certification Program. This program gives students the opportunity to blend work experience that will lead to an entry level ASE Certification.



Mission, Vision, Theme:

The recognition of academics, athletics, the arts, and community service are integral to the school's success. Seneca offers students a wide range of programs to meet every student's talents and interests. Students excel academically as measured by assessments such as SATs, AP tests and graduation rates, which are consistently above state and national averages. One of Seneca's hallmarks is a family atmosphere that fosters responsibility, collegiality, collaboration and academic risk.



Awards, Recognition, Accomplishments:

Seneca is proud to have received many awards for a variety of outstanding academic achievements. Seneca was honored as a "No Place for Hate School" for its continual effort to fight against violence and hate. Seneca High School Anti-Defamation League (ADL) Peer Trainers have presented at the New Jersey Department of Education Equity Conference.

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Courses, Curriculum, Instruction:

Through more than 236 course offerings, 24 AP courses and 67 College Acceleration Program courses, 40 at Rowan College at Burlington County (RCBC) and 27 at Rowan University (RU), complemented by summer enrichment programs, the Lenape District offers academic tracks to meet every student's needs. In the 2021-22 school year, 887 students district-wide applied for RU and RCBC dual credit; on average, each student earned 6.7 college credits. <https://www.lrhd.org/Page/679>



Sports and Athletics:

Sports Offered: Baseball (Boys), Basketball (Boys & Girls), Bowling (Boys & Girls), Cheerleading (Boys & Girls), Cross Country (Boys & Girls), Field Hockey (Girls), Football (Boys), Golf (Boys & Girls), Gymnastics (Girls), Lacrosse (Boys & Girls), Soccer (Boys & Girls), Softball (Girls), Swimming (Boys & Girls), Tennis (Boys & Girls), Track and Field - Spring (Boys & Girls), Track and Field - Winter (Boys & Girls), Volleyball (Girls), Wrestling (Boys)

With a full menu of different athletic programs, Seneca is proud to have earned Sectional Championships in Field Hockey (our 5th consecutive Championship) and Boys Bowling. Seneca also had 6 Conference Championships. What separates Seneca's athletic program from other schools is its traveling fan section called, "The Bird's Nest." The Bird's Nest gives all students at Seneca the opportunity to participate in our school's athletic program through their celebration of school spirit.



Clubs and Activities:

Seneca is proud to have a plethora of school clubs, which cover student government, academics, the arts, and community service. Seneca's marching band won the Yamaha Cup and went undefeated during its regular competition season, while its Color Guard won "Best Color Guard" at the New Jersey State Championship in their group. Seneca's Robotics team earned the prestigious "Chairman's Award" at the FIRST Mid-Atlantic District Championships. Seneca also has many students compete in the local, state and national levels for DECA and FBLA. The school is most proud of its peer mentorship programs, which includes partnerships with the four surrounding communities of the high school. The peer mentorship programs focus on anti-drug and alcohol platforms, anti-bullying platforms, and working alongside students with special needs.

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Before and After School Programs:

Seneca offers a variety of after school activities including tutoring, remediation, and student support. Seneca teachers are in charge of running each program. Student advisors are available both before and after school to provide additional support to students in need of help.



Staff and Professional Learning:

In addition to the entire Lenape Regional High School District, Seneca hosts a variety of in-service events throughout the year. Seneca uses the Research For Better Teaching (RBT) Professional Development Model, which requires all certified staff to participate over a three-year period and use common planning time, which allows PLC's to formulate and discuss better teacher practices. All teaching staff are trained by Seneca's ADL student peer leaders.



Postsecondary Information:

During the 2021-22 school year, 874 students earned 5954 college credits through the dual credit program. LRHSD is proud to offer the PSAT to all students in grades 9, 10, and 11, as the district believes that opportunity better prepares them for the SAT. LRHSD's success as a high-achieving district is exemplified by its 97.2% graduation rate, its SAT scores consistently above state and national averages, and its 79.9% of graduates attending over 272 colleges and universities.

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Student Supports and Services:

Seneca offers a large variety of student support services. Seneca's peer mentorship programs utilize student support from fellow students in the areas of substance abuse, harassment, intimidation, and bullying. The counseling office also offers student support groups, the Well Nest (a Social and Emotional Learning Room), and a Therapy Dog Program.



Student Health and Wellness:

There are a number of opportunities for students to engage in healthy activities during the day including physical education, interscholastic athletics and other student activities. Seneca also offers a wide variety of activities during the Lunch and Learn period. Activities available to students during this time include basketball, ping pong, and weight room privileges. Seneca also has a Social and Emotional Learning room known as "The WellNest." The WellNest is for any student that needs to step away from the normal classroom setting in a warm and comforting environment. This room is staffed by the Student Assistance Coordinator, Nurse and other Counselors to assist students in need.



Parent and Community Involvement:

Seneca has a parents group that meets monthly. The principal and a student representative attend these monthly meetings to keep parents informed of what is going on in the building. The Athletic Director, Student Assistance Coordinator, and other key personnel also make appearances at parents group meetings. Seneca has many other parent groups for athletic teams and clubs.

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Climate Surveys:

Is a Climate Survey Used: Yes; Who is surveyed: Students, Parents, Teachers. School climate surveys have been used through the Middle States Accreditation Process.



Facilities:

The Seneca High School building is 19 years old and located in the Pine Barrens National Preserve. The facilities match the beauty of where the school is located. The building includes dedicated rooms for the arts, family and consumer science, business, science, STEM, and technology. A television studio, a woodshop, and an auto shop are available to be used by students. The school is up to date with modern technology needed to support the school's curriculum.



School Safety:

The Safety and Security of all LRHSD students and staff is a top priority which is evidenced by the following security initiatives already in place at all LRHSD schools. Police officers with marked vehicles are assigned to each school reinforcing high visibility police presence. All LRHSD schools have Security Staff (several retired Law Enforcement Officers) assigned to assist with maintaining a safe school environment. All exterior doors are secured and locked during the school day. Main office vestibules were constructed to limit direct entry into the school. All schools are equipped with 24/7 interior and exterior surveillance systems. Lockdown buttons and a new phone system were installed at all schools to initiate and expedite lockdown procedures. Portable radios are assigned to key personnel to expedite communications in the event of an emergency. New classroom and office locks were installed to expedite the lockdown process and intruder film was added to all exterior doors.

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Technology and STEM:

The LRHSD has a variety of technology and STEM opportunities for students. A wide-range of technology courses offered include a 3 year Television Broadcasting path with a 4th year option to intern in the District Television Studio. Technical courses expose students to industry-standard software. Also offered is an Automotive shop at Seneca and Cherokee and a Metal Shop at Lenape High School. The LRHSD has also partnered with Project Lead the Way a nationally recognized STEM program to offer a pre-engineering pathway where students work collaboratively in a cohort to take an engineering elective each year of their high school experience. This will expose them to different facets of a STEM related career. The LRHSD has two district Robotics teams which compete locally and nationally. Members of the LRHSD Robotics teams report that the project based problem solving design of each challenge deepens their understanding of the concepts behind the designs necessary to compete.

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Other Information:

Students excel academically as measured by assessments such as the SATs, AP tests and graduation rates, which are all consistently above state and national averages and reflective of the district as a whole. One of Seneca's hallmarks is its family atmosphere that fosters responsibility, collegiality, collaboration and academic risk. Academic pep rallies, an open campus lunch and Seneca's post prom party "Prom House 110 Carranza" are examples of the many ways that Seneca inspires a school community to explore their interests, passions, and goals while continuing to take responsibility for their actions. In addition to these programs Seneca continues to host a FIRST Robotics competition. Seneca is excited about its partnership with Lockheed Martin in creating a Project Lead the Way (PLTW) classroom and its focus on Environmental Sustainability. Students participate in peer mentorship programs within the school and with the local schools in the district. Students participate in Cultural Interaction Days, which is a day in the life program to foster understanding among different cultures. The school also immersed itself in the No Place For Hate campaign and ADL Peer Training, programs dedicated to increasing the appreciation for diversity and build communities of respect. Seneca's Air Force JROTC program continues to be a success presenting the nation's colors at school and community events. The JROTC was recognized by the Air Force as a program that exceeds standards.