

General Educational Program

Scotch Plains-Fanwood schools operate under a K-6-3-3 system of organization, with kindergarten through sixth grades in neighborhood schools, grades 7-9 in two junior high schools, and grades 10-12 in one senior high school. The district provides approximately 380 course offerings and maintains an average class size of about 22.

The basic curriculum is the same for all elementary schools, but varied by team-teaching, ungraded classrooms, flexible scheduling, independent study projects, open-space classrooms, moveable walls, educational TV, teaching aids and texts. The junior highs also benefit from such a variety of approach.

The high school offers a comprehensive academic program enabling each student to prepare for higher education, a career in business, or an occupation in a vocational field. In both junior and senior high schools, students are grouped into four instructional levels based on the student's background of achievement, self-motivation and interest.

The high school is accredited by the Middle Atlantic States Association of College and Secondary Schools, whose most recent evaluation was made in the Fall of 1979.

In the class of 1979, 72% of students enrolled in two-year or four-year colleges upon graduation and 11% enrolled in specialized training schools.

Special Programs

Under the Beadleston Act, the Scotch Plains-Fanwood school district provides four Child Study Teams, each of which includes the services of a learning disability specialist, a psychologist, and social worker, with a psychiatrist on call. Each child is evaluated as an individual and placed, with the parents' consent, in the program best suited to him. Whenever possible, children are placed in a regular classroom for part or all of the day--this is called "mainstreaming".

Under the direction of the Assistant Superintendent for Pupil Services, Scotch Plains-Fanwood provides 39 special education programs from kindergarten through high school. These programs include resource rooms and classes for trainable mentally retarded and educable mentally retarded, for perceptually impaired, and for emotionally disturbed. Part of the cost of these programs is provided by the state.

Scotch Plains-Fanwood has one of the finest vocational-industrial education programs in the state. The wide range of available programs include employment orientation for disadvantaged students, career development for special education or handicapped students, and cooperative education involving job training. Through a cooperative arrangement with Union County Vocational School in Scotch Plains, students may attend the Vocational School for part of the day in conjunction with their regular school program. The School District pays the tuition for participants in this program.

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Adult School is a non-profit community project sponsored by the Board of Education. Two ten-week sessions offer a variety of courses from bookkeeping to yoga. Enrollment for 1978-79 was 2044.

School Calendar

The school year usually includes the following holidays and recesses: two days for the New Jersey Education Association convention in November, Thanksgiving recess, a holiday recess at the end of December, a mid-winter recess in February, and a Spring recess. Other holidays vary from year to year. Also, single-session days are scheduled for staff development meetings and for parent/teacher conferences.

School and Community

All schools in the district have active Parent-Teacher Associations which belong to the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Council of Public School PTAs. This group coordinates, advises,