

# **BLAND HIGH SCHOOL**

## **2010-2011 SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN**



**Submitted by: Temple S. Musser, BHS Principal  
Rebecca Umbarger, Guidance Counselor  
Shellie Hartley, CTE Instructor  
John P. Jones, Fine Arts Instructor  
Stephanie Pugh, Special Ed. Instructor  
April Trail, Math Instructor  
Vickie Magyar, School Nurse  
Jo Ellen Harless, Media Specialist/Library  
Craig Johnson, Special Ed. Instructor**

## **Vision**

Bland High School will strive to educate young people in every facet of life so that they may serve our society as worthy citizens of the home, school and community. Development of the fundamental process of learning, along with ethical character, physical and mental health and respect for the property of others will be the primary focus of our school system. Each student should contribute significantly to and benefit from the total school program. Curricula will be diversified so that any student can satisfactorily complete a program of study, which prepares him or her for a useful and satisfying future.

## **Mission**

The Mission of Bland High School is to provide a safe and challenging environment where students will be given the opportunity to learn and acquire skills necessary for a responsible and productive life while developing an appreciation for their community.

## **History of Bland High School & Community**

Bland County is a rural county situated in southwestern Virginia that encompasses 359 square miles. As of the census of 2000, there were 6,871 people, 2,568 households, and 1,908 families residing in the county. The 2000 census indicated the racial makeup of the county was 94.82% White, 4.19% Black or African American, and less than 1% was identified in the categories of Native American, Asian, Pacific Islander, Hispanic or Latino or from two or more races. As indicated by the census figures, there are no major racial ethnic groups, students classified as limited English proficient or migratory students within the confines of Bland County. Seventy-Eight percent of Bland County is covered in Forest with Agriculture remaining the top industry. Approximately 70% of Bland County residents have a high school diploma and 9% own a Bachelors Degree. The average household income is around \$30,000 with approximately 12% of the population living below the poverty level. Interstate 77 and State Routes 52 and 42 are the main highways leading into and out of Bland County.

The first school in Bland was established prior to 1861 and was in the old Newberry Funeral Home building. In 1917, the present school was built, which houses grades K-12. In the late 1920's and early 1930's the school became overpopulated. The Wagner Auditorium was built in 1937 to solve this problem and is an existing part to Bland Elementary School. Two additional classrooms were built just off Wagner Auditorium in 1939. In 1992 a renovation of Bland School was completed and the smaller area schools of Holly brook, Ceres, and Bastian communities were moved to Bland. Included in this most recent renovation was an expansion to the high school gymnasium, updates to the cafeteria and an elementary wing extending from Wagner gym to the High School computer lab. (Formerly Elementary Office) The most recent expansion(s) to the Bland Campus have come in the form of mobile trailer units. Mobile units currently house two seventh grade classrooms, the art, band, music programs, the school nurse, and two Mount Rogers counselors

### **Areas Served**

Bland High School serves the communities of Bland, Ceres, Wackertown, Waddletown, Crackersneck, sections of Wilderness Road, Sutor, Kimberling, Crandon, Mechanicsburg, Holly brook and Little Creek. Bland County is commonly referred to as lying in between the tunnels of Interstate 77. The southern edge of county does run basically with Walkers Mountain and connects with Wythe County, except for portions of Little Creek area which intertwines with Wythe County. The southwestern edge borders Smyth County in the Ceres section and the southeastern end connects with Giles and Pulaski Counties. The northern edge of county runs along East River Mountain bordering Mercer County, WV and stretches from western edge which borders Tazewell County to Eastern edge which connects with Giles County. Currently there are 189 students enrolled in grades 8 – 12. There are 53 eighth graders, 28 ninth graders, 40 students in grade 10, 35 eleventh graders and 33 seniors. Bland High School grew steadily from approximately 160 students in 2000 to 200 in 2007-2008. The past three years has seen the enrollment level off and hold steady around 190 students. Local industry trends and business in surrounding counties led

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to growth, but the economy has halted much of that development in  
recent years.

### **Status/Focus**

Bland High School's AYP focus is on Graduation, Adult/Continuing Education Center, Career & Technical Education (CTE), General Education, Remedial Education Program, Special Education & Talented/Gifted Program. We are proud to say that we are currently fully accredited by the Virginia Department of Education and have met AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress) as established by No Child Left Behind. Goals are in place to continue this academic success and the entire faculty at Bland High School is highly qualified.

Bland High School has shown overall improvements the past three years in all subject areas. Specific focus has been placed on improving the Reading & Writing scores for the spring 2011 testing session. Both English instructors at Bland High School have attended writing workshop(s) sponsored by the University of Virginia this fall and are being mentored by veteran English teachers from Rocky Gap High School.

**Goal 1 - All Bland High School students tested will achieve the Minimum Annual Measurable Objective (AMO) for the 2010-2011 School year in English of 81% and Math of 79% to ensure Division AYP/NCLB standards are met.**

**Specific Actions:** Provide Professional Development for the English/Math Departments to aid in providing assistance to all development levels.

Provide Remediation opportunities during and after school hours to assist in Student development.

Students who do not pass a benchmark test will be offered a minimum of 5 hours of remediation prior to the next Benchmark test.

Teachers will evaluate the question analysis from their 2009 SOL results and identify the area(s) where their students struggled. This information will be used to plan lessons for current school year.

Provide training to English/Math classes that are utilizing inclusion teachers

Teachers will conduct a minimum of two bench-mark test during the 2010-2011 to assess student progress in each subject where SOL tests are given.

**Resources:** Bench-mark tests for each SOL tested subject. (Must be done through Interactive Achievement)

Utilizing websites such as [www.jlab.org](http://www.jlab.org), the Jefferson Lab, ePAT and Project Graduation which is all accessible here at Bland High School. These resources provide practice test(s) in Core subject areas, curriculum framework(s), and scope/sequence guides.

Utilize workbooks such as COACH and the “What I need to know Series” for History.

Assess to approved Professional Conferences and Division approval to Attend.

SOL/AYP Reports from the 2009-2010 School Year.

**Person(s) Responsible:**

Teachers of SOL tested subjects will be responsible for administering Bench-mark tests, scoring the tests, and creating remediation Opportunities for the student(s) who do not pass these tests. (Teachers will work with Guidance and administration)

The school guidance and administrator will be responsible for Ensuring the teachers are provided with the necessary data from the 2009-2010 SOL tests.

**Timeline:** August 2010-----June 2011

**Goal 2 – The students of Bland High School will achieve an overall Minimum pass rate of 90% on Standards of Learning Assessments in each of the four core subject areas.**

Subject Area	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011
English	84%	86%	79%
Mathematics	89%	89%	92%
History	86%	90%	95%
Science	91%	91%	92%

**Specific Actions:** Provide staff/professional development for each core subject in area of expertise.

Provide Instructional materials that correlate with the Standards of Learning and utilize all online resources available.

Teachers will conduct a minimum of two bench-mark tests during the 2010-2011 school year to assess student progress in each subject where SOL tests are given.

Students who do not pass a benchmark test will be offered a minimum of 5 hours of remediation prior to the next Benchmark test.

Teachers will evaluate the question analysis from their 2009 SOL results and identify the area(s) where their students struggled. This information will be used to plan lessons for current school year.

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**Person(s)**

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The school guidance and administrator will be responsible for Ensuring the teachers are provided with the necessary data from the 2009-2010 SOL tests.

**Timeline:** August 2010-----June 2011

**Goal 3 – Bland High School will improve attendance rates to 96% with all AYP reporting categories meeting or exceeding the following goals for the 2010-2011 school year.**

<b>Category</b>	<b>2009-10 Rate(s)</b>	<b>2010-11 Goal(s)</b>
<b>Overall Attendance Rate</b>	<b>93.09%</b>	<b>96%</b>

**Specific Actions:** Students will be briefed on the expectations of the Bland County Schools’ Attendance policy during the first week of the 2010-2011 school year.

Student/Parent Handbooks will be sent home at OPEN house and during first Days of school year that outlines the Bland County Schools’ Attendance Policy. Parental Signatures, stating that they have read and understand Policy, are to be returned to Homeroom teacher within first week of 2010-2011 school year.

Students will be given INCOMPLETES by their teachers and School Letters will be sent to the parents by the Attendance Coordinator for any student in violation of the policy. (In accordance with the Bland County Public Schools’ Attendance Policy)

Parents will be contacted to develop a Plan of Improvement for any student who violates the Attendance policy in more than one grading period. (In accordance with the Bland County Public Schools Attendance Policy)

Truancy charges will be filed for students with excessive attendance issues as outlined in the Bland County Public Schools Attendance Policy.

Attendance Committee and school administrator(s) will conduct an annual Review and analyze data for improvement.

**Resources:** Power school Attendance Reports for 2010-2011 school year by Grade period

Plans of Improvement for qualified students and parents

**Person(s) Responsible:**

The attendance coordinator(s) will track attendance reports, inform teachers When a student has exceeded the allowable number of unexcused absences, Facilitate attendance committee meetings and communicate attendance issues with Bland High School Parents.

The attendance coordinator will ensure that Incompletes are shown on Report Cards when a student is in violation of the policy and aid guidance counselor in reinstating earned grade if student comes back into compliance with policy.

The school administrator will initiate truancy charges when warranted

**Timeline:** August 2010-----June 2011

**Goal 4 – An anti-bullying/school-wide safety program will be implemented whereby all Bland High School students in the 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, & 10<sup>th</sup> grades will receive understanding and awareness training through classroom instruction, guest speakers and other outside resources.**

**Specific Actions:** Implement I-Safe training through Health/Phys. Ed. Classroom

Seek guidance from outside resources such as:

- \* The Dear Colleague Letter from the U.S. Department of Education-Office for Civil Rights.
- \* The Virginia State Police
- \* T/TAC program
- \* Department of Social Services

Continue to promote the Life Skills Training Program offered for grades 3-8 by Mount Rogers Prevention Services.

Provide motivational programs/guest speakers for Bland High School students

**Resources:** I-Safe software and training packets

Contact Information for outside resources/visitors

**Person(s) Responsible:**

School Administrator will be responsible for ensuring that qualified teachers and instructors are providing I-Safe training to the students.

School Administrator will be responsible for contacting outside resources to Aid in the classroom instruction.

**Timeline:** August 2010-----June 2011