

Challenging
Curriculum

Supportive
Environment

Enriching
Activities

Special
Recognition

OPEN HOUSE

PARENTS AND
PROSPECTIVE SCHOLARS
Friday, November 2, 2007

7:30 a.m.

Scholars Program Presentation and Q&A

8:45 a.m., 10:00 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.

General tours of campus

TRACK RECORD

In 2003, VSMSC graduated its first class of four-year Scholars. Those students and the following classes have included:

- 8 of 10 valedictorians or salutatorians
- 20 National Merit Recognition Scholarship recipients, three National Merit finalists and one National Merit winner
- 100 Illinois State scholarship winners
- Over 30 individual scholarship winners

The classes of 2005—2007:

- Have an average ACT score of 27
- Have an average GPA of 4.257 (weighted scale)
- Include students who have been accepted to many competitive colleges and universities including the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, the University of Illinois at Chicago, DePaul University, University of Chicago, Northwestern University, Purdue University, University of Wisconsin—Madison, Columbia University (NY), Washington University—St. Louis, Ohio State University, Georgetown University, and Vassar College.

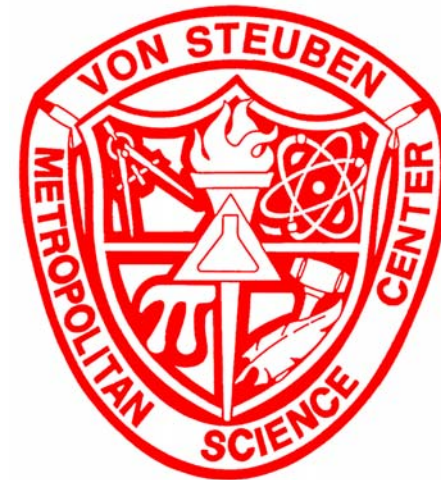
To receive more information
about the Scholars Program, visit:

<http://www.vonsteuben.org/scholars>

Contact:

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Von Steuben Metropolitan Science Center



SCHOLARS PROGRAM 2008-2009

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**Exclusive Activities**  
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In addition to the honors curriculum, Scholars participate in a variety of **exclusive extracurricular** activities. This gives students opportunities to connect with other students academically and socially.

These activities include **field trips** that supplement and reinforce the curriculum and challenge them intellectually outside of the classroom.

Team building trips, such as the annual freshman overnighter in which the Scholars get to know each other and their teachers in a non-classroom setting make this program truly unique.

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**Supportive Environment**  
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During the critical freshman year, teachers in the Scholars Program work closely in Professional Learning Communities to coordinate topics of study and due dates of major assignments and tests.

They also meet regularly to discuss student progress and plan coordinated interventions for those students experiencing academic and/or social difficulty. This individual attention and support continues throughout the student's four years in the program, including during the college and scholarship application process.

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**Challenging Curriculum**  
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General Requirements

Scholars must maintain an overall 3.5 GPA to remain in the program.

Scholars must earn 60 hours of community service prior to graduation, 30 of which must be completed by the end of the sophomore year.

Scholars will be responsible for all honors class requirements, including summer reading, Science Fair and History Fair projects.

Course Requirements

<u>Course</u>	<u>Years</u>
Honors or AP English	4
Honors or AP Science	4
Honors or AP Mathematics	4
Honors or AP Social Studies	3
Honors or AP Foreign Language	3
Physical Education	2
Fine Arts	2
Any additional CPS graduation requirements	

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**Special Recognition**  
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Recognition at award assemblies and graduation
Notation of Scholar achievement on diploma and transcript after six semesters in program

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**Application Procedure**  
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Eligible applicants must have attained a minimum of 77th percentile in Reading, Math and Math Science on seventh grade standardized tests.

Applicants must submit a completed application form including a written essay and recommendations from a teacher and counselor or principal.

Applications must be received by the school NO LATER THAN December 22, 2007.

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**Acceptance Process**  
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Applicants will be notified of their acceptance by mail the first week of March. If a student is not accepted into the Scholars program, his or her application will be placed into Von Steuben's sibling and/or general lottery.

Incoming freshmen who have been selected for the Scholars Program must maintain the required 77th percentile in Reading, Math and Science on their eighth grade standardized tests to remain in the program.

If scores fall below a 77th percentile, students will be programmed into classes that best match their ability level.