

Montana Virtual Academy

Survey Results Report

December 2009

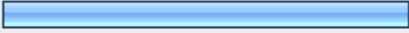
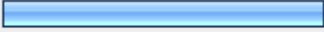
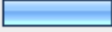
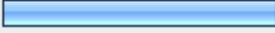


MONTANA VIRTUAL ACADEMY




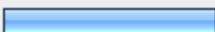

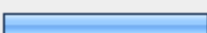


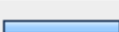
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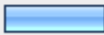
Who participated in the MTVA Survey?

1. What is your current job position:			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Superintendent		36.8%	103
Principal		28.9%	81
Assistant Principal		9.6%	27
Counselor		24.6%	69
		<i>answered question</i>	280

What is the enrollment of the high school/district of the Respondent?

2. What is the student enrollment of your high school/district?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
1-25		3.3%	9
26-50		7.7%	21
51-100		16.1%	44
101-200		19.0%	52
201-300		9.1%	25
301-500		18.2%	50
501-1000		10.2%	28
1001-1500		6.2%	17
Over 1500		10.2%	28
		<i>answered question</i>	274

What part of the state is the high school/district of the Respondents located?

3. In what part of the state is your high school/district located?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Northeast		9.2%	25
Northwest		22.1%	60
North Central		22.8%	62
South Central		19.5%	53
Southwest		17.6%	48
Southeast		8.8%	24
		<i>answered question</i>	272

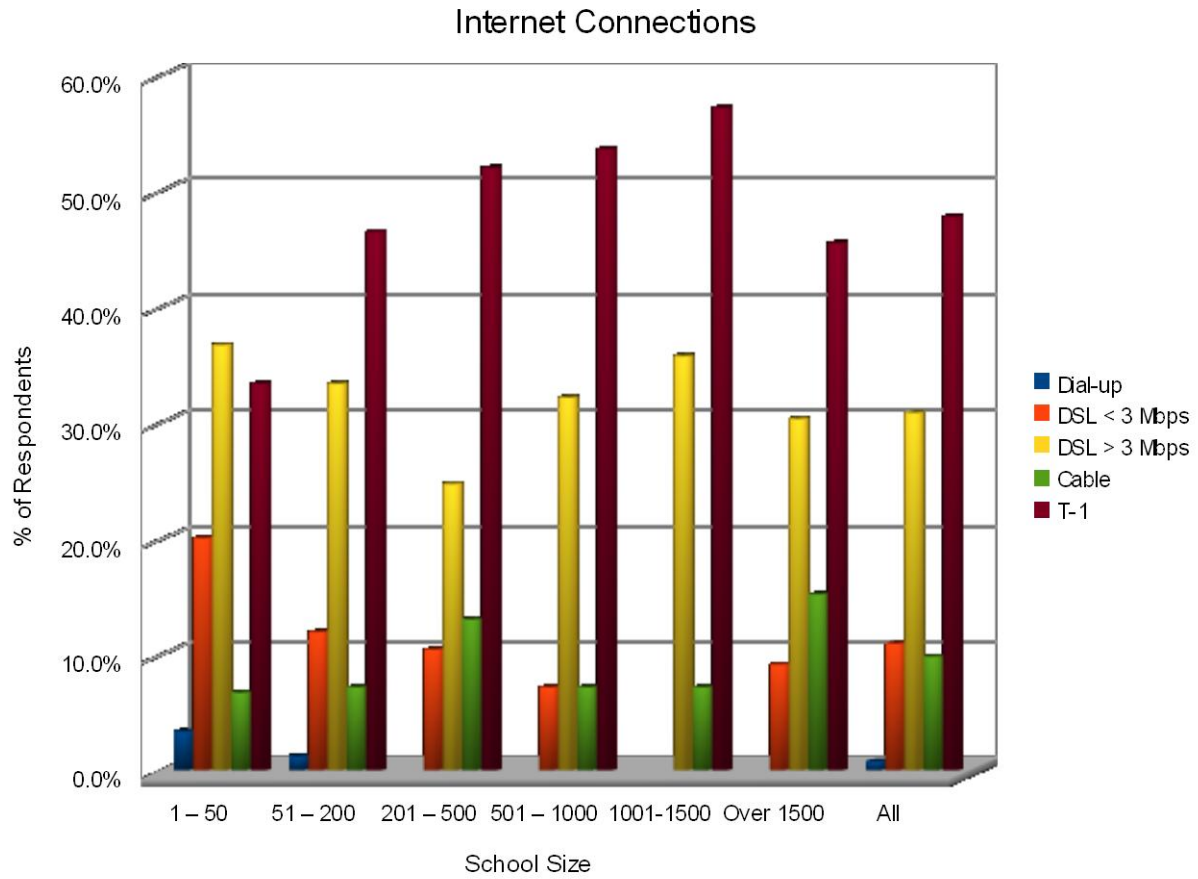
After review of the responses, no significant data seemed to collect around location in the state so no disaggregation has been by characteristic.

For the purposes of balancing the volume of a report of this data and representing schools by size the following reporting groups were combined:

- 1 - 25 and 25 - 50 = 1 - 50
- 51 - 100 and 101 - 200 = 51 - 200
- 201 - 300 and 301 - 500 = 201 - 500

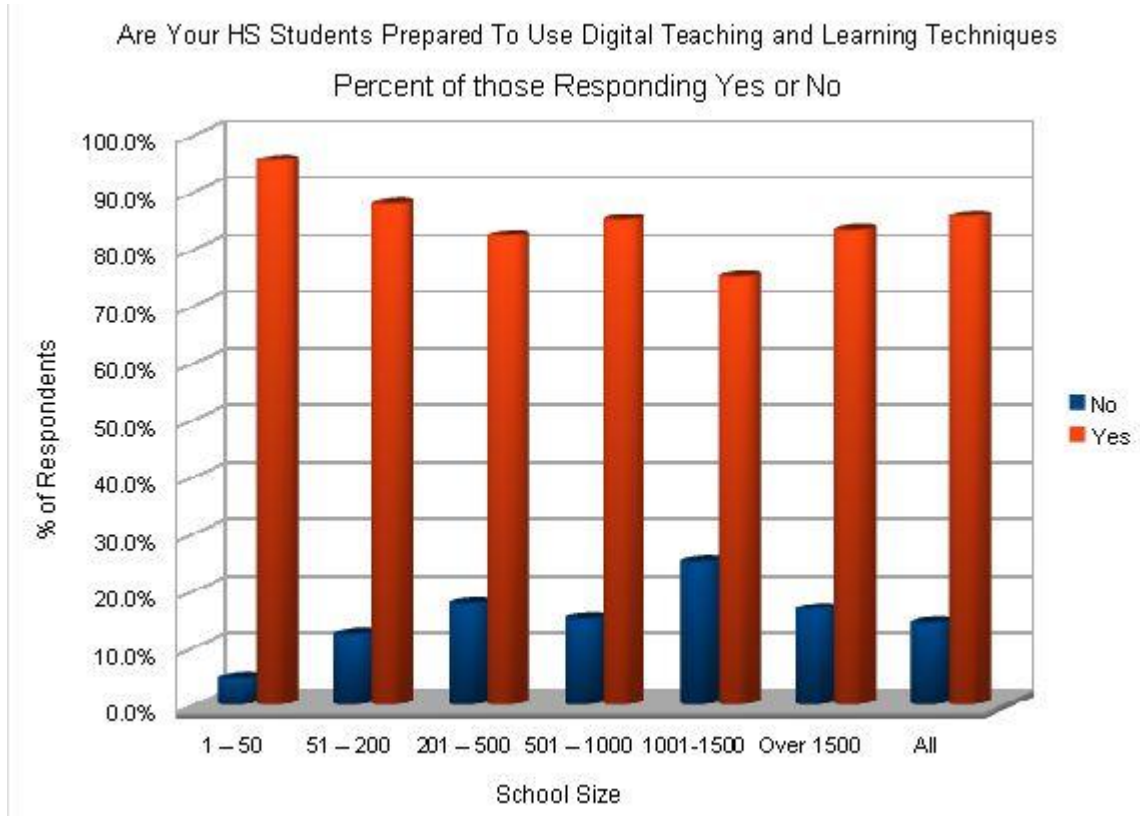
The reported items that follow are not in the same order as they occurred in the survey.

What internet connections are in use in your school/district? (Mark all that apply)



There were only 2 schools that reported having only Dial-Up for connectivity.

Do you believe students in your high school are prepared to use digital teaching and learning techniques offered through MTVA? (Instruction will be delivered via the Blackboard learning management system.)



Of the responses received, most believe their students are ready to participate in the digital teaching and learning techniques, with an average of 15% believed to not be ready. To give this rate some context, this could mean that as many of 6,600 out of 44,000 Montana High School students could not be ready to engage in a digital teaching and learning environment.

Please list the technology barriers, if any, you believe exist in your high school/district that could make participation in MTVA difficult or impossible.

1 – 50	51 – 200	201 – 500	501 – 1000	1001-1500	Over 1500
Facility/access to technology	Not enough network power.	We will have difficulties with firewalls and the like but generally those are resolvable.	Lack of essential equipment	Finding the necessary resources in order to put in the technology	Lack of access to technology
Again, I am not aware of the technological requirements, but we have well-equipped computer labs.	Our biggest obstacle (which is not impossible to overcome) is that our computer lab is used as a classroom and is only open a couple periods a day.	Lack of computers			
We would like some of the instructions delivered via ITV.	Bandwidth and cost of initial equipment -although we are applying for a grant from Triangle for help in the purchase of the equipment.	Internet speed and bandwidth			
Need more high quality headphones so they can work individually. A faster server will help.	We lack enough computers to support large numbers of students. We also lack the technology support staff to do carry out a program like this efficiently and smoothly.	Out dated computers, Rotating schedule used in the high school, staffing and staff buy in.			
I'm not sure	Don't know - we have never participated before				
Online use	Our system often is so slow we need to pick up the speed				
Dollars Dollars Dollars	Time, space, costs, interest				
Not knowing exactly how the MTVA will work and what is going to be required in each school. This is a difficult question to answer.	Internet capabilities (communications carrier issues)				
Reliability of the high speed Internet connection	Scanners				
The age and speed of our computers will need updating.	Size of the pipe				
	Internet policies				
	We don't have a real fast internet connection				
	School computers are available only from 8-4, presently.				

What role do you hope that MTVA can play to support your high school students?

1 – 50	51 – 200	201 – 500	501 – 1000	1001-1500	Over 1500
Facilitator only	Online Training	The critical component for our kids is the ability to connect in some form with the instructor beyond email. Multimedia options and support would greatly improve their success rate. Text and testing via the Internet is just not a motivator for most adolescents and many don't succeed.	Technology Equipment	Instructions in how to log on. How to submit work. General Logistics.	Access to a computer outside of school
Set up and demonstration.	Very little	None that I am aware of.		Students will need a proctor for the class	
Time-management training		Basic Instruction			
		Training in the delivery system and technical support			
		An online class for science or math			

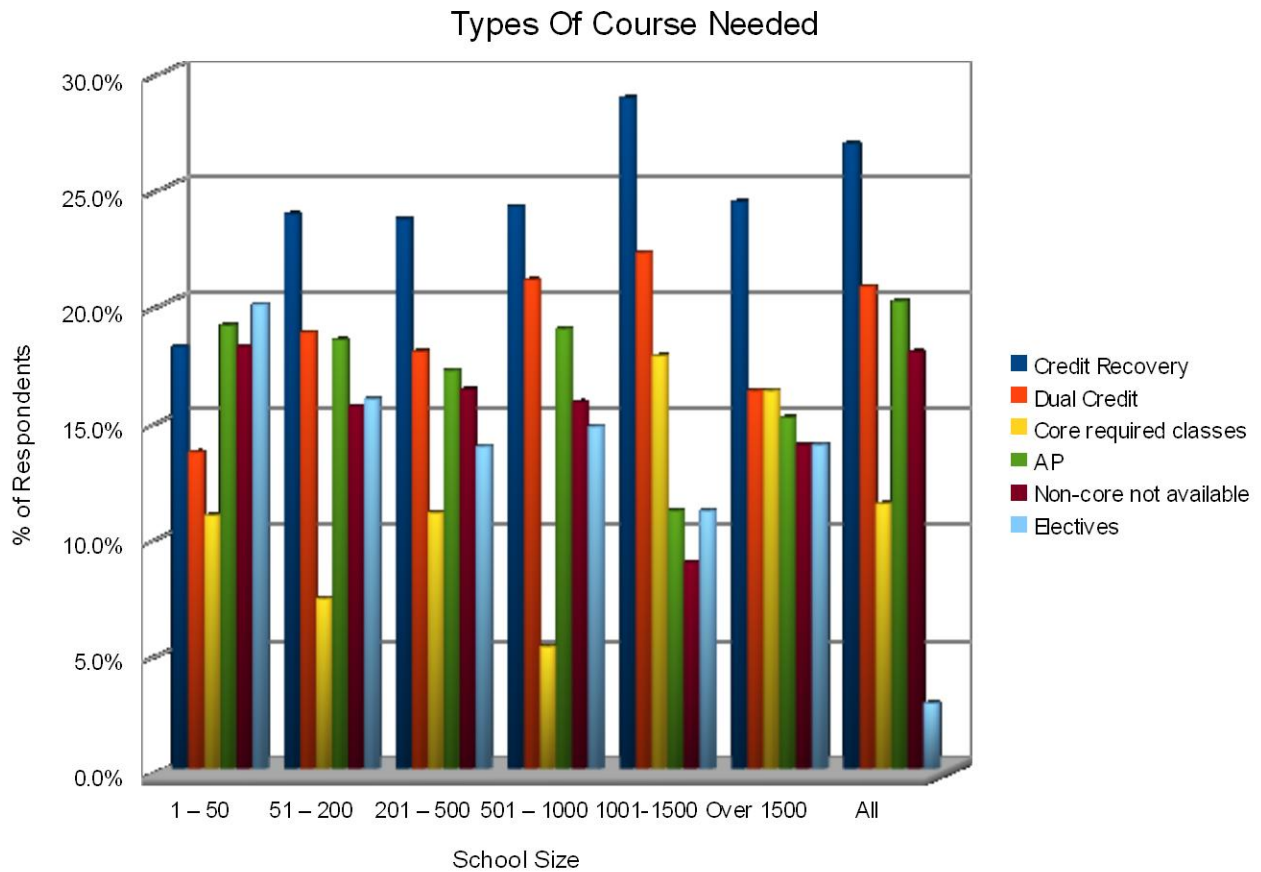
What assistance, if any, will the students in your high school need in order to be prepared to use MTVA digital teaching and learning techniques?

1 – 50	51 – 200	201 – 500	501 – 1000	1001-1500	Over 1500
Expand the classes we offer to provide a more comprehensive basic education for your students.	Make sure that the state accreditation standards are being met as well as the obtainment of credit.	Credit recovery would be huge, but only if the instruction is significant. Dual credit may be a good option, especially if it is available within the coursework we are already providing. In the past we have used it for kids that had difficulty getting college prep electives when their schedule did not work in the building.	It is likely to play a significant role in assisting students in credit recovery as well as providing for the higher functioning students to participate in higher level courses.	What role do you hope that MTVA can play to support your high school students?	Provide quality online instruction
Develop courses not offered in the high school.	Adding additional course offerings	Offer classes we are unable to due to a lack of funds.		Our biggest need is with at-risk students who need credit recovery.	
	To aid students in credit recovery and advance placement courses.	Help when needed			
	Increase electives and AP classes	Credit recovery and enrichment			
	Credit Recovery for qualification to graduate	It is likely to play a significant role in assisting students in credit recovery as well as providing for the higher functioning students to participate in higher level courses.			

What are your suggestions for the Governing Board as they develop the MTVA program?

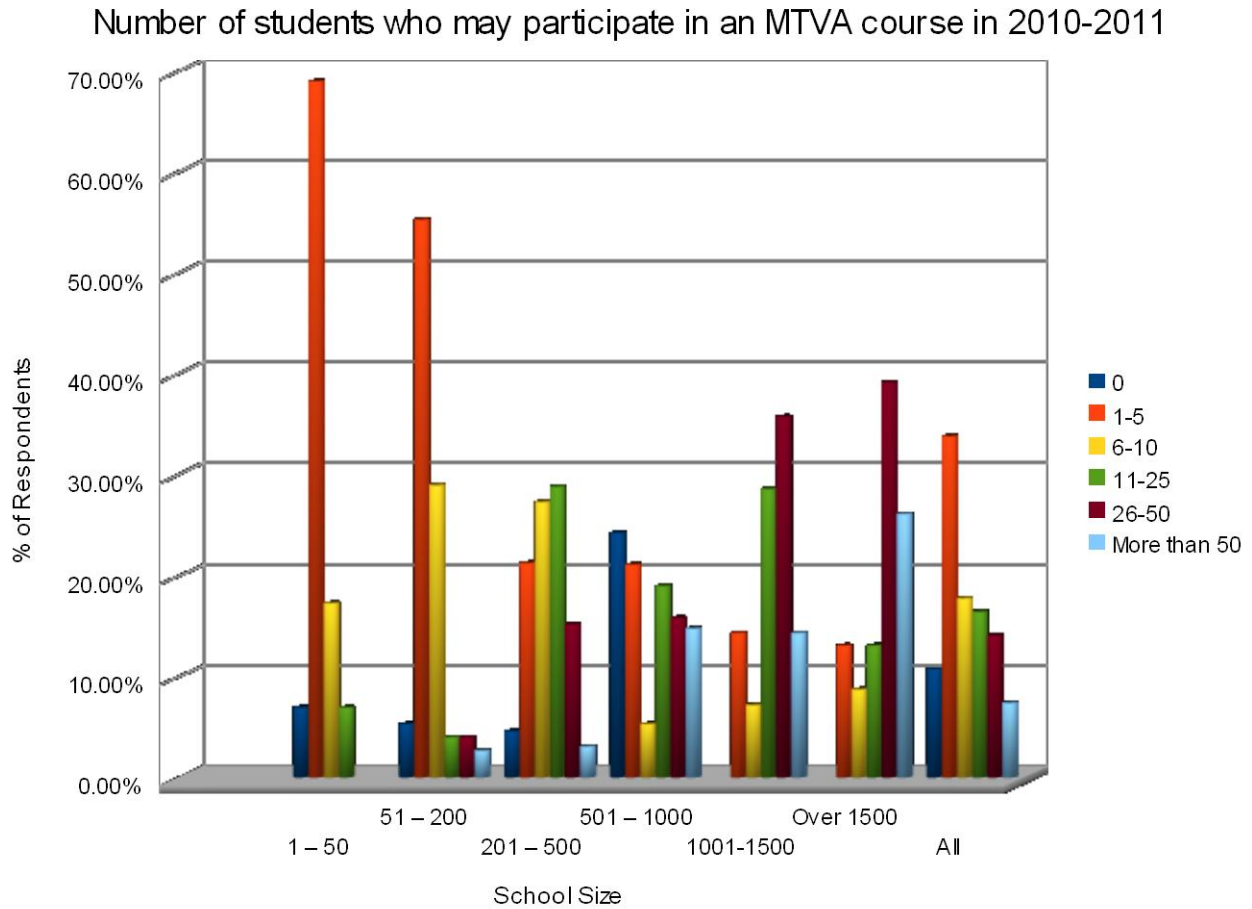
1 – 50	51 – 200	201 – 500	501 – 1000	1001-1500	Over 1500
They need to stress that a class is offered at the local district and fits into a student's schedule. The class needs to be taken locally. MTVA needs to be something extra and not take away from what a local district has in place.	My main concern is cost to the district.	Get "r" done.	Keep all options available for as long as possible, to ensure all possibilities are examined.	Start small and then grow. Work with required courses.	Provide quality and varied instructional opportunities
Keep rural schools in mind! They may be their greatest asset.	Don't set us up for failure if the Virtual Academy is only available for one year. The board needs to have a price tag ready for year two if there is no legislative funding. If we cannot afford it then we won't be part of it for year one.	Honor the MSELG governing process.		Start out with basic offerings so all the bugs get worked out and there is not a lot of confusion.	
School personnel from each school classification.	Keep It Super Simple	Hire an experienced Director who understands Distance Learning.			
		1) Hire two to four good retiree's or part-time teachers that can be trained to be successful in this mode of instruction. Once you have your lead teachers you can fill in with others that are working in schools to augment additional needs as they arrive. Unless your first attempts at instruction are successful you will not be able to keep the kids or the schools happy and this program will go the way of its predecessor. 2) Insist all instructors to have more than one mode of instruction, preferably some key lessons either available directly through a video provider. Schooltube may be an option. 3) Don't get hung up on technology controlling content.			
		Create classes that do not supplant current course work and endanger teacher jobs-- offer programs that enrich the curriculum for at risk students			
		I would suggest innovative ways to address the needs of at risk students and possibly a year round program.			

Please indicate your high school/district needs and/or interests in the following Montana Virtual Academy (MTVA) course options. (Mark all that apply)



There is a distinct differentiation among sizes of schools and their expressed needs based on the responses of those who participated in the MTVA Survey. Credit Recovery is the highest ranking response for all school size groups. Depending on the size of the school, there is also considerable interest in AP courses, dual credit courses, non-core courses not available at the school, and electives.

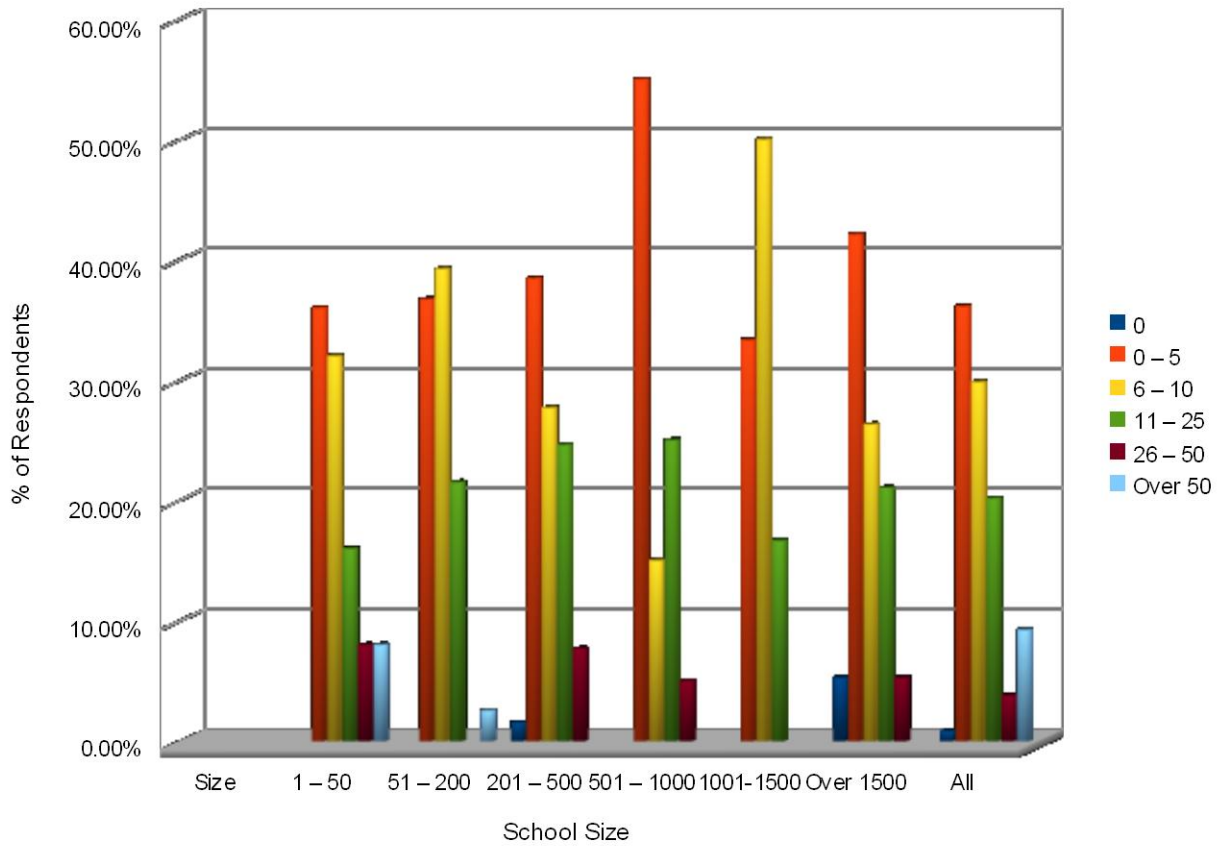
How many students in your high school/district do you think will enroll in an MTVA course during the 2010-2011 academic school year?



When reviewing only Superintendent responses, the results indicate that somewhere between 400 to 1270+ students could participate in MTVA courses in the 2010-2011.

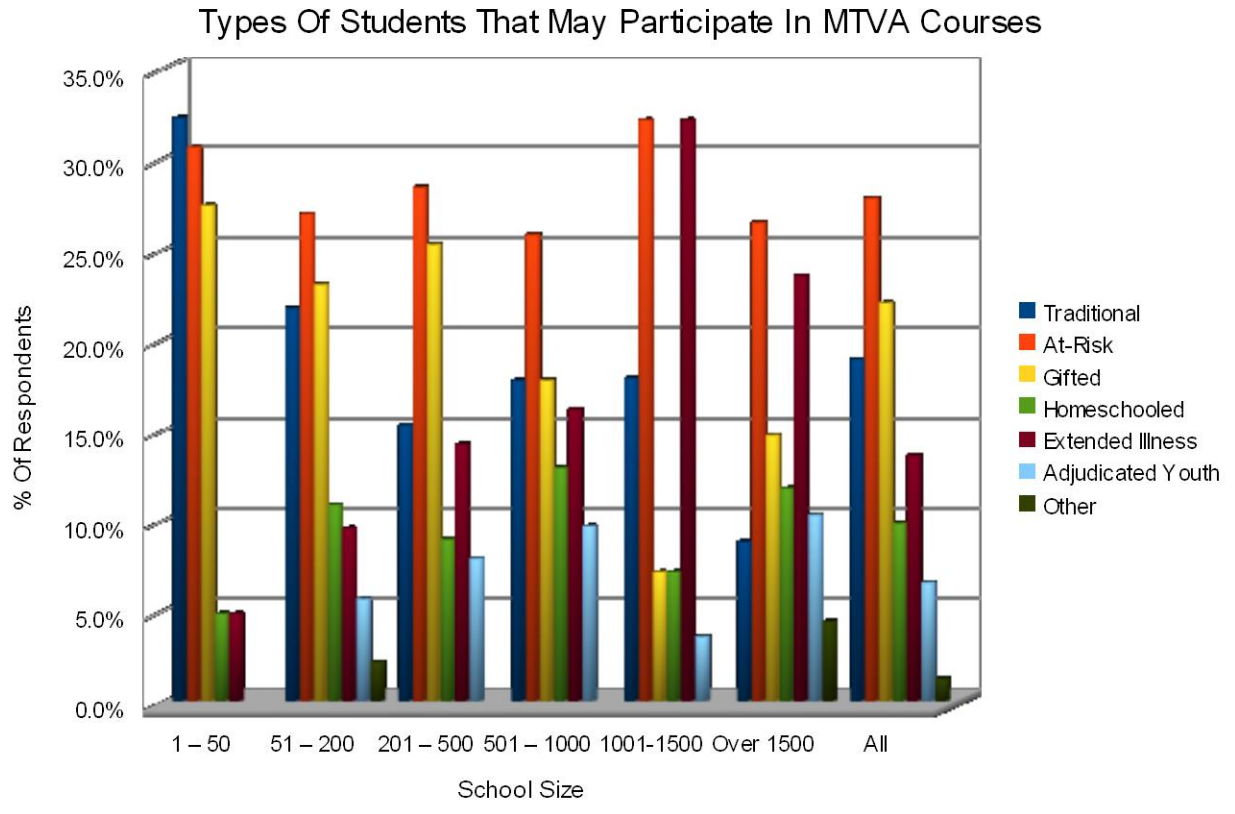
What percentage of your high school students do you believe will take MTVA coursework within the next three years?

Percent Of Students That Might Participate In MTVA Course Over Next 3 Years



Very few Respondents believed that none of their students would participate in a MTVA course in the next 3 years. It appears that most Respondents believe that 0 – 10 percent of their students will participate in a MTVA course in the next 3 years. Most Respondents of schools of 501-1000 students believed that 0 – 5 percent of their students would participate in a MTVA course in the next 3 years. Most Respondents of schools of 1000-1500 students believed that 6 – 10 percent of their students would participate in a MTVA course in the next 3 years.

What type of student population within your high school/district can MTVA help you better serve? (Mark all that apply)



Traditional and At Risk students appear to be the most likely to participate in a MTVA Course. There are differences between smaller and larger schools in the percent of types of students that may participate in a MTVA course in particular, Adjudicated Youth.

Please list, in order of importance, the top five courses you would like to see MTVA offer your students during the 2010-2011 academic year.

School Size 1 – 50

1	2	3	4	5
Science	Art	World Languages	Communication Arts	General Electives
Algebra 1	advanced English (AP)	Adobe Photoshop	AP Calculus	AP Biology
AP courses	Algebra 2	AP World History	AP English	AP English
AP English	AP Courses	Business	AP English	AP Science
AP English	AP History	Chemistry	business course	Business Math
AP Literature	AP math courses	Computer Technology	Credit Recovery classes	Calculus
Art	AP US History	Dual Credit classes	English Jr	Electives including Business Ed.
College or AP English	Business Electives	Economics	Foreign Language	English So
Difficulty in hiring certified teachers for all needed and/or desired curricula	Calculus	English Sr	Geography/Economics	Life Skills
English	Calculus	Foreign Language	Physics	Physics
foreign language	electives not offered at our school	Introductory College Courses	Psychology	sociology
Foreign language	English	psychology	recovery math	Voc Tech
Foreign Language Electives	Foreign Language	psychology	Replacement English	
foreign languages	french (north american dialect)	recovery English	Social Studies	
Fundamentals of public Speaking	Geography	Science	spanish	
Life Skills	Math AP	Science	Web 2.0 Applications	
Math	Native American Studies	Spanish		
Math	Science	Trig/Calc		
Physics	US History			
Spanish				
Spanish				

Please list, in order of importance, the top five courses you would like to see MTVA offer your students during the 2010-2011 academic year.

School Size 51 – 200

1	2	3	4	5
9th Grade English	10th Grade English	Accounting	Advance Math	2 year degree or 1 year Certificate program courses
adv. math	Advance Placement Biology	Advanced Music	Advanced Literature	Advance Placement US History
advanced placement in core subjects	Advanced Art	Advanced Placement social studies	Algebra	Advanced Computers
Advanced placement Math and Language arts	advanced biology	advanced writing courses	AP Biology	Advanced English class
Advanced Placement sciences	Advanced Placement math	Algebra 1	AP classes	Advanced Math - Trigonometry
Ag Ed electives	Advanced Reading/Writing	any dual credit courses	Arabic	American History
Algebra	Advanced Science courses (Biochemistry, anatomy)	AP Classes	Art History	Anatomy
american government	Alg 2 recovery	AP Government	Biology	ap classes
AP Calculus	American Government (1st sem. offered during 2nd sem.)	AP Government	Business Law	AP Courses
AP Courses	AP Anything	AP Government	Civics	AP English
AP COURSES	AP Biology	AP History (Gov't or U.S.)	College Math	AP Literature classes
AP courses in core areas	AP Calculus	AP Sciences	consumer economics	Business Courses
AP Government	AP course	AP-English	Creative Writing	Science
AP Math	AP English	Computer Applications	Dual credit courses	Career exploration
AP Math	AP English	Computer Assisted Drafting	Dual Credits	Chinese
AP offerings	AP English	Computer programming	electives	College English Composition
Art	AP Mathematics	Core classes for credit recovery	English	Computer Technology classes
Biology	AP Science	Credit Recovery - World History	English 2	Drama?
calculus	AP Statistics	Credit Recovery Math	English 4	Electives
calculus	AP-History	Credit Recovery Math	English II	English credit recovery

School Size 51 – 200 (continued)

college credit courses	Art	dual credit	English II	English I
College English	Basic English	Dual Credit with College - English	Foreign Language	foreign language
College English	Basic math	Elective Courses	Foreign Language	Foreign language
communications	Basic Math	electives for enrichment	Foreign Language - French	Foreign Language
Consumer Math	Biology	English	Foreign Languages - French, German	Geometry
Credit recovery - English and Math	Biology	english	Foriegn Language	Health
Credit Recovery - High School English (9-11)	Calculus	English	Fundamental Science	history
Credit recovery English	computer technology	English 1	Graphic Arts Courses	Music History/ Appreciation
Credit Recovery English 9	Coolege Algebra	English 3	hand tool carpentry	physics
Depends on credit recovery needs and whether we have a teacher shortage	creative writing	English 4	health	Psychology
English	Credit Recovery - US History	English core	Higher-level Science classes	Psychology
English	Credit Recovery (Core Subjects)	English III	history	remedial English
English	Credit Recovery English	For Lang- French or German	humanities courses	Social Studies
English	Credit Recovery English 10	French	Language Arts	Spanish
English	Credit recovery Government	Fundemental English	Math	Sports Medicine
English ...elective	credit recovery options	G.E.D. Courses	Math credit recovery	Trigonometry
English (Mostly 9 and 10)	Criminal Justice classes	General Science	Medical Terminology	United States History
English 1	Dual Credit Courses	government	Pre-Algebra	welding
English Credit Recover 9-12	Earth Science	History/Social Studies	Psychology	
English electives	Economics	Junior English	Psychology	
English I	Electives	Language (Spanish)	remedial math	
English Recovery	english	Lower Level Class	Replacement Science- Earth or Biol	
English Recovery	English	Math	Social Science	
English Recovery or any recovery class	English	Math Recovery	social studies	
English 11	English 2	Non core classes (Foreign Language)	Sociology	

School Size 51 – 200 (continued)

Environmental Biology	Foreign Language	Personal Finance (Elective credit)	Statistics	
Foreign language	Foreign Language	Psychology	tech courses	
Foreign Language (Spanish)	Language Arts	psychology	US Government	
Foreign language (specifically French)	Language Arts Courses	Psychology	US History	
Foreign Languages	latin	Sciece (Mostly Earthy Science and Biology)	Vocational Elective	
Foreign Languages	math	science	World Cultures	
foreign languages	Math	science		
Foreign Languages	Math	Science		
Foreign Languages	Math (Mostly Algebra and Geometry)	Sciences		
French	Math-algebra	Social Studies		
French	psychology	spanish		
Government	Recovery High School English Courses	Spanish or Chinese		
HTML document building	Replacement English	Trigonometry		
Math	Replacement English 9-10 grade	US History		
Math	science	World History		
math	Science			
Math	Science			
Math Recovery - Alg. I, etc.	Science Recovery - Earth Science, Biology			
Pre Algebra	Upper level math courses			
Recovery High School Math Courses	US History			
Replacement Algebra I	US History Recovery			
Senior English (1st sem. offered during 2nd sem.)	world language courses			
Spanish				
Spanish				
Spanish				
Spanish I and II				
Upper level Math- Trig or Calc				

Please list, in order of importance, the top five courses you would like to see MTVA offer your students during the 2010-2011 academic year.

School Size 201 – 500

1	2	3	4	5
ADVANCE SCIENCE	ADVANCE MATH	9th grade English	9th English - core	9th Math - core
Advanced Calculus	Advanced Science	A foreign language other than Spanish	Advanced Placement courses	American History
Advanced Math	Agriculture	Accounting	AP course for History	AP Classes
Algebra	Algebra	Advance English	AP English	AP History
AP Calculus	Algebra	Algebra	AP Math	AP Math
AP course for Math	Algebra 1	American History	Biology	AP Science
AP English	Algebra I	American History	Biology	Biology
AP Government	AP Biology	AP Calc	Communication Arts	Business Math
AP Math	AP Chemistry	AP Chemistry	Creative Writing	Consumer Math-math elective, not business
AP Physics	AP course for Science	AP Chemistry	Credit recovery Earth Science	Creative writing
Astronomy	AP Courses	AP Classes	Credit Recovery Math	Credit recovery Consumer Math
Basic Math	AP Courses	AP Courses	Credit Recovery Math (Algebra / Geometry)	credit recovery courses
Biology	AP Courses	AP Health	Dual Credit COurses	Credit Recovery Science (Biology)
Biology	AP English	AP SS	Dual Credit Government	Dual Credit English
Calculus	Biology	Astronomy	Dual Credit Writing Class	Dual Credit Health and Wellness
Credit Recovery	Biology	Biology	Earth Science	Dual Credit Psychology
Credit recovery English grades 9-12	Calculus	Botany	Earth Science	electives
Dual Credit English	consumer math	Chinese	Earth Science - Replacement	Electives in English
Dual Credit English Composition	Creative Writing	Credit Recovery	economics	English 10
Dual Credit History	Credit recovery ?	Credit Recovery English	Electives	english cores
Earth Science	Credit recovery World History	Credit Recovery English 11 & 12	English	English IV
Earth Science	Dual Credit	Credit recovery U.S. History	English	film studies class
english	Dual Credit Math	dual credit courses for college general ed. credits	English 9-12	Geometry
English	Dual Credit Mathematics	Dual Credit Statistics	English elective	Health career related courses
English	Dual Credit Middle Science	Earth Science	English III	Health/PE

School Size 201 – 500 (continued)

English 9	Economics	English 11	Family Consumer Science Classes	Language
English 9 - 12	English	English elective	Foreign Language	Montana History
English I	English	English- All four years	Foreign Language	Other world languages
English Literature courses	English	FOREIGN LANGUAGE (OTHER THAN SPANISH)	Geography	Remedial Math
Foreign Language	English 10	French or German	History	Remedial Math Courses
Foreign Language	English 10	Freshman Language Arts/Writing	history/government	Science
foreign language	English 11	geology	Hydrology	Sociology
Foreign Language	English Grammar or other English Language Course	Health	Jr. High Foreign Language	Spanish
Foreign Languages	English II	Humanities courses	Make-up Social Studies	Sports Medicine
Foreign Languages	Expository writing	Make-up English	math cores	Statistics
Foreign languages - other than Spanish	General Math	Math	Psychology	Tech Ed
General Math	Geography	Math	Psychology	US Government
Genetic design	Geology	Math I	Psychology	World or US History
Government	History: Essentials, U. S. and Montana	Native American Art-Beading	Psychology	
Health Occupations	Junior High Spanish	Physical Education	Social Science-US Govt, US Hist, World Geography	
human anatomy	math	Remediation Courses	vocational Agriculture	
Math	Math elective	Math / English	Vocational Technical	
Math Recovery, Algebra II	Math Recovery, Geometry	Replacement Courses	World Geography	
Math-Algebra, Geometry	Pre-Algebra	science	World History	
Mid-level science (between biology and chemistry)	psychology	Science	World History	
Music Theory	Science	Social Studies		
Pre-Calculus	Science	sociology		
Science elective	Science-Biology, Physical Science, Chemistry	Spanish		
social Science courses	Spanish 3 & 4	US History		
Spanish	statistics	welding		
Spanish	Vo-Ag	world Languages		
Spanish	World Geography			
Unknown				
Upper level math				

Please list, in order of importance, the top five courses you would like to see MTVA offer your students during the 2010-2011 academic year.

School Size 501 – 1,000

1	2	3	4	5
adv science	adv math	adv English	Accounting	A.P. courses
Algebra	Advanced Math	Advanced Placement - Sciences	adv history	American Government
AP Courses	Advanced Placement - Math	Algebra I	American Government	electives
AP English	AP Calculus	American hist	American Government	Hist
AP Government	AP Government	AP	AP Creative Writing	Local Cultural History
AP Offerings (Social Studies, Sciences)	AP Statistics	AP Biology	CRT prep	Medical Related...i.e., Nursing, X-Ray Tech
AP US History	Biology	AP Chemistry	Electives	U.S. History
Credit Recovery	Business Math	Credit Recovery Courses	government	
Credit recovery in core areas	dual credit in core areas	Foreign Languages (French, German)	Lower Level Math	
Credit Recovery Math	Dual Enrollment Courses	Math	Pre Alg	
English	English	Reading		
English	English III	Spanish		
English	Math			
English IV	Options for alternative placement			
Foreign Languages (Spanish/others)	world history			
Mandrin Chinese				
Senior English				

Please list, in order of importance, the top five courses you would like to see MTVA offer your students during the 2010-2011 academic year.

School Size 1,001 – 1,500

1	2	3	4	5
American History	American History	Algebra	Art Experience	Algebra
Calculus	Earth Science	Algebra I	Biology	American government
English	English	Biology, Earth Science	Earth Science	Electives
English 10	English	English	English Classes	English - Sophomore
English I, II, III, IV	English 12	Science	History	Western Civilization
Government	Math Classes	Science	Math	
History Requirements	Statistics	Science Classes	Math(Algebra I, II, III)	
Math	Western Civ	World Languages	Science (Variety)	

Please list, in order of importance, the top five courses you would like to see MTVA offer your students during the 2010-2011 academic year.

School Size More Than 1,500

1	2	3	4	5
9th grade English	Algebra 1	Algebra	Algebra 1	Biology
American Government	Algebra I	Biology	Algebra 1 or Integrated Math	career path classes
credit recovery	All levels of English	dual credit	ap classes	Geometry
Credit Recovery Math	core classes	English	Art History	Geometry
English	Credit Recovery English	English I	Earth Science	Science
English	Earth Science	PE	English (1-4)	Science- earth science, Bio I
English	Earth Science	Physical Science	Geometry	Senior English
English	English 4	Social Studies	Math	Social Studies
English 1	fine art offerings	US Government	Science	US History
English 3	fine arts	US Government	social studies-World Cultures, Am Hist, Am Govt	US History
fine arts elective	Language arts	US History	Sophomore English	World Cultures
Freshman English	Math	vocational	US Government	World Language
Health	Math I	World History	World Cultures	
Mathematics	Physical Science or Earth Science	World History		
PE	US History	World Languages		
Pre-algebra	US History			
vocational offerings	vocational elective			

As the Governing Board considers where MTVA might expand to after year 2, what courses at the elementary and/or middle school level would you envision being needed and/or meaningful in your school system?

1 – 50	51 – 200	201 – 500	501 – 1000	1001-1500	Over 1500
Expand the classes we offer to provide a more comprehensive basic education for your students.	Make sure that the state accreditation standards are being met as well as the obtainment of credit.	Credit recovery would be huge, but only if the instruction is significant. Dual credit may be a good option, especially if it is available within the coursework we are already providing. In the past we have used it for kids that had difficulty getting college prep electives when their schedule did not work in the building.	It is likely to play a significant role in assisting students in credit recovery as well as providing for the higher functioning students to participate in higher level courses.	What role do you hope that MTVA can play to support your high school students?	Provide quality online instruction
Develop courses not offered in the high school.	Adding additional course offerings	Offer classes we are unable to due to a lack of funds.		Our biggest need is with at-risk students who need credit recovery.	
	To aid students in credit recovery and advance placement courses.	Help when needed			
	Increase electives and AP classes	Credit recovery and enrichment			
	Credit Recovery for qualification to graduate	It is likely to play a significant role in assisting students in credit recovery as well as providing for the higher functioning students to participate in higher level courses.			