

Theme 3: Education

Mission

Life-long learning is the foundation for public and private educational efforts. In addition to the essential training of youth within schools, life-long learning includes educational opportunities for all adults of all ages, and comfortably spans the practical and academic arts and sciences. The Town will work cooperatively with Orange County Public Schools, Germanna Community College, non-profit organizations, local churches, and businesses, to create a hub of human resources infrastructure to serve local youth and adult needs for training, re-training, and exploration of physical, intellectual, creative, and spiritual pursuits. Of all the visions described herein, no other has as great an impact on the future of Orange.

Arts Center in Orange at Taylor Park



Goal ED1: Create expanded adult-education opportunities.

Analysis:

The General Assembly has divided Virginia into Community College regions. Orange and Madison Counties are served by Germanna Community College (GCC). Germanna currently provides programs for Orange, Madison, and Culpeper residents at the Carver Center on Rt. 15 south of Culpeper. The Carver Center (formerly Piedmont Tech.) was jointly administered by Culpeper, Orange, and Madison Counties. In recent months, Culpeper County has gained control of the center exclusively and has turned over administration to a private sector entity charged with creating a self-supporting arts and education organization.

Under this arrangement, GCC has to pay Culpeper County for use of the building. Germanna would like to explore other options for classroom space to serve its western constituents.

In 2004, Orange County opened a new middle school and thereby vacated the old Prospect Heights. This building will be used in the future as a Central Office.

Germanna may be interested in a cooperative program with Orange County Public Schools to teach Interactive (Compressed) Video classes to serve students throughout the region. These classes could be on economics, math, business, etc., and would be offered as credit classes to enrolled students and adults.

In addition, non-credit classes to complement programs at The Orange Art Center could also be offered to adults living in the area.

If sufficient demand were found to exist for these classes, support from the College would then be sought for the establishment of an actual Satellite Campus in Orange.

Action ED1.1: Support Art Center in Orange.

Indicator ED1.1.1:	Non-credit classes
Benchmark ED1.1.1:	2 classes regularly completed per year

Progress ED1.1.1:	
Responsible Party ED1.1.1:	Germanna Community College Art Center in Orange Orange County Public Schools Town of Orange Orange County
Implementation ED1.1.1:	2006

Action ED1.2: Offer non-credit classes through cooperative arrangement between GCC, Orange County Public Schools, the Art Center in Orange, the Town of Orange, and Orange County.

Indicator ED1.2.1: Non-credit classes
Benchmark ED1.2.1: 2 classes regularly completed per year



Progress ED1.2.1:
Responsible Party ED1.2.1: Germanna Community College
Art Center in Orange
Orange County Public Schools
Town of Orange
Orange County

Implementation ED1.2.1: 2006

Indicator ED1.2.2: Credit classes
Benchmark ED1.2.2: 2 classes regularly completed per year



Progress ED1.2.2:
Responsible Party ED1.2.2: Germanna Community College
Orange County Public Schools
Town of Orange

Implementation ED1.2.2: 2006

Goal ED2: Create synergy between Town's economy and County's educational vision.

Analysis:

There is little relationship between the Town's economic development intentions and how local schools train students. Thus, schools don't have a vision that mirrors the goals of the Town, and the Town doesn't seek to enroll the school systems in the attainment of it's future economy.

In many college towns, such as Blacksburg and Charlottesville, graduates frequently wish to stay and put down roots. They do this, in part, because they are invested in the community in more than an economic context. Because these places have significant business (technology incubators, private thinktanks) and cultural values (arts, culture, environment), people invest their money and their time. These market and "non-market" investments pay off through return on investment.

In non-college towns, graduating high school students want to leave because they perceive that there is nothing going on (poor investment in non-market values) due to low social capital (as compared to many college

communities). Recruitment of the best companies is more difficult because there are fewer amenities and smaller pools of well-educated people willing to work for lower wages, than exist in college towns.

What is called for in this theme is a working together of the public and private educational interests of the community to build future social capital. As compared to other communities of the same size, Orange has a rich Human Capital base. Woodberry Forest and Grymes School, on a combined basis, have greater potential than currently utilized, to create added Social Capital within the Town. This is particularly true for Woodberry Forest School, which, if better integrated into town culture, could create a more college type environment, conducive to diversification of our local economy.

Action ED2.1:	Convene Town-Schools-County Vision committee.
Indicator ED2.1.1:	Creation of Education for 21 st Century Economy Vision Committee
Benchmark ED2.1.1:	Development of Education for 21 st Century Economy Vision Accords
Progress ED2.1.1:	
Responsible Party ED2.1.1:	Town Manager County Administrator Superintendent of Schools Headmaster: Woodberry Forest Headmaster: Grimes School Germanna Community College President
Implementation ED 2.1.1:	2006

Goal ED3: Increase educational attainment of the Town's population.

Analysis:

According to the 2000 Census, 29% of the Town's population has failed to graduate from high school. GED programs are offered through Piedmont Tech at Orange County High School.

Action ED3.1: Continue to provide GED program in the Town of Orange.

Indicator ED3.1.1:	% of students without high school diploma
Benchmark ED3.1.1:	5%



Progress ED 3.1.1:

Responsible Party ED3.1.1: Piedmont Tech
Orange County Public Schools
Orange County Board of Supervisors

Implementation ED 3.1.1.: 2012 and beyond

Action ED3.2: Expand library in Town.

Analysis:

The current location of the Town library is inadequate. Significantly more space is needed. A location in Downtown or Midtown is recommended.

Indicator ED3.2.1:

Library facility

Benchmark ED3.2.1:

Expansion of facility



Progress ED 3.2.1:

Responsible Party ED3.2.1: Piedmont Tech
Orange County Public Schools
Orange County Board of Supervisors
Orange County Library Board

Implementation ED 3.2.1.: 2012 and beyond

Goal ED4: Work with County to ensure adequate educational facilities for Town residents.

Action ED4.1: Assist County to provide adequate educational infrastructure for Town residents.

Indicator ED4.1.1:

Educational capital funds from Town

Benchmark ED4.1.1:

Joint Proffer Policy



Progress ED4.1.1:

Responsible Party ED4.1.1: Town Manager
School Superintendent
Orange County Administrator

Implementation ED4.1.1.: 2006