



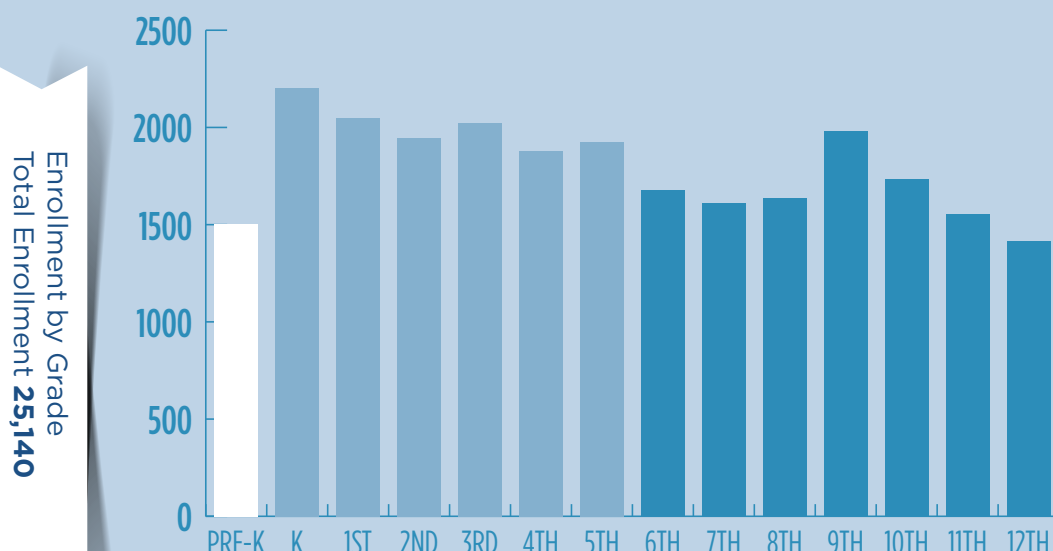
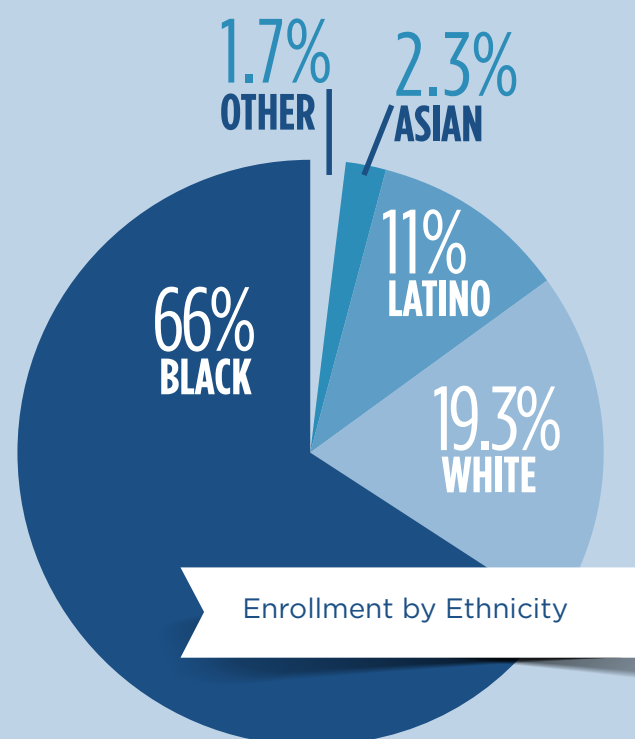
2012-13

LITTLE ROCK SCHOOL DISTRICT

Annual Report

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Superintendent's Letter

Greetings.

I take great pride and feel privileged to be the new Superintendent of the Little Rock School District. It goes without saying that I am excited about our future. I am committed to collaborating with families, staff and community stakeholders to transform the Little Rock School District. Our overarching goal is to make sure each student attends a quality school that provides a first-rate public education. I want every one of our schools to become a desired choice for families.

I am confident that with all of us joining together in the shared goal of student success, we will be able to transform the Little Rock School District into a nationally recognized education model. My travels throughout the city and state have allowed me to meet the most dedicated parents, business leaders, pastors, and community members who have a passion for the success of the children in our schools. It will take all of us to support our children and bring success to fruition for each and every one of them.

It is important that we work together to make system-wide positive change and develop the courage and commitment to do what is best for ALL children in the Little Rock School District. As the superintendent, I will work relentlessly to ensure that every student receives the very best education, and I look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Dr. Dexter Suggs
Superintendent
Little Rock School District

Narrowing the Achievement Gap

The District is pleased to announce the achievement gap between African-American students and their White, non-Hispanic peers has narrowed in 13 out of the 15 areas tested with Benchmark and End-of-Course Exams during the period from 2009 through 2013.

The achievement gap in education refers to the disparity in academic performance between groups of students, according to *Education Week*. It is most often used to describe the troubling performance gaps between African-American and their non-Hispanic White peers. After the passage of No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, closing the achievement gap became a focus of education accountability.

The tested areas were literacy and math in grades 3-8 and Algebra, Geometry and 11th grade literacy at the high school level. The District closed the gap by double-digits in literacy at grades 4, 5, and 6. The largest reduction in the gap was 17 percentage points in grade 4 literacy. The reduction in the District's achievement gap paralleled the state as a whole. The only tested areas where the gap widened were in grades 5 and 6 math, which occurred at both the district and state levels.

The Little Rock School District is committed to making continual progress toward the goal of closing the achievement gap between African-American students and their non-Hispanic White peers.

Average ACT Scores

YEAR	TOTAL TESTS TAKEN	ENGLISH	MATH	READING	SCIENCE	COMPOSITE
2013	1,386	17.8	18.0	18.5	18.4	18.3

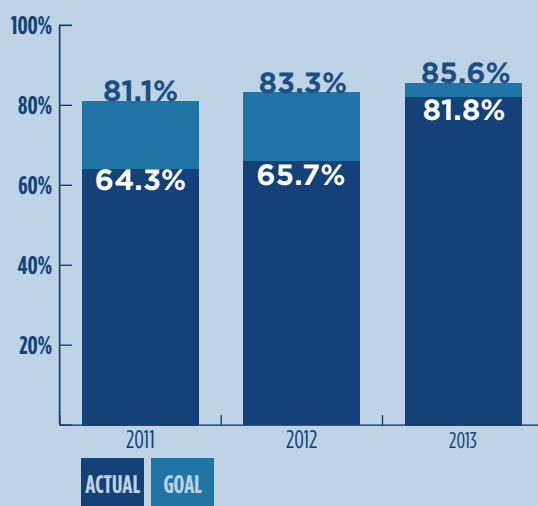
Pre-AP & AP Enrollment

YEAR	GOAL	ACTUAL
2011	7,477	7,593
2012	7,527	7,668
2013	7,577	7,623

AP Highlights for 2012-2013

- **1,757 students** took **3,995 AP exams**
- **892 students** scored **3, 4 or 5** on **1,391 exams**
- **165 AP Scholars** scored 3 or better on 3 or more exams
- **41 AP Scholars with Honor** scored 3 or better on 4 or more exams with an average score of 3.25 or higher on all exams taken
- **80 AP Scholars with Distinction** scored 3 or better on 5 or more exams with an average score of 3.5 or higher on all exams taken
- **18 AP National Scholars** scored 4 or better on 8 or more exams with an average score of 4 on all exams taken
- **1 of only 2 State AP Scholars for Arkansas**

4-Year Graduation Rate



Central & Parkview Reach New Heights in Academic Excellence

Little Rock Central High School has a long and established record of academic excellence. Central consistently produces the largest crop of National Merit Semifinalists in Arkansas. In fact, for the test administered during the 2012-2013 school year, Central produced its largest group of National Merit Semifinalists, 24 students, since the National Merit Scholarship Corporation began testing and recognizing students in 1956. **Parkview Arts and Science Magnet High School** also experienced an outstanding year with four semifinalists, shown in bold type below. Between the two schools the district had 19% of the total semifinalists for the state. The 28 National Merit Semifinalists are:

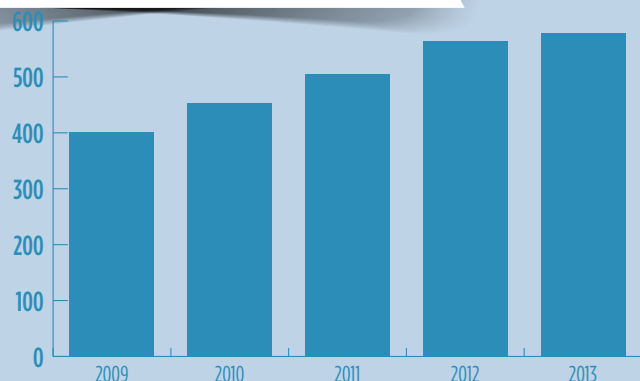
Walter E. Bass	James. D. Hill	William E. Nicholson	Ayush Saraswat
Mackenzie M. Bodie	Nathanael Y. Ji	Jacob D. Oldham	Danyai Smani
James N. Burrow	Farhan Kawsar	Esther C. Park	William B. Stewart
Kiran Chakka	Leila G. Keer	Ayesha R. Patel	Alden K. Walters
Ankita Das	Yongrak Kim	Kaitlyn E. Perreault	Yuxiu Wang
Jessica L. Haley	Allison D. Light	Will P. Richardson	Evan T. Yi
Alena D. Higgins	Melinda Lue	Deborah J. Rookey	Alexander Zhang

Additional honors for **Central** include Jessica L. Haley and Errick M. Jackson who were named National Achievement Semifinalists for outstanding Black American high school students, and Audrey S. Bauman and Natalie M. Doris who were named Commended Scholars. Stephanie Menhart was selected as a National Hispanic Scholar and Evan Yi won the National Council of Teachers English Award in Writing. Class of 2013 graduate, **Arhita Dasgupta**, was named State AP Scholar—an honor extended to one male and one female scholar from each state with scores of 3 or higher on the greatest number of AP exams, and then the highest average (at least 3.5) on all exams taken. For the second year in a row, **Central** produced one or more State AP Scholars.

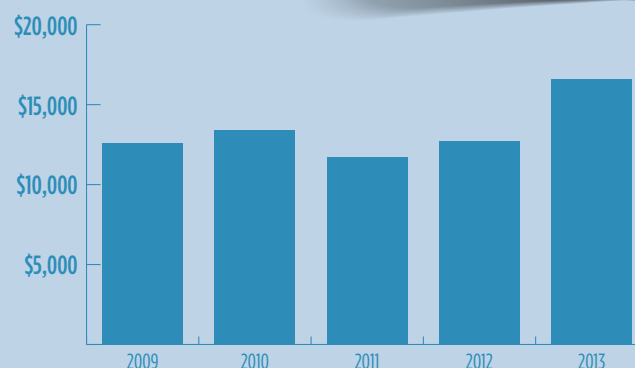
ADVANCED PLACEMENT

Central and **Parkview** lead the District in the number of students enrolled and succeeding in Advanced Placement (AP) courses. **Central** offers 31 AP courses and **Parkview** offers 26 AP courses. The growth in the number of students enrolled and succeeding in AP classes at Parkview is a source of pride for the District and may be attributed, in part, to a successful partnership between the Little Rock School District and the Arkansas Advanced Initiative for Math and Science (AAIMS). AAIMS provides financial incentives, pacing guides and other resources to teachers and students. The District hopes to replicate the success of AP programs at **Parkview** and **Central** at **J.A. Fair**, **Hall** and **McClellan** with new AAIMS partnerships.

AP Students with Scores 3+
Central and Parkview Combined



Parkview AP Incentives
Cash Awards to Parkview AP Students



Champion Student Athletes



Hall High School has created a legacy of dedicated student athletes who perform both on the court and in the classroom. The Warriors have competed for six state championships in the past decade, winning the top spot five times. The 2012-2013 season victory was the fourth consecutive win for the Warriors and placed them in the state's record books along side the Hall High Warriors from 1980-1984.

Over the past seven years, the Warriors have compiled a record 185 wins and only 26 losses. Hall's record includes six conference championships, three top 100 rankings, and a current 28 conference game-winning streak. The Warriors have only lost to one in-state team in the past two seasons. The Lady Warriors also won the state championship last year and four players received athletic scholarships.

The two teams' dedication to excellence extends beyond the state. Hall made history nationally last year, when two students, Tyler Scaife from the girls team and Bobby Portis from the boys team, were both named McDonald's All American players—making Hall the second school in the nation to ever have both a male and female player from the same school during the same season play on McDonald's All American teams. Hall alumni play for Division I schools and junior colleges across the nation and three play professionally overseas. Last year's 14-member boys championship team completed the year with a combined average GPA of 3.5. The coaching staff's philosophy is simple—students first and basketball second.

large photo: Bobby Portis in the state championship game against Jonesboro, small photo: Tyler Scaife in the state championship game against Parkview.

Class of 2013 Athletic Scholarship Recipients

Central Basketball

Jamie Ruffins Arkansas State University

Central Football

Reggie Harris Northwestern Oklahoma State University

Andrew Ingram Ouachita Baptist University

Byron Miller University of Arkansas—Monticello

Emannuell Smith Northeast Oklahoma A&M

AJ Tucker Henderson State University

Malcolm Robinson Northwestern Oklahoma State University

Central Soccer

Caitlin Bowe Lyon College

Tyler Rutherford Williams Baptist College

Central Tennis

Trinity Randolph Tennessee State University

Hall Basketball

Tierra Coffey North Oklahoma Junior College

Kiara Moore North Oklahoma Junior College

Roy Owen North Oklahoma Junior College

Bobby Portis University of Arkansas—Fayetteville

Tyler Scaife Rutgers University

Katelyn Weber Missouri State University

Kanesha Woods North Oklahoma Junior College

Hall Golf

Ashtone Dixon Lyon College

Parkview Basketball

Roshunda Johnson Oklahoma State University

Imari (IJ) Ready Mississippi State University

McClellan Football

Lafarell Franklin University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff

Akee Johnson Henderson State University

Teacher of the Year Named Regional Finalist



Holly Brown, a third grade teacher at **Terry Elementary**, was named 2013 LRSD Teacher of the Year, the Marian G. Lacey Award winner, and a regional finalist.

Elementary, middle and high school level winners include:

Mary Anne Struthers,

Williams Magnet Elementary;

Kasey Miller, **Mann Arts & Science Magnet Middle School;** and Ryan Parson, **Parkview Arts & Science Magnet High School.**

Winning teachers are nominated by their peers at the building level and must complete a rigorous application process following state guidelines. Scores are tabulated and the highest overall winner receives the Marian G. Lacey Award. The elementary, middle and high school teachers with the highest scores are level winners.

top left photo: Holly Brown with Marion G. Lacey, large photo: Holly Brown, top right small photo: Ryan Parson, lower left photo: Kasey Miller, lower right photo: Mary Anne Struthers with Deputy Superintendent Marvin Burton.



Elementary School Winners

Bale Dana Broadway Kindergarten
Baseline Angela Saine Grade 4
Booker Ruth Keogh Reading Spec. 2-5
Brady Anna Friemel Art
Carver Joy Thomas Grade 5
Chicot Primary Diane Walker Grade 1
Dodd Sarah Buffalo Pre-K
Fair Park ECC Kristen Brizzolara Pre-K
Forest Park Carolyn Dillard Grade 5
Franklin Tammy Smith Grade 3
Fulbright Ashley Atkins Grade 2
Geyer Springs Kathy Pennington Reading
Gibbs Melanie Shaw Kindergarten
Jefferson Sharon Faulkenberry Grade 3
King Cassie Hurtado Grade 3
Mabelvale Kristie Croom Speech Path.
McDermott Lori Kirchner Art
Meadowcliff Kathy Thomas Grade 1
Otter Creek Wendy Minor Grade 5
Pulaski Heights Tracy DeClue K
Roberts Katie Leavitt Grade 5
Rockefeller Heather Bishop Grade 5
Romine LaShawn Pettis Grade 4
Stephens Donnyta Alexander Grade 1
Terry Holly Brown Grade 3
Wakefield Gail Washington Grade 2
Washington La Dina Hunt-Brister Grade 2

Watson Anthony Goods Health/P.E.
Western Hills Jennifer Carlin Resource
Williams Mary Anne Struthers Grade 5
Wilson Susan West Special Ed. 3-5
Woodruff ECC Caroline Seaberg Pre-K

Middle School Winners

Cloverdale
 Christy Jenkins-Strong Math 7
 Gwendolyn Cokeley Spec. Ed.
Dunbar
 Kelli Allen Math 6-8
 Donterio Porter Social Studies 7-8
Forest Heights
 Amy Walker G&T
 Adrienne Earnest Social Studies 7-8
Henderson
 Tracy Andrews Library/Media
 Michelle Mothershed AVID
Mabelvale
 Stephen Lanford Math 7
 Alyce Zottoli Social Studies, G&T
Mann
 Kasey Miller Math 7-8
 Loretta Davis Spec. Ed.
Pulaski Heights
 Sharon Dallimore Math 8
 Jescena Sweat Science 8

High School Winners

Central
 Kimberly Burleson Physical Science
 Scott Hairston English 11
 Sarah Schutte English 9-10
J.A. Fair
 Kimmie Cleveland Health Science
 Linda Hall English 12
 Lecia Willis Career/Tech Ed.
Hall
 Elizabeth Lucker Family/Consumer Sci.
 Tracy Mason AVID
 Amanda Warren ESL Social Studies
McClellan
 Isaac Davis Spec. Ed. Math
 Katina Harper English 10-11
 Roy Vaughn Communications/Journalism
Parkview
 Pam Ellis Orchestra 9-12
 Stacy O'Brien Math 10-12
 Ryan Parson AP: US Hist. & Economics
Non-traditional School Winners
Accelerated Learning Center
 Laura Nodine Business Ed. 11-12
Felder Alt. Learning Center
 Carolyn Harshaw Math 7-8
Hamilton Alt. Learning Center
 Amy Howard Biology 10
Metropolitan Career-Tech Ctr.
 Barbara Swihart Special Ed. 10-12

High-Achieving Elementary Schools + ESEA Accountability Designations

Forest Park and Williams Receive National Recognition

The U.S. Department of Education recognized **Forest Park Elementary** as a “Blue Ribbon” school—one of only 269 nationwide—for achieving high academic standards for five years consecutively. The distinction came to Forest Park as it celebrated another significant milestone, its 100th year anniversary. **Williams Magnet Elementary** received Higher Performing recognition in math and literacy from the National Center for Educational Achievement (NCEA), a department of ACT, Inc. Williams was recognized for consistent improvement in student achievement from previous years.

Three LRSD Elementary Schools Receive Outstanding Educational Performance Awards

Each year the Office of Education Policy at the University of Arkansas issues a series of reports, *Outstanding Educational Performance Awards*. The first report, *High-Achieving Overall Schools in Arkansas*, recognized **Don Roberts, Forest Park** and **Jefferson** elementary schools among the top 25 highest-achieving schools in the state. The three schools were also recognized in a subsequent report, *High-Achieving Elementary Schools*, which provided top 10 ranking by grade level and subject for the state and top three and top five rankings in the central Arkansas region. Both **Roberts** and **Forest Park** were top 3 schools in Central Arkansas in all categories.

Top 25 High-Achieving Overall Schools in Arkansas (based on performance on benchmark exams)

RANK	SUBJECT	SCHOOL	% PROF/ADV	GPA
#9	Math	Roberts	94%	3.76
#16	Math	Forest Park	95%	3.70
#3	Literacy	Forest Park	96%	3.79
#5	Literacy	Roberts	94%	3.73
#21	Literacy	Jefferson	94%	3.65
#5	Combined	Roberts	93.5%	3.75
#6	Combined	Forest Park	95.5%	3.74

Top 10 High-Achieving Elementary Schools in Arkansas (based on performance on benchmark exams)

RANK	GRADE/SUBJECT	SCHOOL	% PROF/ADV	GPA
#1	Grade 3 Math	Roberts	100%	3.95
#3	Grade 3 Math	Forest Park	100%	3.91
#4	Grade 3 Literacy	Roberts	96%	3.82
#1	Grade 3 Combined	Roberts	99%	3.89
#4	Grade 3 Combined	Forest Park	98%	3.85
#8	Grade 4 Literacy	Forest Park	99%	3.78
#10	Grade 4 Combined	Roberts	94%	3.74
#7	Grade 5 Math	Forest Park	92%	3.52
#7	Grade 5 Math	Roberts	85%	3.52
#4	Grade 5 Literacy	Forest Park	94%	3.81
#8	Grade 5 Literacy	Jefferson	96%	3.77
#5	Grade 5 Combined	Forest Park	93%	3.67
#9	Grade 5 Combined	Jefferson	91%	3.61

Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Accountability Designations

Needs Improvement Schools are schools that do not meet annual achievement goals for both math and literacy, and graduation goals for high schools. For 2012, 20 schools were labeled “needs improvement.” Final results for 2013 reveal **Forest Park, Jefferson, Roberts** and **Terry Elementary Schools** previously designated as “needs improvement” are now “achieving schools.”

Priority Schools are schools that have been identified as among the lowest-performing five percent of schools in the state over three years. For 2012, eight schools were labeled “priority schools.” Two schools, **Wilson Elementary** and **Henderson Middle**, met year one exit criteria. Final results for 2013 show **Wilson Elementary** met year two exit criteria and is now an “achieving school.”

Focus Schools include 10 percent of schools in Arkansas with the largest achievement gaps between their highest and lowest performing subgroups. For 2012, ten LRSD schools were labeled as “focus schools.” Two schools, **Brady Elementary** and **Pulaski Heights Middle**, met year one exit criteria. Final results for 2013 show **Brady Elementary** met year 2 exit criteria and is now an “achieving school.”

Achieving Schools are schools that meet the annual achievement goals for both math and literacy, and graduation for high schools. For 2012 three schools, **Carver Magnet, Otter Creek**, and **Williams Magnet Elementary Schools**, earned the “achieving school” designation. Final results for 2013 show that **Brady, Forest Park, Jefferson, Roberts, Terry** and **Wilson Elementary Schools** and **Parkview Arts & Science Magnet High School** are all “achieving schools.”

Mathletes Challenge Offers Fun Test Prep + Accreditation

The Mathletes Challenge, the brainchild of 4th Grade Teacher Jason Crader from **Carver Magnet School**, began in 2006 with eight schools competing. Seven years later, 40 teams from 22 elementary schools competed in the 2013 Mathletes Challenge—the largest competition yet. The Mathletes Challenge is an innovative competition designed to provide Benchmark Assessment preparation and enrichment to LRSD students in third, fourth and fifth grade.

Students compete for certificates, ribbons, trophies, and an overall district trophy for the winning Mathletes Challenge team.

- **Round 1:** Fifteen teams advanced to round two, with **Jefferson Team 1** on top with a perfect score, **Roberts Team 2** in second and **Carver Team 1, Wakefield Team 1** and **Fulbright** all tied for third.
- **Round 2:** **Don Roberts Elementary** had two teams advance to the final round and **Fulbright, Jefferson** and **Forest Park** each had one team advance.
- **Championship Round:** **Jefferson's Team 1** emerged as back-to-back champs, having won the 2012 Mathletes Challenge the previous year. **Roberts Team 1** won second place after a round of sudden death with schoolmates from **Roberts Team 2**, third place winner. **Forest Park** and **Fulbright** took fourth and fifth place, respectively.

large photo: 2012 & 2013 Champions, Jefferson Team 1



% Proficient/Advanced Students compared to Target 2015 Strategic Plan Goals

GRADE/SUBJECT	% PROF/ADV	% PROF/ADV GOAL
3rd Grade Math	76%	86%
3rd Grade Literacy	70%	73%
4th Grade Math	73%	83%
4th Grade Literacy	76%	82%
5th Grade Math	54%	77%
5th Grade Literacy	75%	77%
6th Grade Math	50%	75%
6th Grade Literacy	52%	72%
7th Grade Math	52%	70%
7th Grade Literacy	62%	68%
8th Grade Math	44%	58%
8th Grade Literacy	66%	78%
Algebra I	63%	71%
Geometry	51%	60%
11th Grade Literacy	62%	68%

All LRSD schools are accredited by the Arkansas Department of Education.

Two schools were placed on probation for the 2012-2013 school year, Hall and McClellan High Schools. Hall was placed on probation for not offering physics; the probation period ended on August 19, 2013 when physics was added to the master schedule. McClellan's violation resulted from the school having some 2013 graduates who did not have all of the credits the state requires for graduation.

Performance Indicators latest figures available from 2011-2012

ATTENDANCE	DROPOUT	GRADE INFLATION	COLLEGE REMEDIATION
94.9%	5.5%	9.5%	62.2%

Retention Rates Grade 1-8 latest figures available from 2011-2012

GRADE	Students	Percentage
1st	55	2.7%
2nd	23	1.1%
3rd	22	1.1%
4th	11	0.3%
5th	4	0.2%
6th	18	1.1%
7th	28	1.6%
8th	35	2%

Little Rock School District by the Numbers

Revenue

Local/County	\$142,906,215
State	\$121,721,700
Federal Grants	\$32,002,372
Stipulated Magnet	\$30,280,949
Dedicated Maintenance & Operations	\$7,583,737
Other	\$1,943,266
Total Revenue.....	\$336,438,239

Tax Rate (Mills)..... 46.4

Expenses

Student Instruction.....	\$236,274,605
Support	\$44,766,311
Transportation	\$18,858,641
Support—Facilities	\$19,252,396
Debt Service.....	\$14,682,929
Total Expenses	\$333,834,822

Expense Per Pupil.....\$13,352

Average Teacher Salary

First Year Teacher Salary.....\$34,206

National Board Certified Teachers

Classroom Teachers with:

Bachelors.....934

Masters

Doctorate

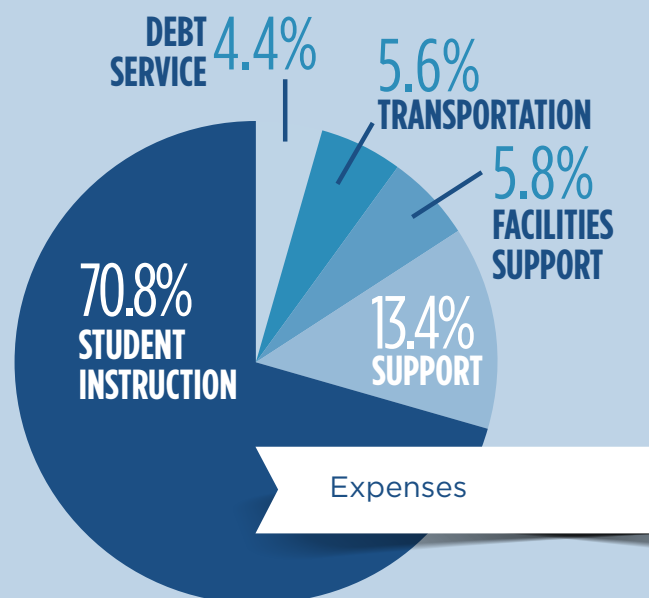
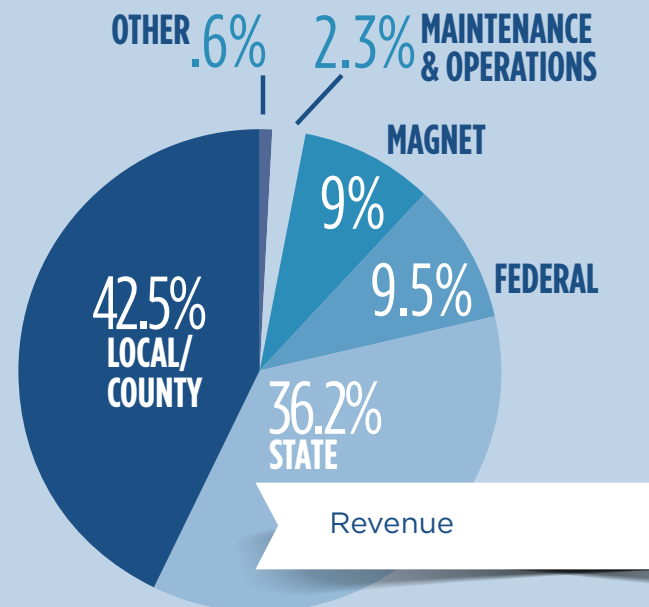
LRSD's volunteer program, Volunteers in Public Schools (ViPS) is a vital component in the operation of all of our schools.

Total Volunteer Hours.....825,274

Equivalent in Dollars

New Partners in Education (PIE)

Total Number of Partners.....283



Five LRSD Destination Imagination Teams Go Global



ARKANSAS

Last spring imaginations ran wild at the Arkansas Destination Imagination (DI) State Championships in Benton, when five DI teams from three LRSD schools won first place and qualified to advance to the Destination Imagination Global Finals at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Three teams from **Gibbs Magnet Elementary School**, and one team each from **Forest Heights Middle School** and **Carver Magnet Elementary School** all had qualifying first place scores to compete against thousands of students from over 25 different countries at the Global Finals.

Gibbs Magnet Elementary dominated overall with first place in three different categories—repeating the achievement of being the only school in the State Finals with three teams advancing to the Global Finals from the previous year. **Gibbs** won the Instant Challenge and the Renaissance Award, a special recognition for exceptional skill in engineering, design or performance. Last year, **Gibbs** emerged as the Global Winner in the scientific category beating teams from around the world.

For the sixth year in the row **Carver Magnet Elementary School** won first place at the elementary level for “In the Zone,” the most difficult category requiring a trifecta mastery of engineering, design, and mathematical concepts. In fact, LRSD schools won at every level of competition in the highly technical “In the Zone” category with **Forest Heights Middle School** and **J.A. Fair High School** winning first place at their respective levels. **Dunbar Magnet Middle School** won the category’s Instant Challenge securing third place at the middle school level of “In the Zone.” Only **Forest Heights** and **Carver** advanced to the Global Finals.

Destination Imagination, or “DI,” is the “world’s largest creative problem solving program for kids.” DI promotes teamwork, problem solving, innovation, creativity, and resourcefulness. It is an educational, inquiry-guided, after-school program that teaches students creative and critical thinking skills, teamwork, and other skills.

Global Finals DI Teams from LRSD

Genius Gibbsters Team Managers: Rhonda Adams, Charlotte Crawford, VP Parker, and Olga Lyzogubova; Isabel Crawford, Zoe Evans-Funk, Franchelsa Franciso, Xander Parker, Leah Kline, and Milo Thompson

Gibbs Gizmos Team Managers: Jennifer Triplett, and Jodi Pullin; Sam Triplett, Artem Apostolove, Becket O’Brien, Juliana Pinson, Emily Pinson, Ben Pullen, and Melina Wilkins

Gibbs Go Green Team Manager: Kristin Mann; Cole Hadden, Helen Wedaman, Ava Horton, Dorothy Johnson, Hunter Ramsey, Adam Mann, and Hay Henry

Carver Team Managers: Karen Banks, and Scott Banks; Nand Mehta, John Swaim, Nathania Nischal, Madelynmae Deluca, Seth Hyatt, and Andrew Helms

Forest Heights Team Managers: Amy Walker, and Christine Mignot-Bugeya; Wyn Evans, Kyshaun Jones, Dylan Madden, Andrew Davault, Maria Seymore, and Chassidy Barnes





Little Rock School District

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