



LITTLE ROCK
SCHOOL DISTRICT

2016-2017 ANNUAL REPORT LITTLE ROCK SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Little Rock School District (LRSD) is required to prepare an Annual Report for presentation to the community. The 2016-17 report highlights progress and achievements and provides a summary of planned improvement processes and future directions. In 2016 LRSD experienced significant progress as the District and community worked together to meet the needs of each student. From rigorous academic engagement for gifted and talented students, to support for those facing learning, speech or physical challenges, LRSD offers unique, comprehensive educational approaches from pre-K – 12th grade.

The District takes pride in its highly qualified teachers – nearly half of all classroom teachers have a masters or doctoral degree, and 170 have National Board Certification – the most in the state. LRSD continues to operate the state's only K-8 STEM campus, eight magnet schools and a uniquely focused language and literacy elementary academy. The District also serves more than 1,700 pre-K students, making LRSD the largest provider of public preschool programs. Test results in 2016 reflected that students from every socioeconomic background who attended a LRSD pre-K program outperformed students who did not use LRSD's pre-K program in every skill area.

High school college preparatory programs, including pre-AP, AP and classes with local universities, in addition to the District's newest Excel program - introduced in 2016 - provide a wide array of offerings. These programs allow students to align their educational experience with their interests and prepare them to meet the challenges of a global society. LRSD consistently places among the top tier of state schools with National Merit Semifinalists.

LRSD introduced its newest campus at the end of the 2016 school year, Pinnacle View Middle School, and continued developing plans for a new southwest Little Rock High School. LRSD is proud of its highly accomplished students and the community partnerships that enhance their educational experiences.

The District is in year three of state oversight following an "Academically Distressed" designation for 6 of its 48 schools. Baseline Academy was removed from that designation in 2016. In 2017, J.A. Fair and McClellan high schools were also removed.

In an effort to identify areas of needed support for those schools and to provide resources that include best practices for all LRSD campuses, Superintendent Michael Poore continued district-wide implementation of the Achieve Team model. This model provides a plan to gather and analyze data; monitor specific targets;

and share suggested actions on how community resources can be leveraged with the utilization of professional development to enhance academic achievement, allowing the district to maximize support provided directly to schools.

The administration continued its stakeholder engagement efforts integrating interactive social media town halls, public forums, and superintendent-led Community Walks. Those efforts will continue in the 2017-18 school year.

In 2016, LRSD received the last payment of \$37 million in desegregation funds, designated for operational purposes. The District continues to seek financial efficiencies in order to maintain a focus on strong academic achievement and fiscal stability.

The LRSD community is represented by a 7-member, state-appointed Community Advisory Board which succeeded the Civic Advisory Committee at the end of the 2015-16 school year. Arkansas Department of Education Commissioner Johnny Key serves as the District's Board of Directors.

LRSD reaffirms its commitment to collaboration, transparency and a return to local control, and its mission to provide all students with equitable access to educational opportunities. To accomplish this mission, the District must continue to proactively address student achievement, teacher/leader quality, parental involvement, community engagement, and financial stability.

A Few of the 2016-17 Highlights:

- **Delta Dental Bright Smiles Partnership**
 - Commitment to provide oral health care to all LRSD pre-K – 5 students
- **Sprint 1Million Partnership**
 - 5yr commitment to provide data plan/devices to all incoming freshmen
- **\$25 million in scholarships earned by graduating seniors**
- **Districtwide "Lemonade War" literacy effort**
 - Now being modeled across U.S.
- **Began implementation of comprehensive energy efficiency plan**

Top 10 High-Achieving Schools in Arkansas (based on ACT Aspire)

RANK	SCHOOL	ASPIRE CATEGORY
#2	Forest Park Elementary	OVERALL
#2	Forest Park Elementary	MATH
#2	Forest Park Elementary	ELA
#4	Forest Park Elementary	SCIENCE
#4	Don Roberts Elementary	OVERALL
#7	Don Roberts Elementary	MATH
#4	Don Roberts Elementary	ELA
#5	Don Roberts Elementary	SCIENCE

Top 5 High-Achieving Schools in Central Arkansas (based on ACT Aspire)

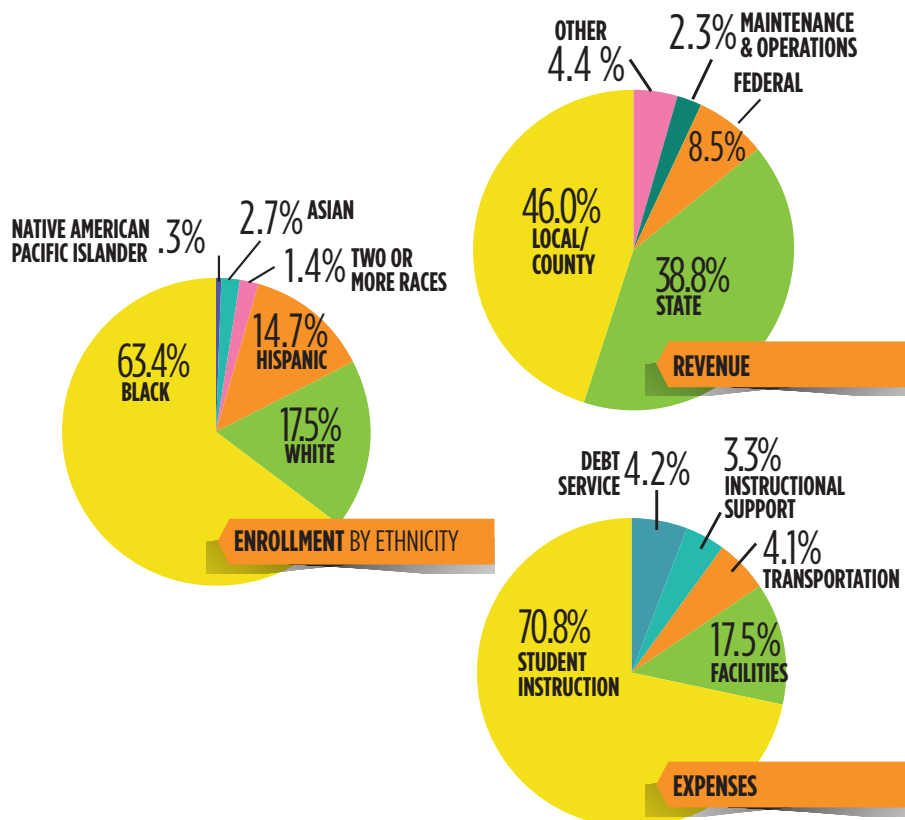
RANK	SCHOOL	ASPIRE CATEGORY
#1	Forest Park Elementary	OVERALL
#1	Forest Park Elementary	MATH
#1	Forest Park Elementary	ELA
#1	Forest Park Elementary	SCIENCE
#2	Don Roberts Elementary	OVERALL
#4	Don Roberts Elementary	MATH
#2	Don Roberts Elementary	ELA
#2	Don Roberts Elementary	SCIENCE

Top 10 High-Achieving/Low-Income Schools in Arkansas (based on ACT Aspire)

RANK	SCHOOL	ASPIRE CATEGORY
#3	Forest Heights STEM	OVERALL
#2	Forest Heights STEM	ELA
#4	Forest Heights STEM	SCIENCE

Top 5 High-Achieving/Low-Income Schools in Central Arkansas (based on ACT Aspire)

RANK	SCHOOL	ASPIRE CATEGORY
#2	Forest Heights STEM	MATH
#1	Forest Heights STEM	ELA
#2	Forest Heights STEM	SCIENCE
#4	Geyer Springs Gifted & Talented	ELA
#4	Geyer Springs Gifted & Talented	SCIENCE
#3	Mann Magnet Middle	MATH
#2	Mann Magnet Middle	ELA
#4	Mann Magnet Middle	SCIENCE



U.S. NEWS 2017 RANKING IN COUNTRY

PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS IN THE UNITED STATES ARE RANKED ACCORDING TO THEIR PERFORMANCE ON STATE ASSESSMENTS AND HOW WELL THEY PREPARE THEIR STUDENTS FOR COLLEGE. OF 22,000 PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS, 6,041 WERE AWARDED A GOLD, SILVER, OR BRONZE MEDAL. **TWO LRSD HIGH SCHOOLS RANKED NATIONALLY— PARKVIEW MAGNET HIGH SCHOOL RANKED #807 AND CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL RANKED #993. AMONG ARKANSAS' 279 ELIGIBLE HIGH SCHOOLS, 82 WERE HONORED. PARKVIEW MAGNET HIGH SCHOOL RANKED #3 AND CENTRAL RANKED #6 AMONG THE HONORED SCHOOLS.**

AP RESULTS

Advanced Placement (AP) program offers high school students a rigorous, college-level curriculum that readies students for college. Students scoring a 3, 4, or 5 on the AP exam may receive college credit. The District had 956 high school students score a 3, 4, or 5 on AP exams. An AP Scholar is a student who received scores of 3 or higher on three or more AP exams. **The district has 256 students with the following designations: AP Scholar, AP Scholar with Honor, AP Scholar with Distinction, National AP Scholar, and AP International Diploma.**

PSAT/NMSQT

The Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) serves as an initial screener for scholars. The nationwide pool of Semifinalists represents fewer than one percent of U.S. high school seniors and only includes the highest scoring students in each state. **13 LRSD students were named National Merit Semifinalists. 3 students named National Hispanic Recognition Scholars.**

REVENUE

Local/County.....	\$156,912,116
State.....	\$132,422,784
Federal Grants.....	\$28,926,528
Dedicated Maintenance & Operations.....	\$7,894,431
Other.....	\$14,888,322
Total Revenue.....	\$341,044,181

Tax Rate (Mills)..... 46.4

EXPENSES

Student Instruction.....	\$241,257,493
Instructional Support.....	\$11,379,814
Transportation.....	\$14,108,445
Support—Facilities.....	\$59,548,326
Debt Service.....	\$14,347,851
Total Expenses.....	\$340,641,929

Expense Per Pupil..... \$14,031

Average Teacher Salary..... \$55,435

First Year Teacher Salary..... \$34,865

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

Total Volunteer Hours..... 863,130

Equivalent in Dollars..... \$20,835,958

Total Number of Partners in Education (PIE)306

2016-2017 School Improvement Designations

Sixteen (16) schools were classified as **Needs Improvement** schools. LRSD identified as a "Needs Improvement" district. **Needs Improvement** schools either test less than 95 percent of their students or miss the achievement and growth targets. A high school will be "Needs Improvement" if it does not meet the graduation rate targets.

Fifteen (15) schools were classified as **Focus** schools. Six "Focus" schools met Year One Exit criteria in 2015-2016: **Bale, King, Stephens, Western Hills Elementary; Pulaski Heights Middle, and Central High.** In 2016-2017, **Pulaski Heights Middle** met Year Two Exit Criteria and was removed from the "Focus" school classification.

Focus schools are identified based on the size of the achievement gap rather than the performance of the *All Students* group. They include 10% of Title I schools with the largest achievement gaps. Non-Title I schools with commensurate magnitude gaps as the Title I schools are also identified.

Seven (7) schools were classified as **Priority** schools. **Priority** schools include 5% of Title I schools with the lowest performance over a three year period. Non-Title I schools with commensurate low performance are also identified as "Needs Improvement Priority" schools.

Three schools (3) were classified as **Academic Distress** schools. The "Academic Distress" classification is any public school in which 49.5% or less of its students achieve proficient or advanced in math and literacy on the state-mandated criterion referenced assessments administered in that district for the most recent three (3) year period.

2016-2017 School Year Accreditation Status: 35 schools fully accredited; 10 schools cited.

A school is cited when one or more teachers are currently working on a second or third year additional licensure plan (ALP).

Distressed Schools will work with School Improvement Leadership and District Improvement Teams, and other stakeholders to meet the goals recommended by the Ark. Dept. of Education

Goal 1 (G1) Develop a clear and shared academic focus • **Goal 2 (G2)** Develop a positive school culture conducive to learning and staff professional growth • **Goal 3 (G3)** Develop a culture of continuous improvement

CLOVERDALE

- G1** – Increase achievement by a performance level in one or more content areas on ACT Aspire Interim & Summative Assessments for 50% of students
- G2** – Students will receive effective instruction, with instructional strategies and interventions geared to their individual learning and behavioral needs by expanding the implementation of literacy and math interventions for students who are not performing at grade level
 - Prof. Develop: ESL instructional strategies & differentiation strategies
- G3** – Focus on Positive Behavior Intervention System (PBIS) to improve student behavior and decrease discipline referrals
 - Increase parent involvement in an effort to improve the school culture and increase student achievement

HENDERSON

- G1** – Increase achievement in math and writing with 51% of the student population performing at the ready level as evidenced by the ACT Aspire assessment
- G2** – Use data to identify instructional areas that need school-wide improvement
- G3** – Provide student-centered learning environments (i.e., blended instruction), differentiating instruction and meeting individual student needs in order to improve student engagement outcomes

HALL

- G1** – Fifteen percent of the combined 9th and 10th grade student math and reading scores will increase from 2015-2016
- G2** – Engage the Hall staff and Leadership Team in developing a shared mission, vision and core values.
- G3** – Incorporate AVID Strategies schoolwide
 - Increase the number of students completing Credit Recovery
 - Promoting positive behaviors and student engagement in all classes
 - Use the Innovation Council to explore Schools of Innovation redesign models and partner with Ark. Office of School Innovation for application process

OUR SCHOOLS & COMMUNITY



THE POWER OF US!



Little Rock School District • 810 W. Markham St. • Little Rock, AR 72201 • 501-447-1000 • www.lrsd.org

