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The Orange Public School District Placed on the College Board's 8th Annual AP[®] District Honor Roll for Significant Gains in Student Access and Success

447 School Districts Across the U.S. and Canada Are Honored

Orange, NJ - The Orange Public School District is one of 447 school districts in the U.S. and Canada being honored by the College Board with placement on the 8th Annual AP[®] District Honor Roll. This is the second time that Orange has been honored with this distinction. The district previously received this recognition in 2014. To be included on the 8th Annual Honor Roll, the Orange Public School District had to, since 2015, increase the number of students participating in AP while also increasing or maintaining the percentage of students earning AP Exam scores of 3 or higher. Reaching these goals shows that this district is successfully identifying motivated, academically prepared students who are ready for AP.

The Orange Public School District is one of thirty-nine districts in New Jersey to be placed on the 8th Annual AP[®] District Honor Roll. Of the New Jersey districts, six have 30% or greater enrollment of Native American, African American, and Hispanic/Latino students. Orange is the only district in this group that has received this distinction more than once.

“We are extremely proud of this accomplishment, as it demonstrates that we are providing advanced opportunities for our students,” said Interim Superintendent of Schools Ronald C. Lee. “Our students are proving they are capable of meeting the challenges of advanced coursework in preparation for college and careers.”

National data from 2017 show that among Native American /Alaska Native, Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino, and Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander students with a high degree of readiness for AP, only about half are participating. The first step to getting more of these students to participate is to give them access. Courses must be made available, gatekeeping must stop, and doors must be equitably opened. The Orange Public School District is committed to expanding the availability of AP courses among prepared and motivated students of all backgrounds.

“Congratulations to all the educators and administrators in this district who have worked to clear a path for more students of all backgrounds to participate and succeed in AP,” said Trevor Packer, head of AP and Instruction. “These educators and administrators are fostering a culture in their schools and classrooms that allows students to face new challenges and build the confidence to succeed.”

Helping more students learn at a higher level *and* earn higher AP scores is an objective of all members of the AP community, from AP teachers to district and school administrators to college

professors. Many districts are experimenting with initiatives and strategies to see how they can expand access and improve student performance at the same time.

In 2017, more than 4,000 colleges and universities around the world received AP scores for college credit, advanced placement, or both, and/or consideration in the admissions process. Inclusion in the 8th Annual AP District Honor Roll is based on a review of three years of AP data, from 2015 to 2017, looking across 38 AP Exams, including world language and culture. The following criteria were used.

Districts must:

- Increase participation/access to AP by at least 4% in large districts, at least 6% in medium districts, and at least 11% in small districts;
- Increased or maintained the percentage of Native American/Alaska Native, Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino, and Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander students taking exams and increased or maintained the percentage of American Indian/Alaska Native, Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino, and Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander students scoring 3+ on at least one AP Exam; and
- Improve or maintain performance levels when comparing the 2017 percentage of students scoring a 3 or higher to the 2015 percentage, *unless* the district has already attained a performance level at which more than 70% of its AP students earn a 3 or higher.

When these outcomes have been achieved among an AP student population in which 30% or more are underrepresented minority students (Native American/Alaska Native, Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino and Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander) and/or 30% or more are low-income students (students who qualify for free or reduced-price lunch), a symbol has been affixed to the district name to highlight this work.

The complete 8th Annual AP District Honor Roll can be found

here: <https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/score-reports-data/awards/honor-roll>

About **The Orange Public School District** School District

The Orange Township Public School District provides a wide range of opportunities and programs to meet the needs of over 5,766 students. The district maintains seven elementary schools, a middle school academy, a high school, an alternative high school, a gifted and talented academy, a STEM academy, and two early childhood centers. The school district serves a diverse population that includes students from various African, Caribbean and Latin American countries. The student body is 64% Black/African American and 34% Hispanic. Students are provided with a well-rounded education, meeting the New Jersey Department of Education's academic standards, to ensure that they are college and career ready.

For more information visit www.orange.k12.nj.us.