West Essex Regional School District

Academic Achievement
March 9, 2020

Presented by Ryan Gupta
Director of Curriculum and Instruction
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Media Rankings
## West Essex Rankings

### NJ Monthly
- **2020** - ? (SY1819)
- **2018** - #58 (SY1617)
- **2016** - #55 (SY1415)
- **2014** - #25 (SY1213)
- **2012** - #16 (SY1011)
- **2010** - #36 (SY0809)
- **2008** - #48 (SY0607)
- **2006** - #34 (SY0405)

### US News & World Report
- **2019** - #149 (SY1617)
- **2018** - Unranked (SY1516)

### Niche.com
- **2020** - #41 (SY1718)
- **2019** - #26 (SY1617)
- **2018** - #10 (SY1516)
- **2017** - #41 (SY1415)
- **2016** - #35 (SY1314)

### Athletics
- **2020** - #1
- **2019** - #8

### Safety
- **2020** - #3
- **2019** - #3

*Overall includes:
  - Academics (60%)
  - Diversity (10%)
  - Teachers (10%)
  - Overall Feedback (10%)
  - Sports (2.5%)
  - Health & Safety (2.5%)
  - Resources & Facilities (2.5%)
  - Clubs & Activities (2.5%)
### Ranking Methodologies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Media Source</th>
<th>2 vs. 4 Year College</th>
<th>Grad. Rate</th>
<th>PARCC/NJSLA</th>
<th>SAT/ACT</th>
<th>AP Passing Rate</th>
<th>AP Enroll.</th>
<th>Student/Teacher Ratio</th>
<th>Particip. in the Arts</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>NJ Monthly</strong></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>2.67</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>AP Courses Offered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>US News &amp; World Report</strong></td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>30% 12th graders only</td>
<td>10% 12th graders only</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>Diversity/Equity Gap 10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Niche.com (Academics ONLY)</strong></td>
<td>Survey 22.5%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>Survey 27.5%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>Surveys on Academics 10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Newsweek</strong></td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>17.5%</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>17.5%</td>
<td>Student/Counselor 10%</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>Student Retention 10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Clink on Media Source links for more information on ranking methodologies.
New Jersey Student Learning Assessment
## PARCC/NJSLA Results
### 5 year comparison
#### English Language Arts/Literacy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WE Results (NJ Results)</th>
<th>SY1415</th>
<th>SY1516</th>
<th>SY1617</th>
<th>SY1718</th>
<th>*SY1819</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ELA 7 ≥ Level 4</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>84%</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(52%)</td>
<td>(57%)</td>
<td>(60%)</td>
<td>(63%)</td>
<td>(63%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELA 8 ≥ Level 4</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(51%)</td>
<td>(56%)</td>
<td>(59%)</td>
<td>(60%)</td>
<td>(63%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELA 9 ≥ Level 4</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(39%)</td>
<td>(48%)</td>
<td>(51%)</td>
<td>(54%)</td>
<td>(55%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELA 10 ≥ Level 4</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(36%)</td>
<td>(43%)</td>
<td>(45%)</td>
<td>(50%)</td>
<td>(58%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELA 11 ≥ Level 4</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>*n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(41%)</td>
<td>(39%)</td>
<td>(37%)</td>
<td>(38%)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*In 2019, PARCC transitioned to NJSLA and 11th grade students were no longer tested*
### PARCC/NJSLA Results

#### 5 Year Comparison

**Mathematics**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WE Results (NJ Results)</th>
<th>SY1415</th>
<th>SY1516</th>
<th>SY1617</th>
<th>SY1718</th>
<th>*SY1819</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Math 7 ≥ Level 4</td>
<td>43% (37%)</td>
<td>49% (38%)</td>
<td>52% (40%)</td>
<td>62% (43%)</td>
<td>60% (42%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math 8 ≥ Level 4</td>
<td>25% (24%)</td>
<td>46% (26%)</td>
<td>45% (28%)</td>
<td>51% (28%)</td>
<td>57% (29%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Algebra I ≥ Level 4</td>
<td>43% (36%)</td>
<td>59% (41%)</td>
<td>55% (42%)</td>
<td>70% (46%)</td>
<td>70% (43%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geometry ≥ Level 4</td>
<td>19% (23%)</td>
<td>42% (27%)</td>
<td>38% (30%)</td>
<td>44% (30%)</td>
<td>57% (31%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Algebra II ≥ Level 4</td>
<td>32% (24%)</td>
<td>30% (25%)</td>
<td>30% (27%)</td>
<td>32% (29%)</td>
<td>*92% (46%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*In 2019, PARCC transitioned to NJSLA and 11th grade students were no longer tested*
SAT Scores
### West Essex SAT Results

#### Reading/Writing, Mathematics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading/ERW</td>
<td>513(497)</td>
<td>508(496)</td>
<td>507(496)</td>
<td>528(501)</td>
<td>518(500)</td>
<td>541(494)</td>
<td>565(530)</td>
<td>591(547)</td>
<td>579(544)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>+16</td>
<td>+12</td>
<td>+11</td>
<td>+27</td>
<td>+18</td>
<td>+46</td>
<td>+35</td>
<td>+44</td>
<td>+35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>549(514)</td>
<td>538(514)</td>
<td>539(514)</td>
<td>562(523)</td>
<td>541(521)</td>
<td>576(508)</td>
<td>568(526)</td>
<td>584(547)</td>
<td>588(545)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>+35</td>
<td>+24</td>
<td>+25</td>
<td>+39</td>
<td>+20</td>
<td>+68</td>
<td>+42</td>
<td>+37</td>
<td>+43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ERW + Math</td>
<td>1062(1011)</td>
<td>1046(1010)</td>
<td>1046(1010)</td>
<td>1090(1024)</td>
<td>1059(1021)</td>
<td>1117(1002)</td>
<td>1133(1056)</td>
<td>1175(1094)</td>
<td>1168(1090)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>+51</td>
<td>+36</td>
<td>+36</td>
<td>+66</td>
<td>+38</td>
<td>+115</td>
<td>+77</td>
<td>+88</td>
<td>+78</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1Scores represent West Essex Seniors who took the SAT at any time during their HS years. For students who took the exam more than once, only their most recent score was used.

2Only odd year Classes are used for NJ Monthly rankings.
Advanced Placement Exams
# Advanced Placement Participation & Performance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Students Summary</th>
<th>SY 09-10</th>
<th>SY 10-11</th>
<th>SY 11-12</th>
<th>SY 12-13</th>
<th>SY 13-14</th>
<th>SY 14-15</th>
<th>SY 15-16</th>
<th>SY 16-17</th>
<th>SY 17-18</th>
<th>SY 18-19</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total AP enrollment</td>
<td>377</td>
<td>419</td>
<td>436</td>
<td>491</td>
<td>568</td>
<td>578</td>
<td>658</td>
<td>738</td>
<td>843</td>
<td>714</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of AP Exams taken</td>
<td>355</td>
<td>317</td>
<td>341</td>
<td>453</td>
<td>545</td>
<td>561</td>
<td>649</td>
<td>724</td>
<td>836</td>
<td>716</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of Students who took the exam</td>
<td>94.2%</td>
<td>75.7%</td>
<td>78.2%</td>
<td>92.3%</td>
<td>95.8%</td>
<td>97.1%</td>
<td>98.6%</td>
<td>98.1%</td>
<td>99.2%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of Students enrolled in 1 or more AP courses</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>198</td>
<td>221</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>261</td>
<td>279</td>
<td>296</td>
<td>286</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of Total AP Students with Scores of ≥ 3</td>
<td>75.6%</td>
<td>88.7%</td>
<td>85.2%</td>
<td>84.3%</td>
<td>85.1%</td>
<td>84.5%</td>
<td>76.2%</td>
<td>78.9%</td>
<td>82.8%</td>
<td>82.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. In 2010 and 2013-2019, students were required to take the AP Exam in order to receive AP weighting.
2. In 2011, students were NOT required to take the AP exam.
3. In 2012, students were required to take the exam, but those who did not still received AP weighting.
Important to Remember about Rankings

- Provides a snapshot of the school, based primarily on standardized test scores
  - Does not measure intangibles (climate, culture, school spirit, student successes outside of the classroom, course offerings, support staff/programs, opportunities for all students...)

- Does not compare “apples to apples”
  - Socioeconomic status (DFG)
  - Size of the school/district, student enrollment
  - Student attendance/mobility rates
  - Philosophical differences
  - K-12 district versus regional school district

- Is still important to students, staff, parents, and community members, and WE want our rankings to accurately reflect the achievement of our students
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Programs/Activities to Accomplish Objectives</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Improve classroom instruction            | - Prioritizing Professional Development (PD) for admin., teachers, support staff...  
  • Over 200 PD opportunities provided thus far (mental health/SEL, S.T.E.M., reading, technology, safety/security, Spec. Ed, H.I.B., instructional strategies, ...)  
  - Optimizing Professional Learning Communities (PLCs)  
  • Time during faculty meetings, department meetings, and PD days for teachers to collaborate on best practices, plan/grade common assessments, turnkey PD training, and implement learned skills and strategies |
| Raise academic expectations              | - Increasing use of Authentic Assessments (Real-world, skills-based)  
  - Emphasizing an interdisciplinary approach to learning (sustainability initiative)  
  - Introducing AP Capstone, Freshman Seminar, additional SUPA courses  
  - Emphasizing student growth at every level (SGOs, MAP, Achieve3000, Math IXL...)  
  - Increasing emphasis on Social Emotional Learning (SEL), Health & Wellness  
  - Replacing Extended Math with skill-specific remediation  
  - Allowing all 7th grade students to demonstrate skills/abilities and challenge them accordingly |
| Improve standardized test scores (SAT, ACT, AP, NJSLA...) | - Analyzing all forms of data to identify strengths, weaknesses, and trends.  
  • Adjusted MAP test dates in order for our teachers to better utilize the data  
  • Attended Data workshops and provided in-house training to all MS teachers  
  • Formed Data Teams with administrators and teachers  
  • Utilizing a data consultant – presentation to teachers and administrators  
  • Piloting online tool to help collect and analyze data (LinkIt)  
  - Increasing alignment of assessments to expectations of NJSLA, SAT, ACT, AP, etc.  
  - Continuing to emphasize the importance of all standardized tests to students and parents via district website, e-mail blasts, board meetings, faculty meetings... |
Any Questions?

Comments?
THANK YOU
to our students, teachers, and staff for their sacrifices & dedication.
to our Superintendent and the Board of Education for their consistent support.