West Essex Regional School District

Academic Achievement

March 9, 2020

Presented by Ryan Gupta

Director of Curriculum and Instruction

Table of Contents

Media Rankings

- **West Essex Rankings.....4**
- **Methodologies.....5**

Standardized Test Scores

- **PARCC/NJSLA.....6**
- **SAT.....9**
- **AP.....11**

Important to Remember about Rankings.....13

Objectives for 2019-2020.....14

Media Rankings

BEST
& WORLD REPORT
U.S.News
RANKINGS

2019 BEST
SCHOOLS
NICHE

Newsweek
AMERICA'S TOP HIGH SCHOOLS

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)

Newsweek

- 2015 - #44 (SY1314)

Niche.com

*District Overall

- 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

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

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

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

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

PARCC/NJSLA Results
5 Year Comparison
Mathematics

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

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

SAT Scores

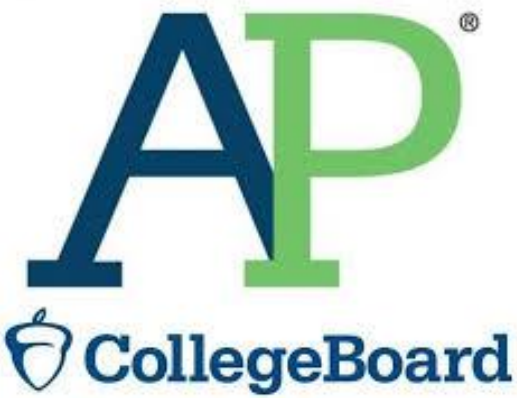
West Essex SAT Results
Reading/Writing, Mathematics

[1]Classes of/ Subject	[2]2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Reading/ ERW	513 (497) +16	508 (496) +12	507 (496) +11	528 (501) +27	518 (500) +18	541 (494) +46	565 (530) +35	591 (547) +44	**579** (544) +35
Math	549 (514) +35	538 (514) +24	539 (514) +25	562 (523) +39	541 (521) +20	576 (508) +68	568 (526) +42	584 (547) +37	**588** (545) +43
ERW + Math	***1062*** (1011) +51	***1046*** (1010) +36	***1046*** (1010) +36	***1090*** (1024) +66	***1059*** (1021) +38	***1117*** (1002) +115	***1133*** (1056) +77	***1175*** (1094) +88	***1168*** (1090) +78

[1]Scores 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.

[2]Only odd year Classes are used for NJ Monthly rankings.

Advanced Placement Exams



Advanced Placement Participation & Performance

Total Students Summary	*[1]SY 09-10*	*[2]SY 10-11*	*[3]SY 11-12*	*SY 12-13*	*SY 13-14*	*SY 14-15*	*SY 15-16*	*SY 16-17*	*SY 17-18*	*SY 18-19*
Total AP enrollment	377	419	436	491	568	578	658	738	843	714
# of AP Exams taken	355	317	341	453	545	561	649	724	836	716
% of Students who took the exam	94.2%	75.7%	78.2%	92.3%	95.8%	97.1%	98.6%	98.1%	99.2%	100%
# of Students enrolled in 1 or more AP courses	*156*	*142*	*155*	*198*	*221*	*220*	*261*	*279*	*296*	*286*
% of Total AP Students with Scores of ≥ 3	**75.6%**	**88.7%**	**85.2%**	**84.3%**	**85.1%**	**84.5%**	**76.2%**	**78.9%**	**82.8%**	**82.5%**

[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

GOAL: IMPROVE STUDENT GROWTH & ACHIEVEMENT

Objectives	Programs/Activities to Accomplish Objectives
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.