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High Schools in HCS Earn AP Honors Designations

Latest honors continue trend for district high school achievement recognitions

HENRY COUNTY, GA – A total of nine Henry County Schools have been recognized with honors for their AP coursework and student performance as announced by the Georgia Department of Education. The designation as an AP Honor School is based on testing data for the 2020 senior class.

There are eight categories for recognition, and Henry County Schools had at least one high school earn AP Honors in five out of the eight categories. The categories with Henry County high schools earning honors include the following: AP Access and Support, AP Humanities, AP Humanities Achievement, AP STEM, and AP STEM Achievement. Seven of the schools honored received recognition for more than one category.

Seven schools and one program – Dutchtown, Eagle's Landing, Hampton, Luella, McDonough, Stockbridge, and Woodland high schools, as well as the Academy for Advanced Studies – earned AP Honor Roll status as AP Access and Support Schools. This represents one more high school in the district earning this honor when compared to the previous year's data. AP Access and Support Schools are schools with at least 30 percent of their AP exams taken by students who identify as African American and/or Hispanic, and 30 percent of all AP exams earning scores of 3 or higher. Only 84 schools in the state earned this honor.

Union Grove High School was one of the district's seven schools to earn multiple AP honors in the latest announcements, and Principal Ryan Meeks attributes this feat to the dedication of his teachers and the perseverance of his former senior class to ensure that the hurdle of a pandemic did not derail their academic focus.

"Last school year was a unique challenge for everyone with regards to COVID-19," said Meeks. "Our seniors were committed to wrapping up their school career with high academic achievement marks, and the latest recognition for our school speaks to the incredible focus of both the students and their teachers. We are thankful to be able to celebrate these AP honors once again."

Union Grove High School earned a total of four AP Honors this year.

The AP Humanities designation was earned by two schools in the district, up from one the previous school year. Both Ola High School and Union Grove High School earned this designation which means they had a minimum of five students testing in all of the following AP courses: at least one ELA course, two history/social sciences courses, one fine arts course, and one world language course. There were 75 schools in the state earning this honor.

Ola High School and Union Grove High School also earned recognition as AP Humanities Achievement schools, a newer AP Honors category. Ola High School also earned this honor in

2020, the first year it was recognized. To earn this honor, a school must have met the requirements of the AP Humanities honor and at least 50 percent of all AP Humanities exams had scores of three or higher. Only 65 Georgia high schools earned this honor.

Seven schools – Dutchtown, Eagle’s Landing, Luella, Ola, Stockbridge, Union Grove, and Woodland high schools – were named AP STEM schools. This also represents a one-school increase in the number of schools earning this honor when looking at the previous year’s data. AP STEM Schools are schools with a minimum of five students testing in at least four AP STEM courses (AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, AP Statistics, AP Biology, AP Chemistry, AP Environmental Science, AP Physics 1, AP Physics 2, AP Physics C, AP Computer Science A, AP Computer Science Principles). There were 175 high schools earning this status.

AP STEM Achievement status was garnered by three schools in Henry County Schools. Eagle’s Landing, Luella, and Union Grove high schools met the requirements that each school had a minimum of five students testing in at least four AP STEM courses, and at least 50 percent of all AP STEM exams taken earned scores of 3 or higher. A total of 100 schools in Georgia were named AP STEM Achievement schools.

Superintendent Mary Elizabeth Davis was pleased to see the latest achievements for the special Class of 2020.

“In a school year that will be mostly remembered for working through a pandemic, our Class of 2020 made sure that their hard work would pay off,” said Davis. “The announcement of our district’s AP Honor schools is just one remarkable example of the tenacity of a class that will surely be remembered for their incredible achievements in the classroom. We could not be prouder of our students and teachers for these incredible academic honors.”

For more information on Henry County Schools, visit www.henry.k12.ga.us.

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