

**PRESS RELEASE**

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**Prescott School District Placed on the College Board's 8th Annual AP<sup>®</sup> District Honor Roll  
for Significant Gains in Student Access and Success**

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

**Prescott, WI**— Prescott 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<sup>®</sup> District Honor Roll. Only 25 Wisconsin school districts and 7 Minnesota Districts were recognized for this achievement. To be included on the 8th Annual Honor Roll, Prescott School District had to, since 2015, increase the number of students participating in AP classes *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.

“I am so happy for our students, staff, and community,” expressed Superintendent Rick Spicuzza. “This has been a big point of emphasis in Prescott the last three years and it is nice to see external recognition. Expanding the AP offerings to more students, in more courses, and retain high levels of performance speaks highly of our staff and student engagement.

Dr. Spicuzza added, “It is a testament that clearly articulated, high expectations can be met and we will continue to place an emphasis on elevating performance for all students in Prescott School District.”

“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 American Indian/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.

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. Prescott School District is committed to expanding the availability of AP courses among prepared and motivated students of all backgrounds. When these outcomes have been achieved among an AP student population in which 30% or more are underrepresented minority students (American Indian/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>

For more information about Prescott School District, please visit [www.prescott.k12.wi.us](http://www.prescott.k12.wi.us)

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