



For Immediate Release: December 9, 2017

Naples Central 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

Naples, NY — The Naples Central 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. To be included on the 8th Annual Honor Roll, Naples Central 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.

“Being one of only twenty-six school districts recognized in New York State is a real honor,” said Superintendent Matt Frahm. “We know that it is possible to expand access while also increasing excellence, and it is a real credit to the hard work of our students and staff.” When asked about the specific Naples educators who teach AP courses, Frahm replied, “One would be hard pressed to find instructors more dedicated than Mr. Clark, Mr. Freivald, Mr. Mannella, Mr. Petrie, Mr. Robison, Mrs. Weller, and Ms. Wolfe.” He went on to say, “These individuals provide the rigor as well as the support that students need in order to experience success in AP courses, and they do it in a way that turns students on to a life of the mind.”

National data from 2017 show that among American Indian/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 Naples Central 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 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.

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>

About the Naples Central School District

Located in one of the most scenic corners of New York State, the Naples Central School District encompasses 118 square miles of the Finger Lakes region. Known for its vibrant village and natural beauty, Naples is a destination for individuals interested in hiking, fishing, hunting, skiing, wine tasting, the arts, and grape pies.

The Naples Central School District has a proud tradition of preparing graduates for success down the road and around the world. Whether students are interested in attending college, joining the world of work, or serving in the armed forces, the District provides a wide range of opportunities to engage the unique needs and interests of each child. Students, staff, parents, and residents are proud of their District, and they talk often of the “Naples family.”

With a reputation for academic success, the Naples Central School District attracts talented and dynamic educators who find the school a personally and professionally rewarding place to work. Parents play a special role in school-related events, and many of them serve as classroom volunteers, members of the Naples School Association (NSA), the Naples Sports Booster Club, or the Band Booster Club.