

Five County High Schools Ranked in Newsweek for AP Efforts

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Five Charles County Public high schools were recently recognized for their efforts in encouraging students to take rigorous courses and their efforts in the area of Advanced Placement classes.

Henry E. Lackey, La Plata, Maurice J. McDonough, Thomas Stone and Westlake high schools were ranked in the top 1,500 high schools nationwide in Newsweek Magazine for their percentages of students enrolled in AP classes as well as taking the accompanying exams.

Public schools are ranked according to a ratio devised by Jay Mathews of the Washington Post, which is the AP and/or International Baccalaureate tests taken by all students at a school in 2008 divided by the number of graduating seniors. All schools on the list have an index of at least 1.000; they are in the top 6 percent of public schools measured this way.

Additionally, Maryland ranked first in the nation. Newsweek's article, "Mid-Atlantic Excellence," found that Maryland has the highest percentage of high schools on the list, with 29.5 percent, followed by Virginia with 26.6 percent.

North Point High School was not included in the rankings because they did not have a graduating class in 2008.

The full listing is available at www.newsweek.com/id/202022.

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