

School District of New Berlin Earns Spot on College Board's Advanced Placement District Honor Roll for Significant Gains in Student Access, Success

New Berlin, Wis. – The School District of New Berlin is one of 433 school districts in the U.S. and Canada being honored by the College Board with placement on the seventh annual AP District Honor Roll.

To be included on the honor roll, the SDNB had to, since 2014, 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 the district is successfully identifying motivated, academically prepared students who are ready for AP.

“Offering a variety of Advanced Placement tests – more so than ever before – and encouraging students to take those exams to possibly earn college credits fits into our college and career readiness goals for every student,” Superintendent Joe Garza said. “We’re proud of this recognition because we’re proud of the courses we offer, the students who take and excel in them, and the staff that goes to great lengths to teach college-level content.”

The SDNB offers more than two dozen AP classes. Most recently, the district added AP Human Geography for the 2014-15 school year, and AP Microeconomics, AP Computer Science Principles and AP Seminar for 2015-16. AP Research, the second course to the AP Capstone program, along with AP Chinese Language and Culture will be added in 2017-18.

“Congratulations to all the teachers and administrators in this district who have worked so tirelessly to both expand access to AP and also to help students succeed on the AP Exams,” said Trevor Packer, the College Board’s head of AP and Instruction. “These teachers and administrators are delivering real opportunity in their schools and classrooms, and students are rising to the challenge.”

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 2016, 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 admission process.

Inclusion on the AP District Honor Roll is based on a review of three years of AP data (2014-16), looking across 37 AP Exams, including world language and culture. The following criteria were used. Districts must:

- Increase participation/access to AP by at least 4 percent in large districts, at least 6 percent in medium districts, and at least 11 percent in small districts;
- Improve or maintain performance levels when comparing the 2016 percentage of students scoring a 3 or higher to the 2014 percentage, *unless* the district has already attained a performance level at which more than 70 percent of its AP students earn a 3 or higher; and,
- Increase or maintain the percentage of exams taken by black/African American, Hispanic/Latino, and American Indian/Alaska Native students.

The complete seventh annual AP District Honor Roll can be found [here](#).