# Office for Education Policy

### ARKANSAS EDUCATION REPORT Volume 8, Issue 2

# OUTSTANDING EDUCATIONAL PERFORMANCE AWARDS: HIGHLIGHTING HIGH ACHIEVING HIGH SCHOOLS, 2011

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#### V. 2011 OEP AWARDS: HIGH ACHIEVING HIGH SCHOOLS

This section highlights high-performing high schools across Arkansas based on End-of-Course (EOC) examinations in Algebra, Geometry, Biology, and the Grade 11 Literacy from the 2010-11 academic year. This section is divided into subsections based on scores from each of the four tests. Subsections are divided as follows: the top 20 high schools, top 10 "high poverty" high schools, and top five high schools by region.

Two of these exams are "high stakes" tests. The EOC for Algebra I became high stakes in 2009-10. The Grade 11 Literacy examination will become high stakes in 2013. This means they will function as exit exams such that students must score proficient or advanced (or pass some alternative exam) to receive a high school diploma.<sup>2</sup>

#### A. Algebra End-of-Course Exam, 2011

Junior high and high schools with the highest performance in Algebra are given below in Table 53.<sup>3</sup> At least 92% of their students scored proficient or higher on the exam.

These are not the only schools reaching high levels of achievement in Algebra. In all, 254 of the 398 schools with students taking the Algebra EOC had 75% or more students score proficient or advanced. Of these 254 schools, 135 are middle or junior high schools, while 119 are regular high schools.

The geographical distribution of these top 20 schools is uneven. With 10 schools on the list, the Northwest region has almost half of the schools represented. The state's Southwest, Northeast, and Central regions are evenly represented by 4 or 5 schools on the list. The Southeast has no schools in the top 20 for performance on the Algebra I EOC exam.

Algebra I is generally taken during the ninth grade; however, some students may elect to take this course earlier if they have the prerequisite knowledge. This may result in a small number of the most advanced students taking the exam in the 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade. For this reason, schools have been split into groups based on whether the school serves 9<sup>th</sup> grade students. Because of significant differences between students who take algebra in the 8th and 9th grades, middle schools tend to have higher proficiency levels than do schools which serve 9<sup>th</sup> grade students. In fact, 54 middle or junior high schools had 100% of students score proficient or advanced, as presented in Table 54 below in this section.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Algebra I Biology and Geometry EOC exams are given twice annually in January and again in April; the Grade 11 Literacy Exam is administered in March.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See the OEP Education Policy News, Vol. 6 Is. 3 (<a href="http://www.uark.edu/ua/oep/newsletters/2009/Fall-2009b.pdf">http://www.uark.edu/ua/oep/newsletters/2009/Fall-2009b.pdf</a>) and Policy Brief, Vol. 5 Is. 8 (<a href="http://www.uark.edu/ua/oep/policy">http://www.uark.edu/ua/oep/policy</a> briefs/2008/Stakes-Increase-for-End-of-Course-Exams.pdf</a>) for more information on these EOC exams and the new regulations making them high stakes exams. At the time of this publication, the ADE has not released the passing rates on the EOC high stakes exams.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The list includes 23 schools because four schools tied for 20th place, each with 92% proficiency.

Table 53: Top 20 Regular High<sup>4</sup> Schools in Arkansas Based on EOC Algebra Achievement

	School (District)	Region	Grades Served	# of Test Takers	% Proficient/ Advanced
1	Emerson High School (Emerson-Taylor)	SW	7-12	26	100%
2	Benton Junior High School (Benton) ♦	CN	8-9	300	98%
2	Mount Ida High School (Mount Ida) ♦	SW	7-12	38	98%
2	Parkers Chapel High School (Parkers Chapel)	SW	7-12	43	98%
5	Caddo Hills High School (Caddo Hills)	SW	7-12	28	96%
5	Haas Hall Academy (Haas Hall Academy)	NW	8-12	50	96%
5	Huntsville High School (Huntsville)	NW	9-12	48	96%
5	Raymond E. Wells Junior High School (Greenwood) ♦	NW	P-9	269	96%
5	West Side High School (West Side)	NE	7-12	29	96%
10	Cotter High School (Cotter)	NW	7-12	38	95%
10	Vilonia Junior High School (Vilonia) ♦	CN	8-9	201	95%
12	Armorel High School (Armorel)	NE	7-12	36	94%
12	Dardanelle High School (Dardanelle) ♦	NW	9-12	100	94%
12	Mammoth Spring High School (Mammoth Spring)	NE	7-12	38	94%
12	Salem High School (Salem)	NE	7-12	63	94%
16	Bigelow High School (East End) ◆	NW	7-12	42	93%
16	Redfield Junior High School (White Hall)	CN	7-9	29	93%
16	Taylor High School (Emerson-Taylor) ♦	SW	7-12	14	93%
16	Woodland Junior High School (Fayetteville) ◆	NW	8-9	284	93%
20	Benton Co. School of the Arts H.S. (Benton County)	NW	9-12	52	92%
20	Greenbrier Junior High School (Greenbrier)	CN	8-9	236	92%
20	Marshall High School (Searcy County)	NW	7-12	88	92%
20	Scranton High School (Scranton)	NW	7-12	35	92%

<sup>♦</sup> Indicates school placed on same list in 2009-10.

We would like to draw special attention to **Huntsville High School**, **Dardanelle High School**, **and Benton County School of the Arts High School** for their achievement on the Algebra I EOC. These schools are being evaluated on their students from only grades (9-12). Thus these overall scores do not "benefit" from the performance of high-achieving 7th, and 8th grade students who take the Algebra I EOC early. We commend these schools on this achievement!

 $<sup>^4</sup>$  A school was designated a regular algebra school if it served students in the  $9^{\text{th}}$  grade.

The following 54 schools achieved 100% proficiency among their 7th and 8th grade students taking Algebra I. These schools' performance, while commendable, cannot be fairly compared with performance for schools offering Algebra I in the 9th grade. Most often, students taking Algebra I in the 7th or 8th grade are the most advanced students in the school. Students taking Algebra I in the 9th grade or higher are drawn from all levels of ability and achievement.

Table 54: Middle and Junior High Schools with 100% Proficient and Advanced Based on EOC Algebra Achievement

School (District)	Region	Grades Served	# of Test Takers	% Proficient/ Advanced
Atkins Middle School (Atkins) ♦	NW	5-8	16	100%
Benton County School of the Arts Elem./Mid. (Benton County) ◆	NW	K-8	20	100%
Berryville Middle School (Berryville) ♦	NW	6-8	27	100%
Bethel Middle School (Bryant) ♦	CN	6-8	94	100%
Bismarck Middle School (Bismarck) ♦	CN	5-8	30	100%
Blytheville Middle School (Blytheville) ♦‡	NE	7-8	35	100%
Bob Courtway Middle School (Conway) ♦	CN	7-8	68	100%
Cabe Middle School (Gurdon) ♦‡	SW	5-8	24	100%
Carl Stuart Middle School (Conway) ♦	CN	7-8	95	100%
Dardanelle Middle School (Dardanelle) ◆‡	NW	7-8	21	100%
Dover Middle School (Dover) ♦	NW	5-8	29	100%
Eliza Miller Junior High School (Helena/W. Helena) ◆‡	SE	7-8	11	100%
Elmwood Middle School (Rogers) ♦	NW	6-8	97	100%
Flippin Middle School (Flippin)	NW	6-8	22	100%
Fouke Middle School (Fouke)	SW	6-8	26	100%
Gary E. Cobb Middle School (Genoa Central)	SW	5-8	22	100%
Glen Rose Middle School (Glen Rose) ♦	CN	5-8	21	100%
Goza Middle School (Arkadelphia)	SW	6-8	57	100%
Gravette Middle School (Gravette) ♦	NW	6-8	56	100%
Green Forest Intermediate School (Green Forest) ‡	NW	4-8	45	100%
Helen Tyson Middle School (Springdale) ♦‡	NW	6-7	41	100%
Hellstern Middle School (Springdale) ♦	NW	6-7	48	100%
Holt Middle School (Fayetteville) ♦	NW	5-7	14	100%
Huntsville Middle School (Huntsville) ◆	NW	6-8	17	100%
Jesseville Middle School (Jesseville)	CN	6-8	25	100%
Lakewood Middle School (North Little Rock)	CN	7-8	130	100%
Lamar Middle School (Lamar) ♦	NW	5-8	20	100%
Lavaca Middle School (Lavaca) ♦	NW	5-8	19	100%
Lincoln Junior High School (Bentonville) ♦	NW	7-8	139	100%
Lonoke Middle School (Lonoke) ♦	CN	6-8	35	100%

<sup>♦</sup> Indicates school placed on same list in 2009-10.

<sup>‡</sup> Indicates high poverty school

Table 54: Middle and Junior High Schools with 100% Proficient and Advanced Based on EOC Algebra Achievement

School (District)	Region	Grades Served	# of Test Takers	% Proficient/ Advanced
Malvern Junior High School (Malvern) ♦	CN	7-8	21	100%
Manila Middle School (Manila) ◆	NE	5-8	20	100%
Mann Magnet Middle School (Little Rock)	CN	6-8	64	100%
Mansfield Middle School (Mansfield) ◆	NW	5-8	31	100%
Maumelle Middle School (Pulaski County)	CN	6-8	65	100%
McNair Middle School (Fayetteville) ◆	NW	6-7	33	100%
McRae Middle School (Prescott) ‡	SW	5-8	21	100%
Mena Middle School (Mena) ♦	NE	7-8	57	100%
Monticello Middle School (Monticello) ♦	SE	6-8	52	100%
Mountain View Middle School (Mountain View) ♦	NE	6-8	34	100%
Newport Junior High School (Newport) ♦‡	NE	7-8	25	100%
Paris Middle School (Paris) ♦	NW	5-8	24	100%
Pulaski Heights Middle School (Little Rock) ♦	CN	6-8	99	100%
Randall Lynch Middle School (Farmington) ♦	NW	6-8	40	100%
Sheridan Middle School (Sheridan) ♦	CN	6-8	100	100%
Siloam Springs Middle School (Siloam Springs) ◆	NW	6-8	64	100%
Southside Middle School (Southside) ♦	NE	5-8	37	100%
Star City Middle School (Star City) ◆	SE	6-8	22	100%
Stuttgart Junior High School (Stuttgart) ♦	SE	7-8	22	100%
Trumann Intermediate Gr. 7-8 (Trumann) ♦‡	NE	7-8	38	100%
Valley Springs Middle School (Valley Springs) ♦	NW	5-8	35	100%
Warren Middle School (Warren) ♦‡	SE	6-8	29	100%
Washington Junior High School (Bentonville)	NW	7-8	141	100%
Yerger Junior High School (Hope) ♦‡	SW	7-8	15	100%

<sup>◆</sup> Indicates school placed on same list in 2009-10.

<sup>‡</sup> Indicates high poverty school

Table 55 includes only schools categorized as "high poverty" (having at least 66% of students receiving free or reduced lunch (FRL) in the grades they serve). One school, **Dermott High School**, made the list with a 100% FRL rate! Note 6 of the top 10 schools in this table are from the Northwest region, with Southwest, Northeast, and Southeast each making the list with one or two schools each. No high-poverty schools in the state's Central region made the list.

Table 55: Top 10 "High-Poverty" High Schools Based on EOC Algebra Achievement

	School (District)	% FRL	Region	Grades Served	# of Test Takers	% Proficient/ Advanced
1	Caddo Hills High School (Caddo Hills)	81%	SW	7-12	28	96%
2	Marshall High School (Searcy County)	72%	NW	7-12	88	92%
3	Lead Hill High School (Lead Hill)	73%	NW	7-12	19	90%
4	Douglas MacArthur Junior High School (Jonesboro)	72%	NE	7-9	156	89%
5	J. D. Leftwich High School (Magazine)	72%	NW	7-12	41	88%
6	Lincoln High School (Lincoln)	66%	NW	9-12	38	87%
7	Hazen High School (Hazen)	67%	SE	9-12	43	86%
7	Bruno-Pyatt High School (Ozark Mountain)	83%	NW	7-12	14	86%
7	Dermott High School (Dermott)	100%	SE	7-12	21	86%
7	Pleasant View Jr. High School (Riverside)	73%	NW	7-9	29	86%

Again, we would like to draw special attention to two schools: **Lincoln High School** and **Hazen High School** for their achievement on the Algebra I EOC. These schools are being evaluated on their students from only grades (9-12). Thus these overall scores do not "benefit" from the performance of high-achieving 7th and 8th grade students who take the Algebra I EOC early. We commend these schools on this achievement!

Tables 56-60: Top 5 Regular Algebra Schools in Arkansas by Region, EOC Algebra Achievement

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School (District)	# of Test Takers	% Prof/ Adv
Huntsville High School (Huntsville)	48	96%
Haas Hall Academy (Haas Hall) ♦	50	96%
Raymond E. Wells Junior High School (Greenwood) ◆	269	96%
Cotter High School (Cotter)	38	95%
Dardanelle High School (Dardanelle) ♦	100	94%

# of Test Takers	% Prof/ Adv
29	96%
36	94%
38	94%
63	94%
253	91%
136	91%
	Takers       29       36       38       63       253

NW NE
CN
SW SE

Central R	egion
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School (District)	# of Test Takers	% Prof/ Adv
Benton Junior High	300	98%
School (Benton) ♦		
Vilonia Junior High	201	95%
School (Vilonia) ♦		
Redfield Junior High	29	93%
School (White Hall)		
Greenbrier Junior High	236	92%
School (Greenbrier)		
Cabot Junior High South	324	91%
(Cabot)		

Southwest Region

Douitivest Region			
School (District)	# of Test Takers	% Prof/ Adv	School (Distric
Emerson High School	26	100%	Woodlawn Hig
(Emerson-Taylor)			(Woodlawn)
Mount Ida High School	38	98%	Dermott High S
(Mount Ida) ♦			(Dermott)
Parkers Chapel High School	43	98%	Hazen High Scl
(Parkers Chapel)			(Hazen)
Caddo Hills High School	28	96%	Rison High Sch
(Caddo Hills)			(Cleveland Cou
Taylor High School	14	93%	Star City High
(Emerson-Taylor) ♦			(Star City) ♦
			-

School (District)	# of Test Takers	% Prof/ Adv
Woodlawn High School	44	88%
(Woodlawn)		
Dermott High School	21	86%
(Dermott)		
Hazen High School	43	86%
(Hazen)		
Rison High School	68	85%
(Cleveland County) ◆		
Star City High School	87	84%
(Star City) ♦		

#### B. Geometry End-of-Course Exam, 2011

Top-performing high schools in Geometry are listed below in Table 61. All schools on the list achieved at least 91% proficiency, compared to a statewide average of 73%. These are not the only schools reaching high levels of achievement in Geometry. In all, 130 high schools tested in EOC Geometry had 75% or more students score proficient or advanced. Geometry is generally taken during the tenth grade.

As in Algebra, the top 20 high schools in end-of-course Geometry are unevenly distributed across the state. Regional counts range from 3 schools making the list from the state's Northeast, to 8 schools from the Northwest making the list. None of the top 20 were from the Southeast region.

Table 61: Top 20 High Schools in Arkansas, Geometry Achievement

	School (District)	Region	Grades Served	# of Test Takers	% Proficient/ Advanced
1	Harmony Grove High School (Harmony	CN	7-12	71	100%
1	Marshall High School (Searcy County)	NW	7-12	43	100%
1	Southside High School (Southside)	NE	10-12	68	100%
1	St. Joe High School (Ozark Mountain)	NW	7-12	13	100%
5	Mount Ida High School (Mount Ida)	SW	7-12	26	96%
5	Taylor High School (Emerson-Taylor) ♦	SW	7-12	30	96%
7	Benton High School (Benton) ♦	CN	10-12	293	95%
7	Caddo Hills High School (Caddo Hills)	SW	7-12	38	95%
7	Dardanelle High School (Dardanelle) ♦	NW	9-12	117	95%
7	Paris High School (Paris)	NW	9-12	62	95%
7	Spring Hill High School (Spring Hill) ◆	SW	7-12	52	95%
7	West Side High School (West Side) ◆	NE	7-12	22	95%
13	Haas Hall Academy (Haas Hall Academy) ♦	NW	8-12	70	94%
14	Eureka Springs High School (Eureka Springs)	NW	9-12	34	93%
15	Bentonville High School (Bentonville) ◆	NW	9-12	869	92%
15	Melbourne High School (Melbourne)	NE	7-12	37	92%
15	Parkers Chapel High School (Parkers Chapel)	SW	7-12	48	92%
15	Searcy High School (Searcy) ♦	NE	9-12	252	92%
19	Mt. Vernon/Enola High School (Mt. Vernon/Enola) ♦	CN	7-12	26	91%
19	Valley Springs High School (Valley Springs)	NW	9-12	53	91%

<sup>♦</sup> Indicates school placed on same list in 2009-10.

Though Geometry is taken by most students in 10th grade, some students may elect to take these courses earlier if they have the prerequisite knowledge. This *can* result in the most advanced students taking these exams in 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> grade. For this reason, middle schools may have higher proficiency rates because they have *only* advanced students taking the exam.

Almost every middle or junior high school that tested in Geometry had 75% or more students score proficient or advanced. Furthermore, 31 schools had 100% or more of students scoring proficient or advanced. These 31 schools are presented in Table 62 below.

Table 62: Middle and Junior High Schools with 100% Proficient and Advanced Based on EOC Geometry Achievement

School (District)	Region	Grades Served	# of Test Takers	% Proficient/ Advanced
Nashville Junior High School (Nashville)	SW	7-9	46	100%
Batesville Junior High School (Batesville) ◆	NE	7-9	25	100%
Bob Courtway Middle School (Conway) ♦	CN	7-8	15	100%
Booneville Junior High School (Booneville) ♦	NW	7-9	24	100%
Cabot Junior High North (Cabot) ♦	CN	7-9	91	100%
Carl Stuart Middle School (Conway) ♦	CN	7-8	16	100%
Clarksville Junior High School (Clarksville)	NW	7-9	22	100%
Clinton Junior High School (Clinton)	NW	7-9	44	100%
Coleman Junior High School (Van Buren)	NW	7-9	50	100%
Forest Heights Middle School (Little Rock)	CN	6-8	12	100%
Fuller Middle School (Pulaski County) ♦	CN	6-8	25	100%
George Junior High School (Springdale)	NW	8-9	34	100%
Greene County Tech Junior High School (Greene County) ♦	NE	8-9	64	100%
Hot Springs Middle School (Hot Springs) ◆	CN	7-8	23	100%
L. A. Chaffin Junior High School (Fort Smith)	NW	7-9	65	100%
Lakewood Middle School (North Little Rock)	CN	7-8	28	100%
Lisa Academy North Middle School (Lisa Academy) ♦	CN	6-8	23	100%
Mabelvale Middle School (Little Rock)	CN	6-8	15	100%
Mann Magnet Middle School (Little Rock) ◆	CN	6-8	19	100%
Marion Junior High School (Marion) ♦	NE	8-9	81	100%
Maumelle Middle School (Pulaski County) ◆	CN	6-8	28	100%
Pulaski Heights Middle School (Little Rock) ◆	CN	6-8	14	100%
Ramay Junior High School (Fayetteville) ♦	NW	8-9	64	100%
Ramsey Junior High School (Fort Smith) ♦	NW	7-9	41	100%
Redfield Junior High School (White Hall)	CN	7-9	11	100%
Russellville Junior High School (Russellville)	NW	8-9	118	100%
Southwest Junior High School (Springdale) ♦	NW	8-9	30	100%
Vilonia Junior High School (Vilonia) ♦	CN	8-9	43	100%
White Hall Junior High School (White Hall) ◆	CN	7-9	33	100%
William O. Darby Junior High School (Fort	NW	7-9	44	100%
Woodland Junior High School (Fayetteville) ◆	NW	8-9	104	100%

<sup>♦</sup> Indicates school placed on same list in 2009-10.

Top-performing high-poverty schools are shown in Tables 63 and 64. These schools have at least 66% of their students receiving free or reduced lunches. Proficiency rates for all schools on the list were above the state average of 73%, ranging from 86% to 100%.

Table 63: Top 10 "High-Poverty" High Schools Based on EOC Geometry Achievement

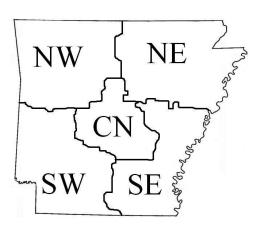
	School (District)	% FRL	Region	Grades Served	# of Test Takers	% Proficient/ Advanced
1	Marshall High School (Searcy County)	72%	NW	7-12	43	100%
1	St. Joe High School (Ozark Mountain)	78%	NW	7-12	13	100%
3	Caddo Hills High School (Caddo Hills)	81%	SW	7-12	38	95%
4	J. D. Leftwich High School (Magazine)	72%	NW	7-12	36	89%
5	McGehee High School (McGehee)	74%	SE	7-12	61	87%
5	Decatur High School (Decatur)	71%	NW	7-12	23	87%
7	East Poinsett Co. High School (East Poinsett Co.)	66%	NE	7-12	15	86%
7	Green Forest High School (Green	73%	NW	9-12	79	86%
7	Dermott High School (Dermott)	100%	SE	7-12	14	86%
7	Hamburg High School (Hamburg)	100%	SE	9-12	119	86%

Table 64: Top 10 "High-Poverty" Middle and Junior High Schools Based on EOC Geometry Achievement

	School (District)	% FRL	Region	Grades Served	# of Test Takers	% Proficient/ Advanced
1	Clarksville Junior High School	68%	NW	7-9	22	100%
1	Clinton Junior High School (Clinton)	66%	NW	7-9	44	100%
1	Forest Heights Middle School (Little	84%	CN	6-8	12	100%
1	George Junior High School (Springdale)	73%	NW	8-9	34	100%
1	Hot Springs Middle School (Hot	78%	CN	7-8	23	100%
1	Mabelvale Middle School (Little Rock)	86%	CN	6-8	15	100%
1	William O. Darby Junior High School (Fort Smith)	93%	NW	7-9	44	100%
8	Henderson Middle School (Little Rock)	89%	CN	6-8	27	97%
9	Dora Kimmons Junior High School (Fort Smith)	92%	NW	7-9	37	95%
9	Magnolia Junior High School	67%	SW	7-9	71	95%

Tables 65-69: Top 5 High Schools in Arkansas by Region, Geometry Achievement

Worthwest Region		
School (District)	# of Test Takers	% Proficient/ Advanced
Marshall High School	43	100%
(Searcy County)		
St. Joe High School	13	100%
(Ozark Mountain)		
Dardanelle High	117	95%
School (Dardanelle) ♦		
Paris High School	62	95%
(Paris)		
Haas Hall Academy	70	94%
(Haas Hall) ♦		



Southwest Region

School (District)	# of Test Takers	% Proficient/ Advanced
Mount Ida High	26	96%
School (Mount Ida) ◆		
Taylor High School	30	96%
(Emerson-Taylor) ♦		
Caddo Hills High	38	95%
School (Caddo Hills)		
Spring Hill High	52	95%
School (Spring Hill) ♦		
Parkers Chapel High	48	92%
School (Parkers		
Chapel)♦		

Northeast Region

School (District)	# of Test Takers	% Proficient/ Advanced
Southside High School (Southside)	68	100%
West Side High School (West Side) ♦	22	95%
Melbourne High School (Melbourne)	37	92%
Searcy High School (Searcy) ♦	252	92%
Valley View High School (Valley View) ◆	155	88%

Central Region

School (District)	# of Test Takers	% Proficient/ Advanced
Harmony Grove	71	100%
(Harmony Grove B)		
Benton High School	293	95%
(Benton) ♦		
Mt. Vernon/Enola High	26	91%
School (Mt.		
Vernon/Enola) ♦		
Lakeside High School	190	91%
(Lakeside B)		
Bismarck High School	72	90%
(Bismarck) ♦		
Greenbrier High School	198	89%
(Greenbrier)		

School (District)	# of Test Takers	% Proficient/ Advanced
Barton High School (Barton-Lexa)	37	87%
McGehee High School (McGehee)	61	87%
Dermott High School (Dermott)	14	86%
Hamburg High School (Hamburg)	119	86%
Star City High School (Star City)	116	80%

Several schools deserve special recognition for overall math achievement. The following schools were in the state's top 20 in both Algebra and Geometry:

- Benton Junior High School
- Mount Ida High School
- Parkers Chapel High School
- Caddo Hills High School
- Haas Hall Academy
- West Side High School
- Dardanelle High School
- Taylor High School
- Marshall High School

**Caddo Hills High School** and **Marshall High School** achieved this high standard even while serving populations with more than 66% of students eligible for free or reduced price lunches. Therefore, they also appear on the Algebra and Geometry "high-poverty" top ten lists. Two other schools appear on both of these "high-poverty" lists: **J.D. Leftwich High School and Dermott High School**. *These schools are not allowing poverty to be an obstacle to high achievement and should be proud of their results*.

#### C. Biology End-of-Course Exam, 2011

The top 20 high schools in Arkansas on the Biology end-of-course exam are presented Table 70. These schools' proficiency rates range from a high of 100% (**Taylor High School**) to 65% (**Carlise High School**), all well above the state average of 41% proficiency. The Northwest has 12 of the top 20 schools.<sup>5</sup>

Compared to other EOC exams, proficiency rates in biology are significantly lower. While statewide rates were at least 65% for the other 3 tests, the 2010 statewide proficiency rate for Biology was 41%. This rate follows a 30% proficiency rate in 2008, the test's first year. Relatively lower rates for the schools included in this section thus come as no surprise. The Biology EOC is a much newer test than the others, and most likely students and schools are still adapting to its requirements.

Table 70: Top 20 High Schools in Arkansas Based on EOC Biology Achievement

	School (District)	Region	Grades Served	# of Test Takers	% Proficient/ Advanced
1	Booneville Junior High School (Booneville)	NW	7-9	16	100%
1	Taylor High School (Emerson-Taylor) ◆	SW	7-12	26	100%
3	Ramay Junior High School (Fayetteville)	NW	8-9	35	97%
4	Central Junior High School (Springdale)	NW	8-9	93	92%
4	Lisa Academy (Lisa Academy) ♦	CN	6-8	76	92%
6	Haas Hall Academy (Haas Hall) ♦	NW	8-12	64	86%
7	Batesville Junior High School (Batesville)	NE	7-9	28	82%
8	Southwest Junior High School (Springdale)	NW	8-9	70	80%
9	Dardanelle High School (Dardanelle) ♦	NW	9-12	146	75%
10	Bentonville High School (Bentonville) ◆	NW	9-12	938	74%
10	George Junior High School (Springdale)	NW	8-9	92	74%
10	Melbourne High School (Melbourne)	NE	7-12	50	74%
13	Delight High School (South Pike County)	SW	7-12	16	69%
13	Harmony Grove High School (Harmony Grove	SW	9-12	42	69%
13	Kingston High School (Jasper)	NW	7-12	16	69%
16	Bergman High School (Bergman) ◆	NW	9-12	88	68%
17	Des Arc High School (Des Arc)	SE	7-12	48	67%
17	Woodland Junior High School (Fayetteville)	NW	8-9	15	67%
19	Benton Co. School of the Arts H.S. (Benton	NW	9-12	56	65%
19	Carlisle High School (Carlisle)	CN	7-12	54	65%
19	Jessieville High School (Jessieville)	CN	9-12	71	65%

<sup>♦</sup> Indicates school placed on same list in 2009-10.

High-performing "high poverty" schools serving 66% or more students eligible for the federal free/reduced lunch program are highlighted in Table 71. Their proficiency rates range from 47% to 74%, all above the state average of 41%. The schools in this table mostly represent two state

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> 21 schools are included in the list because 3 schools tied for 19th place with 65% proficiency.

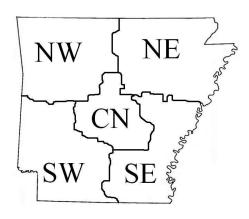
regions: Northwest and Southwest. One school from the Central region, **Hot Springs High School**, made the list, while no high-poverty schools from the state's Southeast or Northeast regions scored high enough to make the top 10.

Table 71: Top 10 "High-Poverty" High Schools Based on EOC Biology Achievement

	School (District)	% FRL	Region	Grades Served	# of Test Takers	% Proficient/ Advanced
1	George Junior High School (Springdale)	73%	NW	8-9	92	74%
2	Delight High School (South Pike County)	76%	SW	7-12	16	69%
3	Acorn High School (Ouachita River)	66%	SW	7-12	30	56%
3	J. D. Leftwich High School (Magazine)	72%	NW	7-12	41	56%
5	Hot Springs High School (Hot Springs)	71%	CN	9-12	178	53%
6	Umpire High School (Cossatot River)	100%	SW	7-12	14	50%
7	Marshall High School (Searcy County)	72%	NW	7-12	61	49%
8	Norfork High School (Norfork)	78%	NW	7-12	32	47%
8	St. Joe High School (Ozark Mountain)	78%	NW	7-12	15	47%
8	Western Yell Co. High School (Western Yell County)	74%	NW	7-12	30	47%

Tables 72-76: Top 5 High Schools in Arkansas by Region, Biology Achievement

School (District)	# of Test Takers	% Proficient/ Advanced
Booneville Junior	16	100%
High (Booneville)		
Ramay Junior High	35	97%
(Fayetteville)		
Central Junior High	93	92%
(Springdale)		
Haas Hall Academy	64	86%
(Haas Hall) ♦		
Southwest Junior High	70	80%
(Springdale)		



Southwest Region

School (District)	# of Test Takers	% Proficient/ Advanced
Taylor High	26	100%
(Emerson-Taylor) ♦		
Delight High (South	16	69%
Pike County) ♦		
Harmony Grove High	42	69%
(Harmony Grove A)		
Acorn High (Ouachita	30	56%
River)		
Mount Ida High	34	56%
(Mount Ida)		

Northeast Region

School (District)	# of Test Takers	% Proficient/ Advanced
Batesville Junior High (Batesville)	28	82%
Melbourne High (Melbourne)	50	74%
Pangburn High (Pangburn)	52	63%
Searcy High (Searcy)	273	62%
Marmaduke High (Marmaduke) ♦	64	61%
McCrory High (McCrory)	42	61%

Central Region

School (District)	# of Test Takers	% Proficient/ Advanced
Lisa Academy (Lisa	76	92%
Academy) ♦		
Carlisle High	54	65%
(Carlisle)		
Jessieville High	71	65%
(Jessieville)		
Bauxite High	100	64%
(Bauxite) ♦		
Conway High East	614	61%
(Conway)		

School (District)	# of Test Takers	% Proficient/ Advanced
Des Arc High (Des Arc) ♦	48	67%
Rison High (Cleveland	64	55%
County) ◆		
Woodlawn High	45	51%
(Woodlawn) ♦		
DeWitt High School	82	44%
(DeWitt)		
Hamburg High	139	44%
(Hamburg) ♦		
KIPP Delta Collegiate	64	44%
High (KIPP Delta)		

#### D. Grade 11 Literacy Exam, 2011

In Literacy, 65% of students statewide scored proficient or advanced on the 2011 end-of-course exam. Table 77 presents the top 20 high schools in Arkansas based on overall Literacy proficiency. All of the top 20 schools scored well above the state average, with proficiency rates ranging from 82% (7 schools) to 100% (Rural Special High School). The state's North and Central regions represent most of the schools on the list, with 20 of 22 schools, while only two schools from the state's Southern regions made the list.

Table 77: Top 20 High Schools in Arkansas Based on Grade 11 Literacy Achievement

	School (District)	Region	Grades Served	# of Test Takers	% Proficient/ Advanced
1	Rural Special High School (Mountain View) ◆	NE	7-12	13	100%
2	AR School for Math, Science, and the Arts (AR School for Math, Science, and the Arts) ◆	CN		117	99%
3	Haas Hall Academy (Haas Hall) ♦	NW	8-12	54	98%
4	Deer High School (Deer/Mt. Judea)	NW	7-12	14	93%
5	Calico Rock High School (Calico Rock)	NE	7-12	24	91%
6	Lisa Academy High (Lisa Academy) ♦	CN	9-12	37	89%
7	St. Paul High School (Huntsville)	NW	7-12	16	88%
8	Lamar High School (Lamar)	NW	9-12	87	87%
9	Charleston High School (Charleston)	NW	7-12	80	86%
9	Cutter-Morning Star High School (Cutter-Morning Star)	CN	7-12	41	86%
11	Taylor High School (Emerson-Taylor)	SW	7-12	21	85%
12	Bentonville High School (Bentonville) ◆	NW	9-12	770	84%
12	Kingston High School (Jasper)	NW	7-12	18	84%
14	Bald Knob High School (Bald Knob)	NE	9-12	79	83%
14	Searcy High School (Searcy)	NE	9-12	249	83%
16	Lakeside High School (Lakeside B)	CN	9-12	227	82%
16	Midland High School (Midland) ◆	NE	7-12	33	82%
16	Mountain Home High School (Mountain Home)	NW	9-12	285	82%
16	Norphlet High School (Norphlet)	SW	7-12	27	82%
16	Quitman High School (Quitman)	NE	7-12	33	82%
16	Valley View High School (Valley View) ◆	NE	7-12	142	82%
16	West Side High School (West Side)	NE	7-12	39	82%

<sup>♦</sup> Indicates school placed on same list in 2009-10.

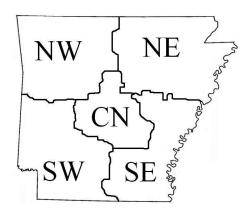
Table 78 lists the top 10 high-poverty schools in Grade 11 Literacy. These are schools which had at least 66% of their students receiving free or reduced lunches (FRL) yet performed well on the Literacy EOC. The literacy percentage of students on FRL in these schools ranges from 67% to 88%. These schools' proficiency rates hover closer to the state average than top-performing high-poverty schools in other subjects. Though proficiency rates among the top 10 schools are as high as 88% (**St. Paul High School**), the bottom 4 schools on the list achieved within 5% over the state average of 65% proficiency. *Nonetheless, the fact that these schools did so while serving students in high-poverty is commendable, and these schools should be proud of their achievement.* 

Table 78: Top 10 "High-Poverty" High Schools in Arkansas Based on Grade 11 Literacy Achievement

	School (District)	% FRL	Region	Grades Served	# of Test Takers	% Proficient/ Advanced
1	St. Paul High School (Huntsville)	79%	NW	7-12	16	88%
2	Harrisburg High School (Harrisburg)	100%	NE	9-12	73	80%
2	Hector High School (Hector)	70%	NW	7-12	46	80%
4	Delight High School (South Pike County)	76%	SW	7-12	18	78%
5	Norfork High School (Norfork)	78%	NW	7-12	39	74%
6	Lincoln High School (Lincoln)	66%	NW	912	77	72%
7	Marshall High School (Searcy)	72%	NW	7-12	54	69%
8	Cedarville High School (Cedarville)	100%	NW	9-12	91	67%
8	Van-Cove High School (Cossatot River)	100%	SW	7-12	27	67%
8	Westside High School (Westside)	100%	NW	8-12	46	67%

Tables 79-83: Top 5 High Schools in Arkansas by Region, Literacy Achievement

Tiottiwest Region		
School (District)	# of Test Takers	% Proficient/ Advanced
Haas Hall Academy	54	98%
(Haas Hall) ♦		
Deer High (Deer/Mt.	14	93%
Judea)		
St. Paul High	16	88%
(Huntsville)		
Lamar High (Lamar)	87	87%
Charleston High	80	86%
(Charleston)		



Southwest Region

School (District)	# of Test Takers	% Proficient/ Advanced
Taylor High	21	85%
(Emerson-Taylor) ♦		
Norphlet High	27	82%
(Norphlet)		
Smackover High	60	80%
(Smackover)		
Spring Hill High	49	79%
(Spring Hill)		
Delight High (South	18	78%
Pike County)		

Northeast Region

School (District)	# of Test Takers	% Proficient/ Advanced
Rural Special High (Mountain View) ♦	13	100%
Calico Rock High (Calico Rock)	24	91%
Bald Knob High (Bald Knob)	79	83%
Searcy High (Searcy)	249	83%
Midland High (Midland) ♦	33	82%
Quitman High (Quitman)	33	82%
Valley View High (Valley View) ♦	142	82%
West Side High (West Side)	39	82%

Central Region

	# of	% D 6° : 4/
School (District)	Test Takers	Proficient/ Advanced
AR School for Math,	117	99%
Science, and the Arts ♦	11,	<i>337</i>
Lisa Academy High (Lisa	37	89%
Academy) ♦		
Cutter-Morning Star High	41	86%
(Cutter-Morning Star)		
Lakeside High (Lakeside B)	227	82%
Bauxite High (Bauxite)	104	81%
Guy-Perkins High (Guy-	32	81%
Perkins)		

School (District)	# of Test Takers	% Proficient/ Advanced
DeWitt High (DeWitt) ◆	72	72%
Monticello High (Monticello) ◆	157	67%
Crossett High (Crossett)	115	66%
KIPP Delta Collegiate High (KIPP Delta) ◆	26	65%
Stuttgart High (Stuttgart)	135	63%
Woodlawn High (Woodlawn)	41	63%

#### **E. EOC Summary**

There were many schools that demonstrated excellence in academics on each of the examinations. Two schools--Haas Hall Academy and Taylor High School--placed in the top 20 on all four EOC tests. Also doing a commendable job were Dardanelle High School, West Side High School, and Bentonville High School. These schools were in the top twenty on three of the four examinations.

When examining achievement by region, a few schools stand out in each. In the Northwest region, Haas Hall Academy ranked in the top five in all four categories. Dardanelle High School also made the list in two categories. In the state's Northeast, West Side High School and Searcy High School each ranked in the top five in three out of four categories. Melbourne High School ranked in two categories. Among schools in the Central region of the state, Beauxite High School and Lisa Academy placed in two of the region's four lists. In the Southeast region Woodlawn High School placed in three of the four lists. Placing in two of the four were Dermott High School, Rison High School, Star City High School, Hamburg High School, KIPP Delta High School, and DeWitt High School. In the Southwest, Taylor High School was in the top five all four categories, Mount Ida High School was in three of four, and Parkers Chapel High School, Caddo Hills High School, Spring Hill High School, and Delight High School were each in two.

The Office for Education Policy is happy to recognize the hard work done by high school students and teachers across the state. The staff, parents, and communities of these schools should be commended for their support of the children of Arkansas.