



October 22, 2019

The state of Missouri's annual snapshot of school achievement has been released, but in a considerably different format than years past. The 2019 Annual Performance Report (APR) was released on October 17. In years past, the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) assigned points in each area of assessment, resulting in a percentage score that was used to rank schools. In 2018, Maplewood Richmond Heights' score was an impressive 98.4%. This year, the format changed to include color-coded graphs and statistical charts to summarize progress. DESE explained that it encouraged a focus on the data rather than just the points earned. The aim: using data to inform practice.

MRH has much to celebrate in the 2019 APR, including a high attendance rate and a 100% graduation rate. Overall performance in English & Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics is on track with continued student growth. College and Career Readiness measures continue to rise with students scoring above the state standard on College and Career placement tests, along with an increase in students earning qualifying scores and grades in Advanced Placement coursework.

"We have 18 Advanced Placement and/or dual credit courses available today," explained MRH High School Principal Dr. Kevin Grawer. "That's three times more than just six years ago. It's quite evident that our AP classes are feeding student successes in preparing for college and the working world."

The APR is based on the Missouri School Improvement Program, known as MSIP-5, which is the state's accountability system for reviewing and accrediting public school districts. MSIP began in 1990 and entered its fifth version in 2013. MSIP-6 is currently in the works.

Science APR results will be announced in November due to the first-year implementation of a new assessment in 2018-19. A field test was given during the 2018-19 school year for social studies, so schools did not receive official scores, nor was social studies reflected in calculations for the 2019 APR. New social studies assessments will be administered during the 2019-20 school year. The 2019 APR will be complete upon the release of science data, scheduled for November 23.

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