

Paris Students Excel on the 2010 ACT

Seniors at Paris High School were greeted with great news regarding their ACT scores as they embarked on the new school year. The students took the ACT college entrance exam in March as part of the Kentucky Department of Education's required testing system. The ACT is a curriculum-based measure of college readiness and includes tests in English, Math, Science, and Reading.

By taking the ACT in the spring of their junior year, the senior students, as well as their parents and teachers, know where they stand academically in terms of college readiness as they start their final year of high school. Many Paris students are well prepared for college even before they enter their senior year according to test results. Paris students far exceeded the state average in each of the content areas. Overall, Paris finished 35th out of 224 high schools in Kentucky.

ENGLISH	19.6
State Average	17.8
READING	20.0
State Average	18.6
MATH	18.7
State Average	18.3
SCIENCE	19.9
State Average	18.7
ACT COMPOSITE	19.7
State Average	18.5

Preparing students for college is a K-12 focus of Paris Independent Schools. It takes a strong commitment to excellence in teaching and learning inside every classroom in the district in order to fully prepare students for the rigors of college level course work. "We have worked very hard as a school district addressing state and national standards. The scores validate our hard work and prove the high quality of our students and staff," stated Paris High School Principal Jami Dailey.

"This data is a crucial component of Kentucky's efforts to implement next-generation learning strategies," said Kentucky Education Commissioner Terry Holliday. "Parents and the public agree that students must be prepared for life after high school, and schools must have strong expectations for their students. Kentucky is adopting a new accountability system that focuses on improving the college-and career-ready rates for Kentucky high school graduates," Dr. Holliday added.

Paris teachers and administrators, meanwhile, will continue to push the 2010-2011 senior class toward high levels of success after their high school graduation. Paris students have access to Advanced Placement (AP) courses, dual credit college courses through Maysville Community College in Paris, and an overall rigorous and well rounded curriculum. Any Paris senior not quite prepared for college will receive targeted intervention to make sure they are college-ready by the time they graduate in May.