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# Outstanding Educational Performance Awards: Highlighting High Achieving Arkansas Schools, 2016

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**ARKANSAS EDUCATION REPORT**  
*Volume 13, Issue 4*

**OUTSTANDING EDUCATIONAL PERFORMANCE AWARDS:  
HIGHLIGHTING HIGH-ACHIEVING ARKANSAS SCHOOLS,  
2016**

**BEATING THE ODDS: HIGH-ACHIEVING  
SCHOOLS BASED ON THE ACT ASPIRE  
EXAMINATIONS, SERVING LOW-INCOME  
COMMUNITIES**

**March 15, 2017**

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## INTRODUCTION

Since our founding in 2003, the mission of the Office for Education Policy has examined pressing issues through the lens of academic research and disseminating our findings to educators, policymakers, and other stakeholders around Arkansas. Every once in a while, however, we think it is okay to stray from issue analysis and simply share some good news!

In this Arkansas Education Report (AER), we aim to highlight excellent performance and offer our congratulations. To that end, we are happy to highlight many excellent schools around the state in our now-annual AER, entitled the **Outstanding Educational Performance Awards**, or the OEP awards.

In the 2015-16 academic year, Arkansas students have yet again undergone a change in their assessment of student performance to replace the **Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College Careers (PARCC)**. The ACT Aspire examinations were administered to students in grades 3 through 10 in Math, Reading, Writing, English and Science. For the purposes of this report, the scores obtained in Reading, Writing and English were combined to create a combined ELA score.

This edition of the **OEP Awards** will highlight high-performing schools in Arkansas based on their performance in the Math, ELA and Science exams at the Elementary, Middle, Junior and High school level.

In 2012, we introduced an academic performance indicator, the **“GPA” rating system**, to rank the highest-performing schools. Unlike the commonly reported percentage of students scoring at or above the proficient level on each assessment which suffers from being an “all-or-nothing” measure in which a student is either proficient or not, the “GPA” includes information provided by student scores that are placed into the four different performance categories: **In Need of Support, Close to Meeting Expectations, Ready, and Exceeded Expectations**.

Our GPA indicator gives the most credit to students who have exceeded expectations and the least credit to those that are in need of support. In this GPA measure, parallel to the familiar grade point average for individual students, a 4.0 is a perfect score. The GPA measure, we believe, is a better representation of student achievement on statewide standardized exams.

<b>ACT Aspire Performance Category</b>	<b>GPA Points Awarded</b>
Exceeded Expectations	4.0
Ready	3.0
Close to Meeting Expectations	2.0
In Need of Support	1.0

In this report, we are presenting a list of the top 20 schools in each area. In some cases, these “top 20 lists” will contain more than 20 schools as some schools’ GPA scores will be identical.

In the following weeks, we will focus on high-performing elementary schools, middle schools, and high schools in the various regions across the state. We will conclude this edition of the report by highlighting schools that are beating the odds (that is, schools that have high levels of student achievement while serving a high percentage of low-income students). Our release schedule is:

- **High-Achieving Elementary Schools**
- **High-Achieving Middle Schools**
- **High-Achieving Junior High Schools**
- **High-Achieving High Schools**
- **Beating the Odds: High-Achieving Schools Serving Low-Income Communities**

## **V. 2016 OEP AWARDS: BEATING THE ODDS – HIGH ACHIEVING SCHOOLS, BASED ON THE ACT ASPIRE EXAMINATIONS, SERVING LOW INCOME COMMUNITIES**

This section highlights high-achieving schools across Arkansas based on the ACT Aspire examinations in Math, English Language Arts (ELA) and Science for the 2015-16 academic year. For these awards, we consider schools that serve free or reduced lunch to at least 66% of the student body.

This section is divided into subsections based the three exams. Schools are ranked using the GPA performance measure (explained in the Introduction) in each subject. Because the exams are not “grade-specific,” schools in each of the subsections are categorized differently to account for school performance based on grade levels served; this is explained further in the introduction text in each subsection. Furthermore, each subsection includes the top schools, the top “high-poverty” schools, and the top five schools by region. In the subsections, the tables present the high-achieving schools for the noted category and subject using the GPA performance measure. These tables include the region in which the school is located, the number of test takers, the percentage of students that met or exceeded expectations, and the GPA of the school in that particular subject.

## Q. Elementary Schools “Beating the Odds”

Beating the Odds: Overall ACT Aspire, 2016

Table 97: Top 10 “High-Poverty” Elementary Schools in Arkansas based on Overall ACT Aspire Achievement (Math, ELA and Science combined)

	School (District)	Region	Grades Served	%FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
1	Salem Elementary (Salem)	NE	K-6	69%	696	75%	3.07
2	Clinton Elementary (Clinton)	NW	K-3	71%	276	65%	2.93
3	Bismarck Elementary (Bismarck)	CN	K-4	74%	426	64%	2.85
3	Forest Heights STEM Academy (Little Rock)	CN	K-8	66%	1,509	64%	2.84
5	Nemo Vista Elementary (Nemo Vista)	NW	K-5	66%	240	65%	2.78
6	College Station Elementary (Pulaski County Special)	CN	P-5	80%	354	64%	2.77
6	Amanda Gist Elementary (Cotter)	NW	K-6	73%	675	61%	2.77
8	Eagle Heights Elementary (Harrison)	NW	K-4	67%	183	63%	2.76
8	Des Arc Elementary (Des Arc)	SE	P-6	73%	450	60%	2.76
10	Eastside Elementary (Rogers)	NW	K-5	68%	854	60%	2.74

Beating the Odds: Math ACT Aspire, 2016

Table 98: Top 10 "**High-Poverty**" Elementary Schools in Arkansas based on ACT Aspire **Math** Achievement

	School (District)	Region	Grades Served	%FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
<b>1</b>	Clinton Elementary (Clinton)	NW	K-3	71%	92	77%	3.14
<b>1</b>	Salem Elementary (Salem)	NE	K-6	69%	232	81%	3.14
<b>3</b>	Des Arc Elementary (Des Arc)	SE	P-6	73%	150	73%	3.11
<b>3</b>	Centerpoint Primary (Centerpoint)	SW	P-3	79%	80	73%	3.11
<b>5</b>	Bismarck Elementary (Bismarck)	CN	K-4	74%	142	74%	3.06
<b>6</b>	Amanda Gist Elementary (Cotter)	NW	K-6	73%	225	72%	3.00
<b>7</b>	Kingsland Elementary (Cleveland County)	SE	K-5	81%	43	74%	2.98
<b>8</b>	Mammoth Spring Elementary (Mammoth Spring)	NE	K-6	69%	149	71%	2.97
<b>9</b>	Tuckerman Elementary (Jackson Co.)	NE	K-4	72%	115	74%	2.96
<b>10</b>	Norfolk Elementary (Norfolk)	NW	K-6	84%	131	68%	2.95



Table 99-103: Top 5 “High-Poverty” Elementary Schools in Arkansas by Region, Math Achievement.



Table 99: Top 5 “high-poverty” elementary schools in Northwest Region based on Math ACT Aspire performance

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
1	Clinton Elementary (Clinton)	K-3	71%	92	77%	3.14
2	Amanda Gist Elementary (Cotter)	K-6	73%	225	72%	3.00
3	Norfolk Elementary (Norfolk)	K-6	84%	131	68%	2.95
4	Nemo Vista Elementary (Nemo Vista)	K-5	66%	80	75%	2.91
5	Eastside Elementary (Rogers)	K-5	68%	285	67%	2.89



Table 100: Top 5 “high-poverty” elementary schools in Northeast Region based on Math ACT Aspire performance

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
1	Salem Elementary (Salem)	K-6	69%	232	81%	3.14
2	Mammoth Spring Elementary (Mammoth Spring)	K-6	69%	149	71%	2.97
3	Tuckerman Elementary (Jackson Co.)	K-4	72%	115	74%	2.96
4	Melbourne Elementary (Melbourne)	K-6	66%	232	72%	2.89
5	West Elementary (Batesville)	K-6	72%	302	67%	2.86



*Table 101: Top 5 “high-poverty” elementary schools in **Central** Region based on **Math** ACT Aspire performance*

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
1	Bismarck Elementary (Bismarck)	K-4	74%	142	74%	3.06
2	Forest Heights Stem Academy(Little Rock)	K-8	69%	503	64%	2.86
3	College Station Elem. (Pulaski County Special)	P-5	66%	118	70%	2.84
4	Ida Burns Elementary (Conway)	K-4	80%	169	63%	2.77
5	Langston Magnet (Hot Springs)	P-4	80%	86	64%	2.73



*Table 102: Top 5 “high-poverty” elementary schools in **Southwest** Region based on **Math** ACT Aspire performance*

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
1	Centerpoint Primary (Centerpoint)	P-3	79%	80	73%	3.11
2	Van Cove Elementary (Cossatot River)	P-6	78%	105	67%	2.84
3	Acorn Elementary (Ouachita River)	K-5	75%	132	64%	2.78
4	Centerpoint Intermediate (Centerpoint)	4-5	69%	120	61%	2.77
5	DeQueen Elementary (DeQueen)	3-5	78%	540	58%	2.75



*Table 103: Top 5 “high-poverty” elementary schools in Southeast Region based on Math ACT Aspire performance*

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
<b>1</b>	Des Arc Elementary (Des Arc)	P-6	73%	150	73%	3.11
<b>2</b>	Kingsland Elementary (Cleveland County)	K-5	81%	43	74%	2.98
<b>3</b>	Park Avenue Elementary (Stuttgart)	K-4	75%	233	58%	2.64
<b>4</b>	Crossett Elementary (Crossett)	P-4	71%	264	54%	2.55
<b>5</b>	Rison Elementary (Cleveland County)	K-5	66%	159	49%	2.52

Beating the Odds: ELA ACT Aspire, 2016

Table 104: Top 10 "High-Poverty" Elementary Schools in Arkansas based on ACT Aspire ELA Achievement

	School (District)	Region	Grades Served	%FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
1	Salem Elementary (Salem)	NE	K-6	69%	232	73%	3.13
2	Forest Heights STEM Academy (Little Rock)	CN	K-8	66%	503	70%	3.01
3	College Station Elementary (Pulaski County Special)	CN	P-5	80%	118	66%	2.86
4	Eastside Elementary (Rogers)	NW	K-5	68%	284	63%	2.83
5	Clinton Elementary (Clinton)	NW	K-3	71%	92	58%	2.81
6	Eagle Heights Elementary (Harrison)	NW	K-4	67%	61	64%	2.80
6	Delight Elementary (South Pike County)	SW	K-6	72%	59	63%	2.80
6	Nemo Vista Elementary (Nemo Vista)	NW	K-5	66%	80	60%	2.80
9	Bismarck Elementary (Bismarck)	CN	K-4	74%	142	59%	2.77
10	Viola Elementary (Viola)	NE	K-6	70%	126	60%	2.72

Table 105-109: Top 5 **Elementary** Schools in Arkansas by Region, ACT Aspire ELA Achievement.



Table 105: Top 5 “high-poverty” elementary schools in **Northwest** Region based on ELA ACT Aspire performance

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
1	Eastside Elementary (Rogers)	K-5	68%	283	63%	2.75
1	Clinton Elementary (Clinton)	K-3	71%	92	58%	2.75
3	Eagle Heights Elementary (Harrison)	K-4	67%	61	64%	2.80
4	Nemo Vista Elementary (Nemo Vista)	K-5	66%	79	61%	2.75
5	Omaha Elementary (Omaha)	K-6	83%	108	59%	2.71



Table 106: Top 5 “high-poverty” elementary schools in **Northeast** Region based on ELA ACT Aspire performance

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
1	Salem Elementary (Salem)	K-6	69%	232	73%	3.13
2	Viola Elementary (Viola)	K-6	70%	126	60%	2.72
3	Hillcrest Elementary (Hillcrest)	K-6	75%	117	58%	2.71
4	Buffalo Is. Central East Elementary (Buffalo Is. Central)	P-6	72%	113	58%	2.68
5	West Elementary (Batesville)	K-6	72%	301	57%	2.67



Table 107: Top 5 “high-poverty” elementary schools in **Central** Region based on ELA ACT Aspire performance

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
1	Forest Heights Stem Academy (Little Rock)	K-8	66%	503	70%	3.01
2	College Station Elementary (Pulaski County Special)	P-5	80%	118	66%	2.86
3	Bismarck Elementary (Bismarck)	K-4	74%	142	59%	2.77
4	Geyer Springs Gifted And Talented Academy (Little Rock)	2-5	89%	129	59%	2.66
5	Joe T. Robinson Elementary (Pulaski County Special)	P-5	73%	74	45%	2.38



Table 108: Top 5 “high-poverty” elementary schools in **Southwest** Region based on ELA ACT Aspire performance

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
1	Delight Elementary (South Pike County)	K-6	72%	59	63%	2.80
2	Van Cove Elementary (Cossatot River)	P-6	78%	105	58%	2.67
3	Joann Walters Elementary (Dierks)	K-6	70%	160	52%	2.54
4	Wickes Elementary (Cossatot River)	P-6	81%	162	51%	2.49
4	Fouke Elementary (Fouke)	P-5	68%	247	51%	2.49



*Table 109: Top 5 “high-poverty” elementary schools in Southeast Region based on ELA ACT Aspire performance*

	<b>School (District)</b>	<b>Grades Served</b>	<b>% FRL</b>	<b># of Test Takers</b>	<b>% Met Readiness Benchmark</b>	<b>GPA</b>
<b>1</b>	Des Arc Elementary (Des Arc)	P-6	73%	150	59%	2.69
<b>2</b>	Hazen Elementary (Hazen)	P-8	78%	279	46%	2.42
<b>3</b>	Kingsland Elementary (Cleveland County)	K-5	81%	43	40%	2.28
<b>4</b>	Barton Elementary (Barton-Lexa)	K-6	86%	218	42%	2.27
<b>5</b>	Rison Elementary (Cleveland County)	K-5	66%	157	38%	2.16

## Beating the Odds: Science ACT Aspire, 2016

*Table 110: Top 10 "High-Poverty" Elementary Schools based on ACT Aspire Science Achievement*

	School (District)	Region	Grades Served	%FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
<b>1</b>	Salem Elementary (Salem)	NE	K-6	69%	232	71%	2.93
<b>2</b>	Clinton Elementary (Clinton)	NW	K-3	71%	92	61%	2.84
<b>3</b>	Bismarck Elementary (Bismarck)	CN	K-4	74%	142	60%	2.72
<b>4</b>	Forest Heights STEM Academy (Little Rock)	CN	K-8	66%	503	59%	2.66
<b>5</b>	Amanda Gist Elementary (Cotter)	NW	K-6	73%	225	55%	2.64
<b>6</b>	Nemo Vista Elementary (Nemo Vista)	NW	K-5	66%	80	59%	2.62
<b>7</b>	Eagle Heights Elementary (Harrison)	NW	K-4	67%	61	57%	2.61
<b>7</b>	College Station Elementary (Pulaski County Special)	CN	P-5	80%	118	55%	2.61
<b>9</b>	Omaha Elementary (Omaha)	NW	K-6	83%	108	54%	2.59
<b>10</b>	Van Cove Elementary (Cossatot River)	SW	P-6	78%	105	56%	2.58
<b>10</b>	Mammoth Spring Elementary (Mammoth Spring)	NE	K-6	69%	149	54%	2.58



Table 111-115: Top 5 **Elementary** Schools in Arkansas by Region, ACT Aspire **Science** Achievement.



Table 111: Top 5 “high-poverty” elementary schools in **Northwest** Region based on **Science** ACT Aspire performance

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
1	Clinton Elementary (Clinton)	K-3	71%	92	61%	2.84
2	Amanda Gist Elementary (Cotter)	K-6	73%	225	55%	2.64
3	Nemo Vista Elementary (Nemo Vista)	K-5	66%	80	59%	2.62
4	Eagle Heights Elementary (Harrison)	K-4	67%	61	57%	2.61
5	Omaha Elementary (Omaha)	K-6	83%	108	54%	2.59



Table 112: Top 5 “high-poverty” elementary schools in **Northeast** Region based on **Science** ACT Aspire performance

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
1	Salem Elementary (Salem)	K-6	69%	232	71%	2.93
2	Mammoth Spring Elementary (Mammoth Spring)	K-6	69%	149	54%	2.58
3	Concord Elementary (Concord)	K-6	73%	142	55%	2.54
4	Hillcrest Elementary (Hillcrest)	K-6	75%	117	53%	2.49
4	Rural Special Elementary (Mountain View)	K-6	73%	71	52%	2.49



Table 113: Top 5 “high-poverty” elementary schools in **Central** Region based on Science ACT Aspire performance

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
1	Bismarck Elementary (Bismarck)	K-4	74%	142	60%	2.72
2	Forest Heights Stem Academy (Little Rock)	K-8	66%	503	59%	2.66
3	College Station Elementary (Pulaski County Special)	P-5	80%	118	55%	2.61
4	Geyer Springs Gifted And Talented Academy (Little Rock)	2-5	89%	129	42%	2.30
5	Ida Burns Elementary (Conway)	K-4	73%	169	41%	2.21



Table 114: Top 5 “high-poverty” elementary schools in **Southwest** Region based on Science ACT Aspire performance

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
1	Van Cove Elementary (Cossatot River)	P-6	78%	105	56%	2.58
2	Centerpoint Primary (Centerpoint)	P-3	79%	80	51%	2.50
3	Acorn Elementary (Ouachita River)	K-5	75%	132	46%	2.45
4	Delight Elementary (South Pike County)	K-6	72%	59	51%	2.44
5	Wickes Elementary (Cossatot River)	P-6	81%	162	49%	2.40
5	Joann Walters Elementary (Dierks)	K-6	70%	160	47%	2.40



*Table 115: Top 5 “high-poverty” elementary schools in Southeast Region based on Science ACT Aspire performance*

	<b>School (District)</b>	<b>Grades Served</b>	<b>% FRL</b>	<b># of Test Takers</b>	<b>% Met Readiness Benchmark</b>	<b>GPA</b>
<b>1</b>	Des Arc Elementary (Des Arc)	P-6	73%	150	49%	2.47
<b>2</b>	Kingsland Elementary (Cleveland County)	K-5	81%	43	44%	2.25
<b>3</b>	DeWitt Elementary (DeWitt)	K-5	70%	245	35%	2.05
<b>4</b>	Rison Elementary (Cleveland County)	K-5	66%	159	33%	2.01
<b>4</b>	Hazen Elementary (Hazen)	P-8	78%	279	33%	2.01

## R. Middle School Achievement

Beating the Odds: Overall ACT Aspire, 2016

Table 116: Top 10 "High-Poverty" **Middle** Schools in Arkansas based on **Overall ACT Aspire Achievement (Math, ELA and Science combined)**

	School (District)	Region	Grades Served	%FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
<b>1</b>	Clinton Intermediate (Clinton)	NW	4-6	77%	906	61%	2.72
<b>2</b>	Atkins Middle (Atkins)	NW	5-8	67%	855	60%	2.71
<b>3</b>	Leslie Intermediate (Searcy County)	NW	4-6	77%	519	60%	2.69
<b>4</b>	Mena Middle (Mena)	SW	6-8	67%	1,158	60%	2.68
<b>5</b>	Mountain View Middle (Mountain View)	NE	5-8	66%	1,110	57%	2.66
<b>6</b>	DeQueen Middle (DeQueen)	SW	6-7	79%	1,058	57%	2.64
<b>6</b>	Lingle Middle (Rogers)	NW	6-8	68%	2,633	55%	2.64
<b>8</b>	Southside Middle (Southside (Independence))	NE	4-6	68%	1,164	54%	2.55
<b>8</b>	Oakdale Middle (Rogers)	NW	6-8	71%	2,454	52%	2.55
<b>9</b>	Cave City Middle (Cave City)	NE	6-8	76%	900	53%	2.54

Beating the Odds: Math ACT Aspire, 2016

Table 117: Top 10 "High-Poverty" Middle Schools based on ACT Aspire **Math** Achievement

	School (District)	Region	Grades Served	%FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
<b>1</b>	Leslie Intermediate (Searcy County)	NW	4-6	77%	173	69%	2.84
<b>1</b>	Mena Middle (Mena)	SW	6-8	67%	386	67%	2.84
<b>3</b>	Clinton Intermediate (Clinton)	NW	4-6	77%	302	65%	2.79
<b>4</b>	Southside Middle (Southside (Independence))	NE	4-6	68%	388	61%	2.77
<b>5</b>	Atkins Middle (Atkins)	NW	5-8	67%	285	61%	2.75
<b>6</b>	DeQueen Middle (DeQueen)	SW	6-7	79%	353	60%	2.74
<b>7</b>	Kraus Middle (Clarksville)	NW	5-6	76%	398	60%	2.71
<b>8</b>	Meekins Middle (Stuttgart)	SE	5-6	66%	217	59%	2.68
<b>8</b>	Morrilton Intermediate (South Conway County)	NW	4-6	75%	502	58%	2.68
<b>10</b>	Cedarville Middle (Cedarville)	NW	5-8	73%	235	59%	2.67

Table 118-122: Top 5 **Middle** Schools in Arkansas by Region, ACT Aspire **Math** Achievement.



Table 118: Top 5 “high-poverty” middle schools in **Northwest** Region based on Math ACT Aspire performance

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
1	Leslie Intermediate (Searcy County)	4-6	77%	173	69%	2.84
2	Clinton Intermediate (Clinton)	4-6	77%	302	65%	2.79
3	Atkins Middle (Atkins)	5-8	67%	285	61%	2.75
4	Kraus Middle (Clarksville)	5-6	76%	398	60%	2.71
5	Morrilton Intermediate (South Conway County)	4-6	75%	502	58%	2.68



Table 119: Top 5 “high-poverty” middle schools in **Northeast** Region based on **Math** ACT Aspire performance

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
1	Southside Middle (Southside (Independence))	4-6	68%	388	61%	2.77
2	Mountain View Middle (Mountain View)	5-8	66%	370	57%	2.62
3	Highland Middle (Highland)	5-8	70%	501	53%	2.59
4	Cave City Middle (Cave City)	6-8	76%	300	50%	2.53
5	Izard County Cons Middle (Izard County Consolidated)	5-8	81%	134	50%	2.52



Table 120: Top 5 “high-poverty” middle schools in **Central** Region based on **Math ACT Aspire** performance

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
1	Hot Springs Intermediate (Hot Springs)	5-6	83%	511	43%	2.42
2	Jessieville Middle (Jessieville)	6-8	71%	198	46%	2.37
3	Mann Magnet Middle (Little Rock)	6-8	70%	811	38%	2.28
4	Wilson Intermediate (Malvern)	5-6	79%	288	34%	2.24
5	Lonoke Middle (Lonoke)	6-8	66%	409	36%	2.21



Table 121: Top 5 “high-poverty” middle schools in **Southwest** Region based on **Math ACT Aspire** performance

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
1	Mena Middle (Mena)	6-8	67%	386	67%	2.84
2	DeQueen Middle (DeQueen)	4-5	79%	353	60%	2.74
3	Nashville Elementary (Nashville)	6-7	71%	433	55%	2.66
4	Washington Middle (El Dorado)	4-6	67%	707	44%	2.45
5	Central Elementary (Magnolia)	5-6	71%	625	45%	2.42



*Table 122: Top 5 “high-poverty” middle schools in Southeast Region based on Math ACT Aspire performance*

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
<b>1</b>	Meekins Middle (Stuttgart)	5-6	66%	217	59%	2.68
<b>2</b>	Drew Central Middle (Drew Central)	4-5	74%	306	37%	2.26
<b>2</b>	Warren Middle (Warren)	5-8	70%	352	37%	2.26
<b>2</b>	KIPP: Blytheville College Prep (KIPP Delta Public Schools)	6-8	88%	248	37%	2.26
<b>5</b>	KIPP: Delta College Prep (KIPP Delta Public Schools)	5-8	92%	288	31%	2.10



Beating the Odds: ELA ACT Aspire, 2016

Table 123: Top 10 "High-Poverty" Middle Schools based on ACT Aspire ELA Achievement

	School (District)	Region	Grades Served	%FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
1	Lingle Middle (Rogers)	NW	6-8	68%	877	64%	2.85
2	Mountain View Middle (Mountain View)	NE	5-8	66%	370	61%	2.81
3	Atkins Middle (Atkins)	NW	5-8	67%	285	61%	2.80
4	Clinton Intermediate (Clinton)	NW	4-6	77%	302	60%	2.78
5	Cave City Middle (Cave City)	NE	6-8	76%	300	61%	2.77
6	DeQueen Middle (DeQueen)	SW	6-7	79%	352	59%	2.74
7	Oakdale Middle (Rogers)	NW	6-8	71%	818	59%	2.73
8	Mena Middle (Mena)	SW	6-8	67%	386	60%	2.72
9	Leslie Intermediate (Searcy County)	NW	4-6	77%	173	59%	2.68
10	Helen Tyson Middle (Springdale)	NW	6-7	73%	699	57%	2.67

Table 124-128: Top 5 *Middle* Schools in Arkansas by Region, ACT Aspire *ELA* Achievement.



Table 124: Top 5 “high-poverty” middle schools in *Northwest* Region based on *ELA* ACT Aspire performance

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
1	Lingle Middle (Rogers)	6-8	68%	877	64%	2.85
2	Atkins Middle (Atkins)	5-8	67%	285	61%	2.80
3	Clinton Intermediate (Clinton)	4-6	77%	302	60%	2.78
4	Oakdale Middle (Rogers)	6-8	71%	818	59%	2.73
5	Leslie Intermediate (Searcy County)	4-6	77%	173	59%	2.68



Table 125: Top 5 “high-poverty” middle schools in *Northeast* Region based on *ELA* ACT Aspire performance

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
1	Mountain View Middle (Mountain View)	5-8	66%	370	61%	2.81
2	Cave City Middle (Cave City)	6-8	76%	300	61%	2.77
3	Oak Grove Middle (Paragould)	5-6	69%	475	55%	2.62
4	Nettleton Middle (Nettleton)	6-6	72%	263	58%	2.59
4	Highland Middle (Highland)	5-8	70%	500	54%	2.59



Table 126: Top 5 “high-poverty” middle schools in **Central** Region based on **ELA ACT Aspire** performance

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
1	Hot Springs Intermediate (Hot Springs)	5-6	83%	509	49%	2.47
2	Mann Magnet Middle (Little Rock)	6-8	70%	810	49%	2.45
3	Lonoke Middle (Lonoke)	6-8	66%	408	48%	2.41
4	Wilson Intermediate (Malvern)	5-6	79%	286	45%	2.40
5	Jessieville Middle (Jessieville)	6-8	71%	198	49%	2.39



Table 127: Top 5 “high-poverty” middle schools in **Southwest** Region based on **ELA ACT Aspire** performance

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
1	DeQueen Middle (DeQueen)	6-7	79%	352	59%	2.74
2	Mena Middle (Mena)	6-8	67%	386	60%	2.72
3	Acorn High (Ouachita River)	6-12	72%	205	55%	2.56
4	Washington Middle (El Dorado)	5-6	67%	705	49%	2.50
5	Cabe Middle (Gurdon)	5-8	80%	202	49%	2.46



*Table 128: Top 5 “high-poverty” middle schools in Southeast Region based on ELA ACT Aspire performance*

	<b>School (District)</b>	<b>Grades Served</b>	<b>% FRL</b>	<b># of Test Takers</b>	<b>% Met Readiness Benchmark</b>	<b>GPA</b>
<b>1</b>	Meekins Middle (Stuttgart)	5-6	66%	215	41%	2.32
<b>2</b>	Drew Central Middle (Drew Central)	5-8	74%	306	44%	2.31
<b>3</b>	Warren Middle (Warren)	6-8	70%	351	43%	2.25
<b>3</b>	Lakeside Middle (Lakeside Chicot)	6-8	85%	207	41%	2.25
<b>4</b>	KIPP: Delta College Prep (KIPP Delta Public Schools)	5-8	92%	289	38%	2.22

Beating the Odds: Science ACT Aspire, 2016

Table 129: Top 10 "High-Poverty" Middle Schools based on ACT Aspire Science Achievement

	School (District)	Region	Grades Served	%FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
1	Clinton Intermediate (Clinton)	NW	4-6	77%	302	58%	2.59
1	Atkins Middle (Atkins)	NW	5-8	67%	285	56%	2.59
3	Mountain View Middle (Mountain View)	NE	5-8	66%	370	55%	2.56
4	Lingle Middle (Rogers)	NW	6-8	68%	877	54%	2.53
4	Leslie Intermediate (Searcy County)	NW	4-6	77%	173	53%	2.53
6	Mena Middle (Mena)	SW	6-8	67%	386	52%	2.46
6	DeQueen Middle (DeQueen)	SW	6-7	79%	353	52%	2.46
8	Oakdale Middle (Rogers)	NW	6-8	71%	818	50%	2.45
9	Nettleton Middle (Nettleton)	NE	6-6	72%	263	51%	2.40
10	Highland Middle (Highland)	NE	5-8	70%	501	46%	2.38

Table 130-134: Top 5 **Middle** Schools in Arkansas by Region, ACT Aspire **Science** Achievement.



Table 130: Top 5 “high-poverty” middle schools in **Northwest** Region based on **Science** ACT Aspire performance

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
1	Clinton Intermediate (Clinton)	4-6	77%	302	58%	2.59
1	Atkins Middle (Atkins)	5-8	67%	285	56%	2.59
3	Lingle Middle (Rogers)	6-8	68%	877	54%	2.53
3	Leslie Intermediate (Searcy County)	4-6	77%	173	53%	2.53
5	Oakdale Middle (Rogers)	6-8	71%	818	50%	2.45



Table 131: Top 5 “high-poverty” middle schools in **Northeast** Region based on **Science** ACT Aspire performance

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
1	Mountain View Middle (Mountain View)	5-8	66%	370	55%	2.56
2	Nettleton Middle (Nettleton)	6-6	72%	263	51%	2.40
3	Highland Middle (Highland)	5-8	70%	501	46%	2.38
4	Southside Middle (Southside (Independence))	4-6	68%	388	47%	2.36
5	Izard County Cons Middle (Izard County Consolidated)	5-8	81%	134	46%	2.32



*Table 132: Top 5 “high-poverty” middle schools in **Central** Region based on Science ACT Aspire performance*

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
<b>1</b>	Jessieville Middle (Jessieville)	6-8	71%	198	41%	2.20
<b>2</b>	Lonoke Middle (Lonoke)	6-8	66%	409	38%	2.16
<b>3</b>	Wilson Intermediate (Malvern)	5-6	79%	288	34%	2.07
<b>4</b>	Mann Magnet Middle (Little Rock)	6-8	70%	811	34%	2.05
<b>5</b>	Hot Springs Intermediate (Hot Springs)	5-6	83%	511	36%	2.02



*Table 133: Top 5 “high-poverty” middle schools in **Southwest** Region based on Science ACT Aspire performance*

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
<b>1</b>	Mena Middle (Mena)	6-8	68%	386	52%	2.46
<b>1</b>	DeQueen Middle (DeQueen)	6-7	79%	353	52%	2.46
<b>3</b>	Acorn High (Ouachita River)	6-12	72%	205	42%	2.27
<b>4</b>	Nashville Elementary (Nashville)	4-6	71%	433	41%	2.26
<b>5</b>	Central Elementary (Magnolia)	4-6	71%	625	40%	2.16



*Table 134: Top 5 “high-poverty” middle schools in Southeast Region based on Science ACT Aspire performance*

	<b>School (District)</b>	<b>Grades Served</b>	<b>% FRL</b>	<b># of Test Takers</b>	<b>% Met Readiness Benchmark</b>	<b>GPA</b>
<b>1</b>	Meekins Middle (Stuttgart)	5-6	66%	217	34%	2.07
<b>2</b>	Drew Central Middle (Drew Central)	5-8	74%	306	33%	2.00
<b>3</b>	Warren Middle (Warren)	6-8	70%	352	32%	1.92
<b>4</b>	Lakeside Middle (Lakeside (Chicot))	6-8	85%	206	27%	1.91
<b>5</b>	KIPP: Blytheville College Prep (KIPP Delta Public Schools)	5-8	88%	248	29%	1.89



## S. Junior High School Achievement

Beating the Odds: Overall ACT Aspire, 2016

Table 135: Top 10 "High-Poverty" Junior High Schools in Arkansas based on Overall ACT Aspire Achievement (Math, ELA and Science combined)

	School (District)	Region	Grades Served	%FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
1	Clinton Jr. High (Clinton)	NW	7-9	69%	920	56%	2.59
2	DeQueen Jr. High (DeQueen)	SW	8-9	74%	1,154	47%	2.41
3	Southwest Jr. High (Springdale)	NW	8-9	71%	1,987	45%	2.38
4	Morrilton Jr. High (South Conway County)	NW	7-8	71%	966	43%	2.33
5	Clarksville Jr. High (Clarksville)	NW	7-9	68%	1,872	42%	2.26
5	Nashville Jr. High (Nashville)	SW	7-9	72%	1,281	41%	2.26
7	Nettleton Jr. High (Nettleton)	NE	7-8	66%	1,358	38%	2.17
8	Malvern Middle (Malvern)	CN	7-8	72%	808	37%	2.16
9	Trumann Intermediate 7-8 (Trumann)	NE	7-8	73%	744	34%	2.07
10	Magnolia Jr. High (Magnolia)	SW	7-9	67%	1,866	34%	2.05

Beating the Odds: Math ACT Aspire, 2016

Table 136: Top 10 "High-Poverty" Junior High Schools based on ACT Aspire Math Achievement

	School (District)	Region	Grades Served	%FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
1	Clinton Jr. High (Clinton)	NW	7-9	69%	307	55%	2.57
2	Southwest Jr. High (Springdale)	NW	8-9	71%	663	46%	2.44
3	DeQueen Jr. High (DeQueen)	SW	8-9	74%	385	46%	2.40
4	Nashville Jr. High (Nashville)	SW	7-9	72%	427	43%	2.31
5	Clarksville Jr. High (Clarksville)	NW	7-9	68%	624	41%	2.23
5	Morrilton Jr. High (South Conway County)	NW	7-8	71%	322	36%	2.14
7	Malvern Middle (Malvern)	CN	7-8	72%	270	33%	2.10
8	Trumann Intermediate 7-8 (Trumann)	NE	7-8	73%	248	31%	2.05
9	Nettleton Jr. High (Nettleton)	NE	7-8	66%	453	31%	2.02
10	North Heights Jr. High (Texarkana)	SW	7-8	68%	563	27%	2.00

\* Note: Due to the small number of schools in the Junior High category, math achievement is not examined on the regional level.

Beating the Odds: ELA ACT Aspire, 2016

Table 137: Top 10 "High-Poverty" Junior High Schools based on ACT Aspire ELA Achievement

	School (District)	Region	Grades Served	%FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
1	Clinton Jr. High (Clinton)	NW	7-9	69%	306	67%	2.87
2	DeQueen Jr. High (DeQueen)	SW	8-9	74%	384	57%	2.62
3	Morrilton Jr. High (South Conway County)	NW	7-8	71%	322	54%	2.59
3	Southwest Jr. High (Springdale)	NW	8-9	71%	660	54%	2.59
5	Nashville Jr. High (Nashville)	SW	7-9	72%	427	49%	2.47
6	Clarksville Jr. High (Clarksville)	NW	7-9	68%	624	48%	2.43
7	Magnolia Jr. High (Magnolia)	SW	7-9	67%	622	45%	2.34
7	Nettleton Jr. High (Nettleton)	NE	7-8	66%	452	44%	2.34
7	Hot Springs Middle (Hot Springs)	CN	7-8	72%	505	44%	2.34
10	Malvern Middle (Malvern)	CN	7-8	72%	268	43%	2.32

\* Note: Due to the small number of schools in the Junior High category, ELA achievement is not examined on the regional level.

Beating the Odds: Science ACT Aspire, 2016

Table 138: Top 10 "High-Poverty" Junior High Schools based on ACT Aspire Science Achievement

	School (District)	Region	Grades Served	%FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
1	Clinton Jr. High (Clinton)	NW	7-9	69%	307	46%	2.34
2	Morrilton Jr. High (South Conway County)	NW	7-8	71%	322	41%	2.24
3	DeQueen Jr. High (DeQueen)	SW	8-9	74%	385	39%	2.23
4	Nettleton Jr. High (Nettleton)	NE	7-8	66%	453	39%	2.16
5	Clarksville Jr. High (Clarksville)	NW	7-9	68%	624	38%	2.14
6	Southwest Jr. High (Springdale)	NW	8-9	71%	664	36%	2.13
7	Malvern Middle (Malvern)	CN	7-8	72%	270	37%	2.08
8	Nashville Jr. High (Nashville)	SW	7-9	72%	427	31%	2.02
9	Riverview Jr. High (Riverview)	NE	7-8	76%	197	30%	1.98
10	Magnolia Jr. High (Magnolia)	SW	7-9	67%	622	30%	1.89

\* Note: Due to the small number of schools in the Junior High category, science achievement is not examined on the regional level.

## T. High School Achievement

Beating the Odds: Overall ACT Aspire, 2016

Table 139: Top 10 "**High-Poverty**" High Schools in Arkansas based on **Overall ACT Aspire Achievement** (Math, ELA and Science combined)

	School (District)	Region	Grades Served	%FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
<b>1</b>	Norfolk High (Norfolk)	NW	7-12	82%	435	53%	2.54
<b>2</b>	Timbo High (Mountain View)	NE	7-12	81%	189	48%	2.50
<b>3</b>	Des Arc High (Des Arc)	SE	7-12	68%	519	47%	2.42
<b>4</b>	County Line High (County Line)	NW	7-12	67%	441	48%	2.41
<b>5</b>	Oark High (Jasper)	NW	7-12	72%	156	44%	2.36
<b>6</b>	Omaha High (Omaha)	NW	7-12	74%	375	45%	2.34
<b>6</b>	Bradley High (Emerson-Taylor-Bradley)	SW	7-12	74%	288	45%	2.34
<b>8</b>	Cave City High (Cave City)	NE	9-12	76%	504	44%	2.33
<b>9</b>	Hoxie High (Hoxie)	NE	7-12	67%	756	43%	2.32
<b>9</b>	Gosnell High (Gosnell)	NE	7-12	72%	1,171	43%	2.32

Beating the Odds: Math ACT Aspire, 2016

Table 140: Top 10 "High-Poverty" High Schools based on ACT Aspire **Math** Achievement

	School (District)	Region	Grades Served	%FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
<b>1</b>	Norfolk High (Norfolk)	NW	7-12	82%	145	42%	2.35
<b>2</b>	Des Arc High (Des Arc)	SE	7-12	68%	173	40%	2.31
<b>3</b>	Gosnell High (Gosnell)	NE	7-12	72%	392	42%	2.29
<b>3</b>	Timbo High (Mountain View)	NE	7-12	81%	63	38%	2.29
<b>5</b>	Bradley High (Emerson-Taylor-Bradley)	SW	7-12	74%	96	42%	2.27
<b>6</b>	County Line High (County Line)	NW	7-12	67%	147	42%	2.26
<b>7</b>	Omaha High (Omaha)	NW	7-12	74%	125	37%	2.23
<b>8</b>	J.D. Leftwich High (Magazine)	NW	7-12	75%	174	37%	2.15
<b>9</b>	Oark High (Jasper)	NW	7-12	72%	52	37%	2.14
<b>10</b>	Izard Co. Cons. High (Izard County Consolidated)	NE	9-12	79%	80	34%	2.09

Table 141-145: Top 5 **High Schools** in Arkansas by Region, ACT Aspire **Math** Achievement.



Table 141: Top 5 “high-poverty” high schools in **Northwest** Region based on **Math** ACT Aspire performance

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
1	Norfolk High (Norfolk)	7-12	82%	145	42%	2.35
2	County Line High (County Line)	7-12	67%	147	42%	2.26
3	Omaha High (Omaha)	7-12	74%	125	37%	2.23
4	J.D. Leftwich High (Magazine)	7-12	75%	174	37%	2.15
5	Oark High (Jasper)	7-12	72%	52	37%	2.14



Table 142: Top 5 “high-poverty” high schools in **Northeast** Region based on **Math** ACT Aspire performance

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
1	Gosnell High (Gosnell)	7-12	72%	392	42%	2.29
1	Timbo High (Mountain View)	7-12	81%	63	38%	2.29
3	Izard Co. Cons. High (Izard County Consolidated)	9-12	79%	80	34%	2.09
4	Hoxie High (Hoxie)	7-12	67%	252	28%	2.03
5	Cave City High (Cave City)	9-12	76%	168	29%	2.01
5	Hillcrest High (Hillcrest)	7-12	67%	130	28%	2.01



Table 143: Top 5 “high-poverty” high schools in **Central** Region based on **Math** ACT Aspire performance

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
1	Cutter-Morning Star High (Cutter-Morning Star)	7-12	72%	179	27%	2.03
2	Guy-Perkins High (Guy-Perkins)	7-12	66%	111	27%	1.96
3	Pine Bluff Lighthouse College Prep Academy High (Pine Bluff Lighthouse Academy)	7-12	92%	41	22%	1.88
4	Mountain Pine High (Mountain Pine)	7-12	80%	158	18%	1.70
5	Malvern High (Malvern)	9-12	67%	274	18%	1.67



Table 144: Top 5 “high-poverty” high schools in **Southwest** Region based on **Math** ACT Aspire performance

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
1	Bradley High (Emerson-Taylor-Bradley)	7-12	74%	96	42%	2.27
2	Mount Ida High (Mount Ida)	7-12	68%	154	30%	2.07
3	Caddo Hills High (Caddo Hills)	7-12	74%	160	31%	2.05
4	Oden High (Ouachita River)	7-12	77%	52	28%	2.04
5	Horatio High (Horatio)	7-12	71%	257	31%	2.01





*Table 145: Top 5 “high-poverty” high schools in Southeast Region based on Math ACT Aspire performance*

	<b>School (District)</b>	<b>Grades Served</b>	<b>% FRL</b>	<b># of Test Takers</b>	<b>% Met Readiness Benchmark</b>	<b>GPA</b>
<b>1</b>	Des Arc High (Des Arc)	7-12	68%	173	40%	2.31
<b>2</b>	McGehee High (McGehee)	7-12	69%	320	22%	1.81
<b>3</b>	Dermott High (Dermott)	7-12	94%	89	20%	1.80
<b>4</b>	Brinkley High (Brinkley)	7-12	75%	146	24%	1.79
<b>5</b>	Hermitage High (Hermitage)	7-12	69%	136	20%	1.77

Beating the Odds: ELA ACT Aspire, 2016

Table 146: Top 10 "High-Poverty" High Schools based on ACT Aspire ELA Achievement

	School (District)	Region	Grades Served	%FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
1	Jasper High (Jasper)	NW	7-12	71%	52	66%	2.87
2	Cave City High (Cave City)	NE	9-12	76%	63	63%	2.84
3	Norfolk High (Norfolk)	NW	7-12	82%	145	63%	2.83
4	Timbo High (Mountain View)	NE	7-12	81%	142	60%	2.79
5	Des Arc High (Des Arc)	SE	7-12	68%	168	61%	2.76
6	County Line High (County Line)	NW	7-12	67%	147	60%	2.75
6	Hector High (Hector)	NW	7-12	71%	187	60%	2.75
8	Oark High (Jasper)	NW	7-12	72%	173	58%	2.71
9	Hoxie High (Hoxie)	NE	7-12	67%	46	58%	2.70
10	Izard Co. Cons. High (Izard County Consolidated)	NE	9-12	79%	252	55%	2.64

Table 147-151: Top 5 **High Schools** in Arkansas by Region, ACT Aspire **ELA** Achievement.



Table 147: Top 5 “high-poverty” high schools in **Northwest** Region based on **ELA** ACT Aspire performance

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
1	Jasper High (Jasper)	7-12	71%	142	66%	2.87
2	Norfolk High (Norfolk)	7-12	82%	145	63%	2.83
3	County Line High (County Line)	7-12	67%	147	60%	2.75
3	Hector High (Hector)	7-12	71%	189	60%	2.75
5	Oark High (Jasper)	7-12	72%	52	58%	2.71



Table 148: Top 5 “high-poverty” high schools in **Northeast** Region based on **ELA** ACT Aspire performance

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
1	Cave City High (Cave City)	9-12	76%	168	63%	2.84
2	Timbo High (Mountain View)	7-12	81%	63	60%	2.79
3	Hoxie High (Hoxie)	7-12	67%	252	58%	2.70
4	Izard Co. Cons. High (Izard County Consolidated)	9-12	79%	80	55%	2.64
5	Hillcrest High (Hillcrest)	7-12	67%	130	54%	2.63



Table 149: Top 5 “high-poverty” high schools in **Central** Region based on **ELA** ACT Aspire performance

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
1	Cutter-Morning Star High (Cutter-Morning Star)	7-12	72%	179	45%	2.39
2	Guy-Perkins High (Guy-Perkins)	7-12	66%	111	37%	2.22
3	Malvern High (Malvern)	9-12	67%	274	40%	2.20
4	Mountain Pine High (Mountain Pine)	7-12	80%	158	41%	2.17
4	Jessieville High (Jessieville)	9-12	66%	143	39%	2.17



Table 150: Top 5 “high-poverty” high schools in **Southwest** Region based on **ELA** ACT Aspire performance

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
1	Bradley High (Emerson-Taylor-Bradley)	7-12	74%	96	50%	2.54
2	Foreman High (Foreman)	7-12	66%	171	53%	2.52
2	Umpire High (Cossatot River)	7-12	79%	46	52%	2.52
4	Horatio High (Horatio)	7-12	71%	257	50%	2.50
5	Mount Ida High (Mount Ida)	7-12	68%	155	46%	2.45



*Table 151: Top 5 “high-poverty” high schools in Southeast Region based on ELA ACT Aspire performance*

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
1	Des Arc High (Des Arc)	7-12	68%	173	61%	2.76
2	KIPP Blytheville Collegiate High (KIPP Delta Public Schools)	9-12	86%	102	43%	2.25
3	Dumas High (Dumas)	10-12	71%	110	40%	2.22
4	McGehee High (McGehee)	7-12	69%	320	40%	2.20
5	KIPP: Delta Collegiate High (KIPP Delta Public Schools)	9-12	88%	137	40%	2.19

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Table 152: Top 10 "High-Poverty" High Schools based on ACT Aspire Science Achievement

	School (District)	Region	Grades Served	%FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
1	Norfolk High (Norfolk)	NW	7-12	82%	145	52%	2.43
2	Timbo High (Mountain View)	NE	7-12	81%	63	46%	2.41
3	Omaha High (Omaha)	NW	7-12	74%	125	46%	2.31
4	County Line High (County Line)	NW	7-12	67%	147	44%	2.24
5	Hoxie High (Hoxie)	NE	7-12	67%	252	42%	2.23
5	Oark High (Jasper)	NW	7-12	72%	52	37%	2.23
7	Lead Hill High (Lead Hill)	NW	7-12	72%	98	39%	2.21
8	Bradley High (Emerson-Taylor-Bradley)	SW	7-12	74%	96	43%	2.20
9	Izard Co. Cons. High (Izard County Consolidated)	NE	9-12	79%	80	36%	2.19
10	Des Arc High (Des Arc)	NE	7-12	68%	173	40%	2.18

Table 153-157: Top 5 **High Schools** in Arkansas by Region, ACT Aspire **Science** Achievement.



Table 153: Top 5 “high-poverty” high schools in **Northwest** Region based on **Science** ACT Aspire performance

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
1	Norfork High (Norfork)	7-12	82%	145	52%	2.43
2	Omaha High (Omaha)	7-12	74%	125	46%	2.31
3	County Line High (County Line)	7-12	67%	147	44%	2.24
4	Oark High (Jasper)	7-12	72%	52	37%	2.23
5	Lead Hill High (Lead Hill)	7-12	72%	98	39%	2.21



Table 154: Top 5 “high-poverty” high schools in **Northeast** Region based on **Science** ACT Aspire performance

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
1	Timbo High (Mountain View)	7-12	81%	63	46%	2.41
2	Hoxie High (Hoxie)	7-12	67%	252	42%	2.23
3	Izard Co. Cons. High (Izard County Consolidated)	9-12	79%	80	36%	2.19
4	Cave City High (Cave City)	9-12	76%	168	41%	2.16
5	East Poinsett Co. High (East Poinsett Co.)	7-12	73%	236	35%	2.04
5	Gosnell High (Gosnell)	7-12	72%	392	33%	2.04



Table 155: Top 5 “high-poverty” high schools in **Central** Region based on **Science ACT Aspire** performance

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
1	Guy-Perkins High (Guy-Perkins)	7-12	66%	111	31%	2.03
2	Cutter-Morning Star High (Cutter-Morning Star)	7-12	72%	179	30%	1.94
3	Mountain Pine High (Mountain Pine)	7-12	80%	158	24%	1.79
4	Jessieville High (Jessieville)	9-12	66%	143	21%	1.77
5	Malvern High (Malvern)	9-12	67%	274	22%	1.72



Table 156: Top 5 “high-poverty” high schools in **Southwest** Region based on **Science ACT Aspire** performance

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	% Met Readiness Benchmark	GPA
1	Bradley High (Emerson-Taylor-Bradley)	7-12	74%	96	43%	2.20
2	Oden High (Ouachita River)	7-12	77%	52	37%	2.15
3	Foreman High (Foreman)	7-12	66%	171	32%	2.02
4	Kirby High (Kirby)	7-12	67%	104	30%	2.01
5	Horatio High (Horatio)	7-12	71%	257	32%	1.98





*Table 157: Top 5 “high-poverty” high schools in Southeast Region based on Science ACT Aspire performance*

	<b>School (District)</b>	<b>Grades Served</b>	<b>% FRL</b>	<b># of Test Takers</b>	<b>% Met Readiness Benchmark</b>	<b>GPA</b>
<b>1</b>	Des Arc High (Des Arc)	7-12	68%	173	40%	2.18
<b>2</b>	McGehee High (McGehee)	7-12	69%	320	24%	1.72
<b>3</b>	KIPP Blytheville Collegiate High (KIPP Delta Public Schools)	9-12	86%	103	18%	1.66
<b>4</b>	Clarendon High (Clarendon)	7-12	90%	139	16%	1.65
<b>5</b>	Brinkley High (Brinkley)	7-12	75%	146	20%	1.60
<b>5</b>	Dumas High (Dumas)	10-12	71%	110	16%	1.60

## APPENDIX

### A. Methods

The Office for Education Policy strives to make all of our calculations and publications transparent to our readers. Thus, in this appendix we describe our data source, calculations performed on these data for the purposes of our reporting, and our method for determining a school's classification as an elementary, middle, or high school.

All data used in this report were obtained from the Arkansas Department of Education via the link <http://www.arkansased.gov/divisions/learning-services/student-assessment/test-scores/year?y=2016>. Other data, such as the percent of students eligible for free and reduced lunch, were obtained from the Arkansas Department of Education Data Center (<http://adedata.arkansas.gov>).

As discussed in the introduction, in order to calculate the GPA measure we treat the ACT Aspire test scores similar to the existing grade point system.

<b>ACT Aspire Performance Category</b>	<b>GPA Points Awarded</b>
Exceeded Expectations	4.0
Ready	3.0
Close to Meeting Expectations	2.0
In Need of Support	1.0

We calculate the GPA measure for Math and ELA and Science scores. The GPA measure is comprehensive in that it takes into account all of the test score levels (Exceeded Expectations, Ready, Close to Meeting Expectations or In Need of Support), instead of combining Ready or Exceeded Expectations.

## **B. School Classification**

For the OEP Awards, we classified schools based on the following rules:

- Elementary School: primarily grades 3-5 (minimum grade P, K, 1, 2, 3, or 4)
- Middle School: primarily grades 6-8 (minimum grade of 4, 5, or 6 and maximum grade of 7, or 8)

There were also a few “comprehensive schools,” such as K-8 or K-12 schools, that we included as either middle schools or elementary schools based on their enrollment numbers. The following table lists every grade configuration and their classifications.

Table A: School Classifications

Elementary Schools		Middle Schools
P-2		4-6
P-3		4-8
P-4		5-6
P-5		5-7
P-6		5-8
P-7		5-9
P-8		5-12
K-3		6
K-4		6-12
K-5		6-7
K-6		6-8
K-7		
K-8		
K-9		
K-12		
1-4		
1-5		
1-6		
1-8		
2-3		
2-4		
2-5		
2-6		
3-4		
3-5		
3-6		
4-5		
5		

**B. School Classification – High School Awards**

For the OEP High School Awards, we primarily classified schools based on the following rules:

- Junior High: primarily grades 7 – 9 (maximum grade of 9)
- High School: primarily grades 9 – 12

*Table B: School Classifications*

<b>Junior High</b>		<b>High School</b>
7-8		7-12
7-9		8-12
8-9		9-12
8		10-12
9		11-12
		9-10