

The Top of the Class

The complete list of the 1,300 top U.S. high schools

Newsweek Web Exclusive

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Public schools are ranked according to a ratio devised by Jay Mathews: the number of Advanced Placement, Intl. Baccalaureate and/or Cambridge tests taken by all students at a school in 2007 divided by the number of graduating seniors. All of the schools on the list have an index of at least 1.000; they are in the top 5 percent of public schools measured this way.

If you have questions about the list, please contact challenge@washpost.com. Note: Subs. Lunch % is the percentage of students receiving federally subsidized meals. E and E % stands for equity and excellence percentage: the portion of all graduating seniors at a school that had at least one passing grade on one AP or IB test. For more information on methodology, see our [FAQ](#); please leave your comments on the list in the comments box below.

[Click here](#) for a list of public schools deemed too elite for this list.

Showing 1 to 100 of 1391 Schools from 2008

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PAST YEARS	RANK SCHOOL	LOCATION	STATE	INDEX	SUBS.	LUNCHE	E&E
1	BASIS Charter	Tucson	Ariz.	17.167	n/a		92
2	Talented and Gifted	Dallas	Texas	15.953	331		79.1
3	Suncoast Community **	Riviera Beach	Fla.	10.387	15		85
4	Science/Engineering Magnet	Dallas	Texas	10.245	50.9		101
5	Stanton College Prep **	Jacksonville	Fla.	9.893	6		100
6	Preuss UCSD	La Jolla	Calif.	9.692	85		100
7	Academic Magnet	North Charleston	S.C.	7.314	7.3		101
8	Paxon School for Advanced Studies **	Jacksonville	Fla.	7.182	12		71
9	Oxford Academy	Cypress	Calif.	6.784	16.8		100
10	International School	Bellevue	Wash.	6.717	3		98.1
11	City Honors **	Buffalo	N.Y.	6.7	28		70.3
12	International Academy **	Bloomfield Hills	Mich.	6.271	<1		100
13	Pacific Collegiate	Santa Cruz	Calif.	6.125	n/a		100
14	Northside College Prep	Chicago	Ill.	6.052	33		87.3
15	Highland Park	Dallas	Texas	6.035	0		65.1

16	H-B Woodlawn	Arlington	Va.	5.636	17	93.6
17	Eastern Sierra Academy	Bridgeport	Calif.	5.6	36	60
18	North Hills Prep **	Irving	Texas	5.563	9	67.6
19	Coral Reef **	Miami	Fla.	5.514	37.3	82.5
20	Jericho	Jericho	N.Y.	5.477	0.7	77.3
21	The Early College at Guilford	Greensboro	N.C.	5.467	4.3	91.1
22	Center for Advanced Technologies	St. Petersburg	Fla.	5.448	11	27.9
23	Martin Luther King Academic Magnet	Nashville	Tenn.	5.371	13	79.3
24	Hume-Fogg Academic	Nashville	Tenn.	5.332	9.2	80.3
25	MATCH Charter	Boston	Mass.	5.25	71	50
26	Communications Arts	San Antonio	Texas	5.245	13	56.8
27	Raleigh Charter	Raleigh	N.C.	5.238	0	95.8
28	Troy **	Fullerton	Calif.	5.207	7	58
29	Eastside **	Gainesville	Fla.	5.135	44	78
30	McNair Academic	Jersey City	N.J.	5.132	44	72.3
31	Newport	Bellevue	Wash.	5.114	9	68.7
32	Richard Montgomery **	Rockville	Md.	5.061	15	61.3
33	Dreyfoos School of the Arts	West Palm Beach	Fla.	5.061	7	70.7
34	Hillsborough **	Tampa	Fla.	4.907	54	38.6
35	Benjamin Franklin	New Orleans	La.	4.855	47	100
36	Little Rock Central	Little Rock	Ark.	4.774	33.64	33.8
37	Pine View School for the Gifted	Osprey	Fla.	4.738	5.4	100
38	Myers Park **	Charlotte	N.C.	4.731	23	57
39	Design & Architecture Sr High	Miami	Fla.	4.717	38	100
40	Peak to Peak Charter	Lafayette	Colo.	4.696	5	53.8
41	Classen School of Advanced Studies **	Oklahoma City	Okla.	4.659	32.8	50
42	Pensacola **	Pensacola	Fla.	4.627	60	30.75
43	Sturgis Charter Public **	Hyannis	Mass.	4.625	10.1	92
44	South Texas High School for Health Professions	Mercedes	Texas	4.551	55.1	54.4
45	Interlake **	Bellevue	Wash.	4.544	31	48.1
46	Science Academy of South Texas	Mercedes	Texas	4.543	43	62.7
47	South Side **	Rockville Centre	N.Y.	4.513	11	71
48	Clarke County **	Berryville	Va.	4.4	13	82
49	Great Neck South	Great Neck	N.Y.	4.388	9	80.7
50	Los Angeles Center for Enriched Studies	Los Angeles	Calif.	4.359	41.1	55.9
51	Moreno Valley	Angel Fire	N.M.	4.333	20.5	30
52	Westlake	Austin	Texas	4.331	3	69
53	Diamond Hill-Jarvis	Fort Worth	Texas	4.317	84.5	28.1
54	Lowell	San Francisco	Calif.	4.299	34.9	82.4
55	Langley	McLean	Va.	4.28	1	67.4
56	Loveless Academic Magnet	Montgomery	Ala.	2.298	9.4	83.5
57	Walnut Hills	Cincinnati	Ohio	4.227	16	78.5
58	Atlantic Community **	Delray Beach	Fla.	4.217	31	30.5
59	George Mason **	Falls Church	Va.	4.176	7	66
60	Wootton	Rockville	Md.	4.133	4	71.5
61	Cold Spring Harbor	Cold Spring Harbor	N.Y.	4.13	<1	101
62	MAST Academy	Miami	Fla.	4.121	30	58.2
63	Bellevue	Bellevue	Wash.	4.112	11	72.6
64	Bethesda-Chevy Chase **	Bethesda	Md.	4.054	9	66.8
65	Washington-Lee **	Arlington	Va.	4.051	36	43.8
66	Booker T. Washington **	Tulsa	Okla.	4.04	34.2	37.2
67	Wheatley	Old Westbury	N.Y.	4.025	<1	68.3
68	John Miller-Great Neck North	Great Neck	N.Y.	4.024	8	60.8
69	Walt Whitman	Bethesda	Md.	4.023	2	73.5
70	Rickards **	Tallahassee	Fla.	4.004	42	23
71	Plant	Tampa	Fla.	3.993	10	44.3
72	San Diego High School for International Studies **	San Diego	Calif.	3.989	56	66.3
73	Enloe **	Raleigh	N.C.	3.979	38.7	60.2

74	W. T. Woodson	Fairfax	Va.	3.907	6	59.5
75	Yorktown	Arlington	Va.	3.896	15	66.3
76	Walter Johnson	Bethesda	Md.	3.893	6	59.1
77	Bell Multicultural	Washington	D.C.	3.888	81	11
78	Westwood **	Austin	Texas	3.864	8.2	59.1
79	Fletcher	Neptune Beach	Fla.	3.835	19	18.5
80	Lincoln	Tallahassee	Fla.	3.833	10	37.5
81	Pittsford Sutherland	Pittsford	N.Y.	3.833	3.6	66.8
82	Yonkers **	Yonkers	N.Y.	3.816	67.7	83.5
83	Gunn	Palo Alto	Calif.	3.813	6.1	74.7
84	Grimsley **	Greensboro	N.C.	3.808	31.9	53.6
85	Dobbs Ferry **	Dobbs Ferry	N.Y.	3.798	9	33
86	Corbett	Corbett	Ore.	3.795	22	64.4
87	Rye	Rye	N.Y.	3.784	2.3	90.3
88	Lincoln Park **	Chicago	Ill.	3.782	48	66
89	Wyoming	Wyoming	Ohio	3.763	5	79.5
90	Paschal	Fort Worth	Texas	3.705	31	32.5
91	Nease **	St. Augustine	Fla.	3.69	2	46
92	Edgemont	Scarsdale	N.Y.	3.689	0	77.3
93	Edina	Edina	Minn.	3.685	8	32.5
94	Spruce Creek **	Port Orange	Fla.	3.683	13	24.9
95	Lake Braddock	Burke	Va.	3.681	11	54.4
96	Colleyville Heritage	Colleyville	Texas	3.675	7.6	33.7
97	LBJ	Austin	Texas	3.667	45	50
98	Winston Churchill	Potomac	Md.	3.658	3	72.7
99	McLean	McLean	Va.	3.646	6	69.2
100	Charter School of Wilmington	Wilmington	Dela.	3.642	2	69.6

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***Includes IB. Nearly all other schools use just AP tests.*

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