

LITTLE ROCK
SCHOOL DISTRICT

2024-2025 COMMUNITY REPORT
LITTLE ROCK SCHOOL DISTRICT

www.LRSD.org

More Opportunities for KIDS!

LITTLE ROCK SCHOOL DISTRICT

LEADERSHIP



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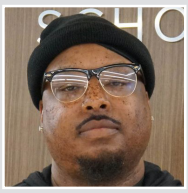

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The Little Rock School District (LRSD) Board of Education is comprised of seven members. While the Board sets policy that governs the District, Superintendent Dr. Jermall Wright implements the Board's vision, making day-to-day decisions about educational programs, spending, staff, and facilities.

Partnerships between school, home, and the community are essential to the District's success. Parents and community members are encouraged to remain engaged through active participation at schools, by watching/attending meetings, as well as providing input.

LRSD hosts two regularly scheduled monthly meetings on the second and fourth Thursday at 5:30 p.m. Stakeholders may provide public comment during any meeting where action items are on the agenda.

Stakeholders interested in following board meetings are invited to check out the Diligent platform. Diligent is designed to enhance engagement and allow stakeholders to receive notification about meetings and quickly navigate through recorded meetings with customized settings.

Watch Board/Public Meetings: www.LRSDLive.com
Public Comments: www.LRSD.org/lrsdpubliccomments

Themes that are embeded in LRSD's Strategic Plan:

- Affirming School Cultures — THEME A
- Meaningful Student Learning Experiences — THEME B
- Valued and Equitable School Options — THEME C
- Excellence In Our Talent — THEME D

Message from Superintendent Dr. Jermall Wright

Dear LRSD Families,

As we continue to reflect on school, home and community partnerships, I am proud to share this Community Report highlighting the progress, achievements, and milestones we accomplished together across the Little Rock School District.

This past year was filled with reasons to celebrate. Our students earned more than $28 million in scholarships, achieved a historic number of Academic Signing Day recognitions, captured state athletic championships, created award-winning works of art, and continued to excel in classrooms across the district. We also saw meaningful academic growth, including our highest percentage of third-grade students demonstrating grade-level literacy proficiency since 2016, our highest four-year graduation rate since 2017, and significant improvements in student achievement across reading and math. These accomplishments reflect the dedication of our students, staff, families, and community partners who work every day to support student success.

Inside this report, you'll find highlights of the many ways LRSD is moving forward - from academic achievement and innovative programs to facility improvements and student opportunities. While we are proud of how far we've come, we remain focused on the work ahead as we continue building a district where every student is prepared for success in college, career, and life.



Most importantly, I want to thank you. Your partnership plays a critical role in your child's success and in the success of our district. Whether you volunteer at school, attend events, communicate with teachers, or support learning at home, your involvement makes a difference. I encourage you to take a few moments to review this report, celebrate the accomplishments of our students and staff, and stay engaged with LRSD throughout the year.

Together, as One Team, One Dream, One LRSD, we are creating opportunities, inspiring achievement, and building a brighter future for every student we serve.

Thank you for your continued trust and support.

Jermall Wright, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

BIG BUILDS, BRIGHT FUTURES

LRSD continues to reimagine learning spaces across the District - creating modern, student-centered schools that reflect pride, safety, and choice. Over the past year, the District celebrated major milestones, including the opening of Central High School's new Science Wing and baseball field, continued progress on the new West High School, and significant renovations to the Parkview Arts & Sciences Magnet High School auditorium.

Looking ahead, LRSD remains committed to enhancing classrooms and facilities so students across Little Rock learn in spaces designed for today - and built for tomorrow. These investments represent more than bricks and mortar; they reflect LRSD's promise to students, families, and the community.

"When we invest in our schools, we invest in our students - and in the future of our city," said Superintendent Dr. Jermall Wright.

New/Enhanced Facilities

Rockefeller Early Childhood Center



Central High School Science Building, Field House, and Baseball Field



Dr. Marian G. Lacey K-8 Academy



Parkview High School Performing Arts Center



Coming 2027:

LR West High School



Volunteers in Public Schools - ViPS

Unleashing the Power of Community Through Volunteering

Enjoy giving back to your school community? If so, you're encouraged to sign up for LRSD's Volunteers in Public School's (ViPS) program. This impactful program helps strengthen the connection between schools and the community. Through ViPS, parents, neighbors, and other community members contribute their time and skills to support our schools. Whether it's tutoring, assisting teachers in the classroom, organizing extracurricular activities, or providing additional resources, volunteers play a crucial role in enhancing the overall educational experience for our children.

ViPS marked its 50th year of service in 2023, and thanks to the commitment of the community, students and schools continue to benefit from individual volunteers and Partners in Education (PIE). PIE representatives include businesses and faith-based organizations who donate time, talent, and financial support to provide mentoring, after school programs, books, classroom supplies, job shadowing, internships, and incentives for students and teachers. More than 278 organizations serve as partners in education.



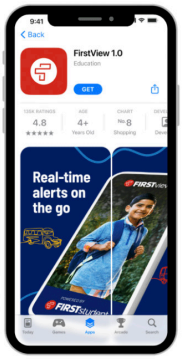


Volunteer recruitment is ongoing with a special effort to solicit presenters for the Arkansas Scholars program. ViPS coordinates this statewide program for LRSD to assist District 8th graders with a successful transition to high school, 9th grade in particular. Community members interested in presenting the Arkansas Scholars program should call the ViPS office at 501-447-ViPS (x 8477) for training information and scheduling.

LRSD is fortunate to have an incredible group of volunteers and partners in education who provide daily support to our students and schools. It's a fantastic opportunity to help build a stronger, more nurturing school community.

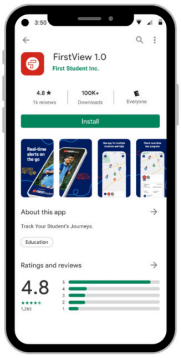
www.LRSD.org/ViPS

Riding Smarter with FirstView



Apple Devices

Download on the App Store



Android Devices

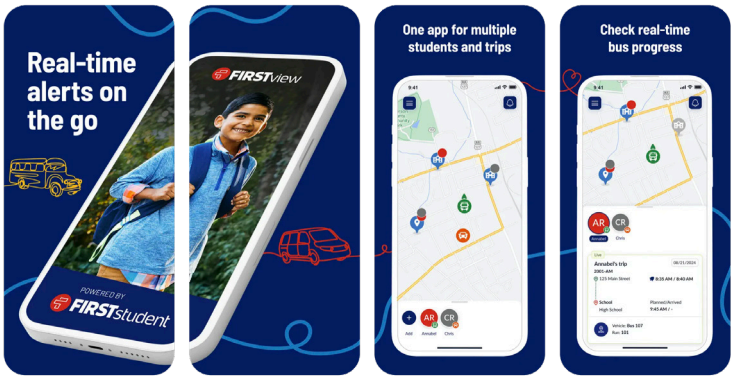
GET IT ON Google Play



Real-Time Updates. Less Guessing. More Peace of Mind.
Getting students to school safely and on time is easier than ever with FirstView, LRSD's real-time transportation app. Families can track buses, receive alerts, and stay informed about route changes—all from their phone.

FirstView helps mornings run smoother and gives parents peace of mind, because knowing what's happening makes all the difference. Download the app to stay connected and informed every step of the way.

www.LRSD.org/firstview

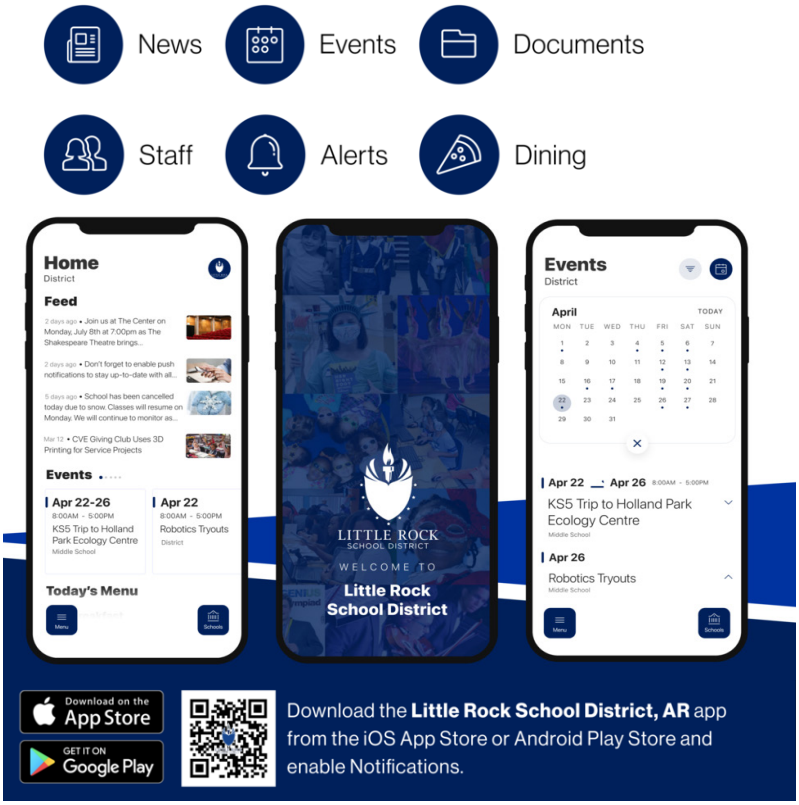


Driving Toward a Greener Future: LRSD's Electric Bus Fleet



LRSD proudly rolled out a new fleet of electric school buses in fall 2025 after receiving a $9.8 million grant - marking an important step toward cleaner transportation and a healthier future for students.

These buses reduce emissions, operate more quietly, and provide a smoother ride for students while supporting the District's commitment to sustainability and innovation. The initial fleet of 25 buses serves students with special needs, with plans underway to expand electric bus service through First Student, LRSD's primary transportation partner.



The LRSD App: Your District at Your Fingertips

Powered by Apptegy, the LRSD App brings school news, alerts, calendars, and important updates together in one easy-to-use place. Whether it's a message from your child's school or a districtwide announcement, families can stay informed anytime, anywhere.

The app's "Rooms" feature allows safe, two-way communication between teachers and parents. Even better, if your children attend more than one LRSD school, Rooms works across all grade levels, so there's no need to download multiple apps. For more information about Rooms, contact your child's school.

Download the App Now!

Android: **https://bit.ly/3KocYoe**

iPhone: **https://apple.co/3rZpxzW**

Staying Connected Starts With You:

There's nothing worse than missing an important call or message.

Accurate contact information helps LRSD communicate quickly and effectively, especially during emergencies or time-sensitive situations. Families are encouraged to keep phone numbers, email addresses, and home addresses up to date so important messages reach the right place at the right time.

EVERY QUESTION MATTERS— EVERY FAMILY MATTERS AT LRSD



The late Dr. Maya Angelou said, "People will forget what you said…but people will never forget how you made them feel." LRSD is recommitting to excellent customer service, and the Community Experience through Apptegy featured on the District website helps make that happen. Community Experience allows schools and departments to track questions, concerns, and feedback - ensuring timely responses and thoughtful follow-up.

As part of the renewed commitment to service excellence, LRSD also launched a Customer Service Committee. This group will develop a format for recognizing staff members each month who exemplify the District's core values: Safety, Students First, Respect, Equity, Accountability, and Joy.



Pathways to Purpose: LPN Program Gives Students a Head Start

Through a partnership with Baptist Health, LRSD's Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) program is opening doors for students interested in healthcare careers. The program provides hands-on training, real-world experience, and a clear pathway into a high-demand field.

Metropolitan Career Technical Center was awarded a $192,158 grant from the Office of Skills Development, a division of the Arkansas Department of Commerce, which pays the fees for participating students to attend the LPN program at no cost.

The LRSD-Baptist Health LPN program exemplifies how innovative partnerships can create new opportunities for students, strengthen the workforce, and foster a stronger, healthier community.





College Connections That Count

New partnerships with University of Arkansas at Little Rock and University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff are expanding college and career opportunities for LRSD students. Through the UALR partnership, students can earn college credit while still in high school, graduating with both a diploma and an associate's degree. These courses save families time and money while helping students explore interests and build confidence for life after graduation. At UAPB, students at Little Rock Southwest High School will soon participate in a new hydroponic plant systems career pathway, gaining hands-on experience in agriculture, technology, and sustainability - building a direct pipeline from high school to higher education and the workforce.

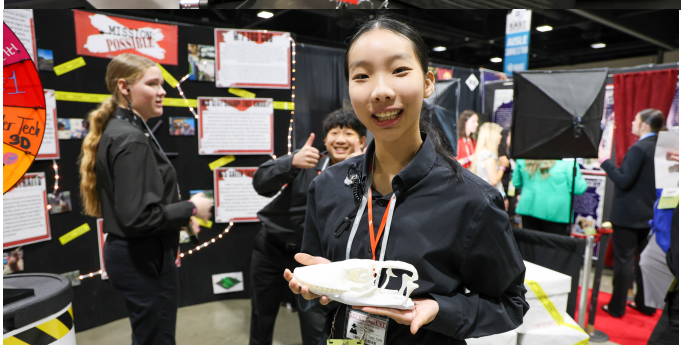
Check out our website for more information.

Students Lead with Purpose Through EAST Programs at LRSD

From designing apps for museums to tackling real-world challenges with community partners, EAST is changing how Little Rock School District students learn, especially in elementary and middle school. Through hands-on projects, students build critical thinking, teamwork, and technology skills while discovering how they can make a real difference in their communities.







Students across LRSD are already doing amazing work. At Roberts Elementary, EAST students teamed up with the Old State House Museum to create a kid-friendly app for museum tours, even pitching their idea and prototype. Other students have partnered with the Little Rock Zoo, designing a tube feeder for sloth bears and creating a medical box for Komodo dragon procedures.

Beyond the projects, students are growing as leaders too. In the past, LRSD students have been selected to serve on leadership teams at the annual EAST Conference alongside peers from across the state.

Their hard work has also earned recognition. Roberts Elementary received the Cornerstone Award for Community and Collaboration, and Dunbar Magnet Middle School earned a Judge's Choice Award.

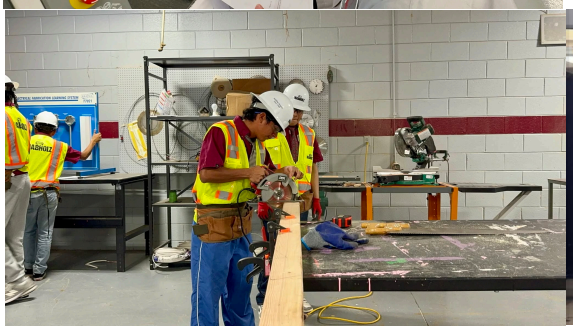
By expanding EAST in elementary and middle schools, LRSD is helping students build confidence, discover their purpose, and develop skills they'll use for life.

EAST®

Where Learning Meets the Real World: Metro







The Metropolitan Career-Technical Center (Metro) offers hands-on learning that leads directly to careers. From skilled trades to innovative programs like cybersecurity, Metro equips students with real-world skills and industry experience, preparing them for success the moment they graduate.

Metro is open to all high school students in the surrounding area, regardless of district, giving even more students access to career-ready opportunities.





LRSD Keeps Rolling with Rock Region Metro Partnership

Need a ride? Little Rock School District is continuing its partnership with Rock Region Metro so students and staff can ride public transportation for free.

With a valid district ID and transportation sticker, LRSD students and employees can ride any Rock Region Metro bus and use MetroConnect, an on-demand service similar to rideshare. It's a great way to make getting to school, work, and activities easier and more reliable.

Current "red" stickers will remain valid through August 2026. If you need a sticker, start by checking with your school or department office. If they don't have any available, you can email Stefanie Vestal at Stefanie.Vestal@lrsd.org.



A Friendly Family Showdown: The Chen Siblings Take on the Spelling Bee

In the Chen household, spelling bees aren't just events, they're practically a family sport.



Alex Chen, a student at Roberts Elementary, spelled his way to the top at the Little Rock School District Elementary Spelling Bee. He clinched the win with the word "ballistics," outspelling top students from across the District and earned a spot in the Pulaski County Spelling Bee.

And here's the twist: Alex wasn't the only Chen on the county stage. His big sister, Sara Chen, is a spelling star in her own right. Last year, she didn't just compete in the Arkansas State Spelling Bee, she won it. That victory sent her all the way to the Scripps National Spelling Bee, putting her among the best student spellers in the entire country.



Now with both siblings being spelling champs, the Chen home is full of practice rounds, word lists, encouragement, and plenty of playful sibling competition.

Alex and Sara's mom, Hwa Soon Patrick, said preparing for the event was "a process" of absorbing "everything that you're exposed to."

"The more you can read, the better," Patrick added.

No matter who advances next, one thing is clear: the Chens are already spelling S-U-C-C-E-S-S for LRSD. This is one friendly family rivalry everyone will be cheering for.

Reading in the Rock: Turning Pages, Changing Lives

READING IN THE ROCK

Reading in the Rock continues to ignite a love of reading across LRSD schools and neighborhoods. By increasing access to books, engaging families, and encouraging daily reading habits, this citywide initiative is helping students build skills-and dream bigger.

Between three distribution efforts last year - in partnership with the City of Little Rock and community partners - an estimated nearly 80,000 books have been given away. The District would like to thank these partners and generous supporters for helping make the donations possible.

If you'd like to learn more or contribute to Reading in the Rock, visit www.lrsd.org/readingintherock.







Read. Dream. Succeed.

LRSD Launches New Magnet Schools to Spark Student Potential

The Little Rock School District is bringing more exciting learning options to families with the launch of new magnet school programs. These programs are designed to get students more involved in their learning through hands-on, inquiry-based, and project-based experiences.

Students can explore pathways like STEAM, leadership, language and communication, multimedia arts, and STEM while building real-world skills they can use beyond the classroom. With more choices and supportive school environments, LRSD's magnet schools help students discover their interests and grow toward their future goals.

LRSD is now accepting students for the 2026–2027 school year, and families can learn more by visiting www.lrsd.org.



Safe, Secure, and Prepared



Student safety remains a top priority at LRSD, so we have launched a new, easy-to-use, anonymous reporting app called StopIt.

This new tool will provide students, staff, families, and community members with a safe, anonymous way to report concerns related to bullying, threats, school violence, self-harm, or other behaviors that may place students at risk.

To learn more, go to stopitsolutions.com or find it in your App Store.

Student Voices in Action Across LRSD

At the Little Rock School District, we believe student voices matter. One of the ways that belief is put into action is through the Superintendent's Student Advisory Board. This group was created to make sure students have a seat at the table and a real say in decisions that affect their schools and learning.

The board includes students from all four LRSD high schools and three middle schools, and they meet monthly with district leaders. Together, they share ideas, raise concerns from their peers, and help find solutions. Their goal is simple: to help create schools that are welcoming, fair, and supportive places where every student can succeed. Advisory Board members also keep their classmates informed about what's being discussed and how student feedback is shaping decisions across the District.



These students are already making an impact. A board member gives a report at each LRSD Board of Education meeting, and the group helped create a Student Advisory Board page on the LRSD website. They've also developed ways to regularly listen to student concerns and report back on progress, and they take part in community events throughout the year.

This year, two board members even traveled with LRSD staff to Philadelphia to present at a national education conference, sharing how student leadership can influence district decisions. The board has also helped launch the first-ever LRSD Student Leadership Institute, which gives students hands-on experiences with leaders from business, nonprofit, and government fields. (insert photo)Students have already gathered at Philander Smith University for a business-focused session, will visit the Clinton Center for a nonprofit experience, and will wrap up the Institute at the Arkansas State Capitol.

LRSD is proud of these students for stepping up, speaking out, and helping shape the future of the District - and grateful to our families for supporting student leadership every step of the way.

What is the Student Advisory Board?

The Students Advisory Board is a group of students from LRSD schools who help share student ideas with district leaders.

What do they do?

- Speak up about what's working at school and what could be better
- Meet with the Superintendent and other leaders
- Share ideas from classmates
- Help make schools welcoming and fair for everyone

Who's on the board?

- Students from all LRSD high schools
- Students from several middle schools

Why does it matter?

Because student voices are important! This group helps make sure decisions are made with students, not just for students.

Students helping shape the future of LRSD!

A Year of Applause for Parkview's Theatre Program



It was a year to remember at Parkview Arts/Science Magnet High School, where talent, teamwork, and pride took center stage.

It all began with a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the reimagined Performing Arts Center. Students, staff, alumni, and community members gathered to celebrate a beautiful new space that will support creativity, performance, and learning for years to come.



Adding to the excitement, beloved theatre educator Tamara Zinck was honored with the Gail Burns Theatre Educator of the Year Award from the Educational Theatre Association. Known affectionately by students as Parkview's "Mime-Keeper," Ms. Zinck's passion for theatre and dedication to her students have made a lasting impact, making this recognition especially meaningful for the entire Parkview community.

From unveiling a new stage to celebratingoutstanding educators, the year showcased exactly what makes Parkview a place where students can shine, on stage and beyond.

LRSD and Central High School Soar with Successful Fly Day

Central High School students got an up-close look at cutting-edge technology during the school's inaugural Fly Day. The event featured demonstrations of autonomous drones provided by Grace 3 Technologies and Skydio, showcasing how mission-ready equipment can be used in real-world scenarios.



In addition to the high-tech demonstrations, drone operators from Nabholz Construction and robotics operators from the Little Rock Fire Department shared their experiences with how they utilize technology in their respective fields. Together, the partners highlighted both career pathways in STEM and the practical applications of drones in keeping communities safe.

Students were equally enthusiastic about the experience. Central senior Anthony Bland shared, "I've been introduced to a lot of cool things with the drones. Learning how police and fire use them to help our community was really interesting. I really enjoyed getting to fly the drones and see how they work."

As a bonus, the day included a special visit from two members of the Little Rock Nine - Dr. Terrence Roberts and Carlotta Walls-Lanier - who reminded students of Central's historic legacy while expressing hope for the opportunities today's students now have with 21st-century technology and the school's new science wing.

Fly Day underscored both Central's proud history and its commitment to preparing students for the future through innovation, opportunity, and community partnerships.

Faith-based Prize Patrol Surprises LRSD Schools with Thousands of $$$

The Little Rock School District (LRSD) received an unexpected dose of holiday cheer last year, thanks to St. Peter Missionary Baptist Church's "Give Thanks, Give Back" initiative. In a heartfelt show of community partnership and gratitude, the church awarded grants, totaling $6,000, to six LRSD schools in a surprise "Prize Patrol"-style celebration.

The initiative reflects the church's belief in the transformative power of education and came at a critical time, as many families faced additional challenges due to the federal government shutdown and temporary pause in SNAP benefits.

After being selected from among several LRSD schools submitting applications for the grants, the following LRSD schools each received $1,000 awards today: McDermott Elementary, Terry Elementary, Otter Creek Elementary, Chicot Elementary, Western Hills Elementary, and Stephens Elementary.

The Little Rock School District extends heartfelt thanks to Pastor Burris and the St. Peter congregation for their leadership, generosity, and commitment to making a difference in the lives of students and families across the city.





Operation Warm Delivers Winter Coats to Students at Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Leadership and Language Magnet Academy



Students at Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Leadership and Language Magnet Academy were wrapped in warmth and care as IAFF Local 34 and Entergy Arkansas partnered with LRSD once again for their annual Operation Warm celebration. Every student received a brand-new winter coat, delivered personally by firefighters and Entergy employees.

The initiative began in 2015 after local firefighters noticed children shivering at a bus stop and has since grown into a cherished tradition across the Little Rock School District. Through generous fundraising, strong community support, and a longstanding partnership with Entergy Arkansas, Operation Warm continues to ensure students have the comfort they need during the winter months.

LRSD is grateful to IAFF Local 34, Entergy Arkansas, and all supporters who make a lasting difference in the lives of our students each year.

Elementary School Teachers of the Year



Ashley Nicole Holland
Chicot Early Childhood Center



Caitlin Reid
Fair Park Early Childhood Center



Michelle Ward
Geyer Springs Early Childhood Center



Elizabeth Allison
Rockefeller Early Childhood Center



Diana Rodriguez
Romine Early Childhood Center



Sequoia Randall-Rogers
Bale Elementary



Krystie Brumfield
Brady Elementary



Lauren M. Russell-Green
Carver STEAM Magnet Elementary



Ivan Pereira
Chicot Elementary



J-Lynn Elmore Brock
Don R. Roberts Elementary



Victoria Golden
Dr. Marian G. Lacey K-8 Academy (Elementary)



Tiffaney Lewis
Forest Heights STEM Academy (Elementary)



Rebecca Lu Cook
Forest Park Elementary



Jennifer E. Dilday
Fulbright Elementary



Blair Ray
Gibbs International Magnet School



Sarah McPherson
J.A. Fair K-8 Preparatory Academy (Elementary)



Caitlin Spencer
Jefferson Elementary



Carrie Perry
Mabelvale Elementary



Edward Scott
Dr. ML King Jr. Leadership and Language Magnet Academy



Laura Powell
McDermott Elementary



Felicia R. Hayes
Otter Creek Elementary



Yvette Renee' Peterson
Pulaski Heights Elementary



Ophelia Holloway
Stephens Elementary



Shaye Bradford
Terry Elementary



Hillary Brown
Wakefield Elementary



Kerri Lee
Washington Elementary



Dallie Cottrell
Watson Elementary



Sarah Helm
Western Hills Elementary

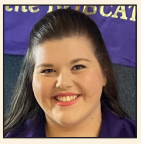


Teri Morton
Williams Magnet Elementary

Middle School Teachers of the Year



Devona Holmes
Dunbar Magnet Middle



Kaycie Taylor
Dunbar Magnet Middle



LaKeitha Austin-Brooks
Dr. Marian G. Lacey K-8 Academy (Middle)



Paola Anahi Vazquez
Dr. Marian G. Lacey K-8 Academy (Middle)



Carey Shurgar Sellers
Forest Heights STEM Academy (Middle)



Tashika Harris
Forest Heights STEM Academy (Middle)



Kimberly L. Trotter
J.A. Fair K-8 Preparatory Academy (Middle)



LaQuashia Brooks
J.A. Fair K-8 Preparatory Academy (Middle)



Falloncia Earnest
Mabelvale Middle



Jessica Key
Mabelvale Middle



Klassic Raye Harper
Mann Arts and Science Magnet Middle School

Leslie Collier
Mann Arts and Science Magnet Middle School

Darrah Maxfield
Pinnacle View Middle

Lisa Counts
Pinnacle View Middle

Ramona McGee
Pulaski Heights Middle

Sheresa Rice
Pulaski Heights Middle

High School Teachers of the Year

Erica Moore
LR Central High

Nicole Y. Smith
LR Central High

Rex R. DeLoney
LR Central High

Christopher L. Watkins
LR Hall-West High School of Innovation

Kelly Taylor
LR Hall-West High School of Innovation

Lisa Drannon
LR Hall-West High School of Innovation

José M. Holloway
LR Southwest Magnet High

Todd Ferguson
LR Southwest Magnet High

William Zachary Nance
LR Southwest Magnet High

Amanda Gray Warren
Parkview Arts & Science Magnet High School

Patrick Joseph Donovan
Parkview Arts & Science Magnet High School

Whitney Bordelon
Parkview Arts & Science Magnet High School

Dr. Charles Wilmoth
Accelerated Learning Center

Eric Mulherin
Adult Education

Laura Carroll
Hamilton Learning Academy

Cynthia N. Booker
Metropolitan Career-Technical Center

LITTLE ROCK SCHOOL DISTRICT

2025 Crystal Awards

EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR



VICTORIA GOLDEN
2025 LRSD
TEACHER OF THE YEAR



KRYSTIE BRUMFIELD
2025 LRSD
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
TEACHER OF THE YEAR



CAREY SHURGAR SELLERS
2025 LRSD
MIDDLE SCHOOL
TEACHER OF THE YEAR



REX R. DELONEY
2025 LRSD
HIGH SCHOOL
TEACHER OF THE YEAR



EDDIE HUNT
2025 LRSD CLASSIFIED
EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

Classified Employees of the Year



Angela Harris
(Forest Heights STEM Academy)
LRSD Paraprofessional of the Year



Eric Rasberry
(LR Central High School)
LRSD Security Officer of the Year



Natasha Sanchez
(Fulbright Elementary)
LRSD Health Employee of the Year



Valerie Johnson
LRSD Child Nutrition Employee of the Year



Eddie Hunt
(McDermott Elementary)
LRSD Custodial Employee of the Year



Vincent McCoy
LRSD Maintenance and Operations Employee of the Year



Chelsea Malcolm
(Brady Elementary)
LRSD Secretary/General Employee of the Year



Sandra Scott
LRSD Transportation Employee of the Year



Rochell Johnson
First Student Staff Member of the Year



Laquania West
First Student Driver of the Year

The Public Education Foundation and LRSD Present the

Class of 2025 Academic Signing Day



Top Scholars Honored at Academic Signing Day

Little Rock School District and Public Education Foundation Celebrate Excellence with 2025 Academic Signing Day.

The Little Rock School District (LRSD), in partnership with the Public Education Foundation, proudly celebrated the outstanding achievements of students from all four LRSD high schools at the annual Academic Signing Day. This event highlights the remarkable accomplishments of the Class of 2025, whose members have been accepted to prestigious colleges and universities across the country.

This year's honorees will be attending institutions including Alabama A&M University, Arkansas State University - Jonesboro, Arkansas Tech University, Emory University, George Washington University, Georgia Institute of Technology, Henderson State University, Hendrix College, Howard University, Jackson State University, Little Rock Police Academy, Louisiana Tech University, Lyon College, Pace University, Pepperdine University, Princeton University, Rhodes College, Seton Hall University, Smith College - Northampton (MA), Southern Arkansas University, The Salon Professional Academy of Little Rock, United States Air Force Academy, University of Alabama, University of Arkansas - Fayetteville, University of Arkansas - Fayetteville (Honors College), University of Arkansas - Little Rock, University of Arkansas - Little Rock (Donaghey Scholars Program) University of Arkansas - Pine Bluff, University of Arkansas - Pulaski Technical College, University of California, Berkeley (Rausser College), University of Central Arkansas, University of Central Arkansas (Honors College), University of Michigan, University of Pennsylvania - Wharton School, University of San Francisco, University of the Ozarks, and Washington University in St. Louis.

Modeled after athletic signing days, Academic Signing Day celebrates academic excellence with the same level of pride and enthusiasm. Students choosing to pursue higher education in Arkansas or out of state are honored for their dedication and success.

To qualify for this prestigious recognition, graduates must meet at least one of the following criteria:

- A cumulative 4.0 grade-point average from grades nine through 12
- Recognition as valedictorian, salutatorian, or one of the top four graduates in their class
- Selection as a National Hispanic Scholar, National Merit Semifinalist, or National Merit Commended Scholar

Each year, LRSD students collectively earn over $23 million in scholarships, demonstrating their commitment to academic excellence.

Freshmen should start inquiring at the beginning of their 9th grade year about participating in this prestigious academic celebration.











PRE-K

- Largest Provider of Public Pre-school
- Certified Teacher in Every Classroom
- LRSD Pre-K Students outperform peer group who did not attend LRSD Pre-K in every skill level
- On the Path to National NAEYC Early Learning Program Accreditation

K-12

- Gifted and talented options
- Learning challenges support/ Special Education Options
- High School Prep Programs- Pre-AP, AP, Concurrent credit opportunities
- Opportunity to graduate with a high school diploma and a college associates degree simultaneously
- Earn approx $20 million annually in scholarships

ARTS

- Award-winning Arts Programs
- Creative and Performing Arts
- Consistently place in Top 5 – Arkansas Young Artists Association
- Arkansas PTA Awards
- Among Top Honors in Region and All-Region band/choral programs, Superior and First Chair Recognitions

ATHLETICS

- Champions or Finalists in multiple sports
- Tennis, Swimming, Wrestling, Football, Basketball, Golf, Soccer, Volleyball, Baseball, and Softball programs
- 6th Grade Model Up Sports Program

ADULT ED

- FREE, self-paced, individualized instruction for non-traditional adult students, ages 18 +
- Variety of classes including Adult Basic Education (ABE), Adult Secondary Education (ASE/GED), and English-As-A-Second Language (ESL)

LRSD Strategic Plan Themes

- **Affirming School Cultures:** Student success goes beyond academic achievement, and we are committed to supporting the whole child.
  - Create a sense of pride, belonging, and community for the district and each school
  - Nurture student wellness
  - Productively address disruptive behavior to engage all students in learning
  - Equip families to support their students' individual success
- **Meaningful Student Learning Experiences:** Students deserve to engage in learning that reflects their interests and needs while preparing them to make decisions about their future.
  - Redesign curriculum to ensure relevance
  - Transform learning experiences to be engaging and compelling
  - Expand individualized support for student learning
- **Valued and Equitable School Options:** The LRSD community collectively strives to provide diverse school and program offerings for our deserving students.
  - Equitably and effectively distribute resources aligned to student success
  - Ensure all students access enriching, high-quality academic and non-academic experiences
- **Excellence In Our Talent:** We heard from our staff their desire to work in a district that has a healthy culture and human resource process that values its employees.
  - Ensure high expectations and an unbiased commitment to the success of every child regardless of race and culture
  - Support staff to grow, thrive, and adapt to the changing landscape
  - Align staffing with student needs

Literacy Initiative: "READING IN THE ROCK"

The Little Rock School District introduced its citywide Reading in the Rock (RITR) Initiative in partnership with the City of Little Rock in 2024, designed to support the District's youngest readers while transforming literacy challenges into opportunities for growth. By blending early skill-building with enjoyable, engaging reading experiences, the initiative promotes a culture of reading across classrooms and community spaces. RITR aims to strengthen confidence, spark curiosity, and inspire every child to read. Together, these efforts cultivate strong foundations in support of the 3rd-grade reading requirement and foster a lifelong love of learning.

LRSD Increased Support for Schools Through Network System

This means more direct support is provided to schools. The primary goal of establishing networks is to encourage collaboration, resource sharing, and support mechanisms to enhance educational outcomes. At LRSD, the "Networks" allow schools to share best practices, develop curriculum together, and participate in professional development. This may also involve sharing data, research findings, and strategies to address common challenges and improve overall student achievement. LRSD has four primary Networks assigned to three Assistant Superintendents and a Director:

Network 1 - HIGH SCHOOL TRANSFORMATION & POST SECONDARY READINESS Dr. Shana Loring, Assistant Supt

High Schools
• Central • LR Southwest • Hall-West SOI • Parkview

Alternative Learning Education
• ACC • Adult Education
• Virtual Learning • Hamilton Learning Academy
• Juvenile Detention Center

Postsecondary Readiness
• CTE • Metro Career-Technical

Network 2 - NON-PRIORITY / K-8 SCHOOLS Dr. Karen Bradshaw, Assistant Supt

Middle and K8 Schools
• Pinnacle View Middle
• Pulaski Heights Middle
• Forest Heights STEM Academy K-8

Elementary Schools
• Chicot Elementary • Forest Park Elementary
• Fulbright Elementary • Gibbs Magnet
• Jefferson Elementary • Otter Creek Elementary
• Pulaski Heights Elementary
• Roberts Elementary
• Terry Elementary • Wakefield Elementary
• Williams Magnet Elementary

Network 3 - PRIORITY / K-8 SCHOOLS Dr. Amy Cooper, Assistant Supt

Middle and K8 Schools
• Dunbar Middle • Mabelvale Middle
• Mann Magnet Middle
• Dr. Marian G. Lacey Academy K-8
• JA Fair Preparatory Academy K-8

Elementary Schools
• Bale Elementary
• Carver-Washington STEAM Magnet
• Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Leadership & Language Magnet
• Mabelvale Elementary • McDermott Elementary
• Stephens Elementary • Watson Elementary
• Western Hills Elementary

Network 4 - EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTERS Esther Jones, Director

• Rockefeller Early Childhood Center
• Chicot Early Childhood Center
• Fair Park Early Childhood Center
• Geyer Springs Early Childhood Center
• Romine Early Childhood Center

2024-2025 ANNUAL REPORT
LITTLE ROCK SCHOOL DISTRICT

2024-2025 Accreditation Status: All schools fully accredited

2025 ARKANSAS REWARD SCHOOLS:

For high student performance and high student academic growth:

Top 5%: HIGH STUDENT PERFORMANCE - ARKANSAS
Award Amount: $33,009.38
JEFFERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Top 5%: HIGH STUDENT PERFORMANCE - ARKANSAS
Award Amount: $96,941.46
DON ROBERTS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Top 5%: HIGH STUDENT PERFORMANCE - ARKANSAS
Award Amount: $33,482.19
FOREST PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Top 6-10%: HIGH STUDENT GROWTH - ARKANSAS
Award Amount: $16,504.69
JEFFERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

US NEWS AND WORLD REPORT RANKINGS FOR ARKANSAS

BEST ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS U.S.News & WORLD REPORT RANKINGS

BEST MIDDLE SCHOOLS U.S.News & WORLD REPORT RANKINGS

BEST HIGH SCHOOLS U.S.News & WORLD REPORT RANKINGS

BEST ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS IN ARKANSAS

#4	Don Roberts Elementary
#7	Jefferson Elementary
#25	Forest Park Elementary

BEST MIDDLE SCHOOLS IN ARKANSAS

#19	Forest Heights Stem Academy

BEST HIGH SCHOOLS IN ARKANSAS

#29	Central High School
#37	Parkview Magnet High School

AP RESULTS:

The Advanced Placement (AP program offers high school students a rigorous, college-level curriculum that prepares students for college. Students scoring a 3, 4, or 5 on the AP exam may receive college credit. An AP Scholar is a student who received scores of 3 or higher on three or more AP exams. The district has 474 scholars who received one of the following distinctions: AP Scholar, AP Scholar with Honors, and AP Scholar with Distinction. In addition, 56 students earned an AP Capstone Diploma and 3 students received the AP Seminar and Research Certificate.

AP SCHOLARS 2025:

ORGANIZATION	TOTAL STUDENTS	NUMBER OF AP SCHOLARS	AP SCHOLAR WITH HONOR	AP SCHOLAR WITH DISTINCTION	AP CAPSTONE DIPLOMA	AP SEMINAR AND RESEARCH CERTIFICATE
District	474	206	76	191	56	3

PSAT/NMSQT:

The Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMQT) serves as an initial screener for the National Merit Scholarship Program. Semifinalists are students in the top one percent of the U.S. high school seniors and represent the highest scoring students in each state. For the 2025-2026 National Merit Scholarship Program, 144 Arkansas students qualified as National Merit Semifinalists. Of that number, LRSD had 14 students named National Merit Semifinalists.

Little Rock Public Schools
810 W. Markham Street
Little Rock, AR 72201

LITTLE ROCK
SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Permit No. 1367

ENROLLMENT

Take advantage of unique and innovative educational opportunities by enrolling in one of LRSD's schools. LRSD offers magnet schools, specialty programs, and career/professional studies, with concurrent credit opportunities.

LRSD Student Registration Office
501-447-2950
or visit www.LRSD.org/StudentRegistration

PRE-K (P3-P4) ENROLLMENT

The LRSD offers a free pre-school education of exceptional quality so your child will have a great start to his/her education. Pre-Kindergarten classes are located throughout the District in both elementary schools and early childhood centers.
501-447-7360
or visit www.LRSD.org/EarlyChildhood

IMPORTANT DATES

ARTISTRY IN THE ROCK
Tuesday, March 16- Thursday, March 19

VIPS – AN EVENING FOR THE STARS
Tuesday, April 21

TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK
Monday, May 4 - Friday, May 8

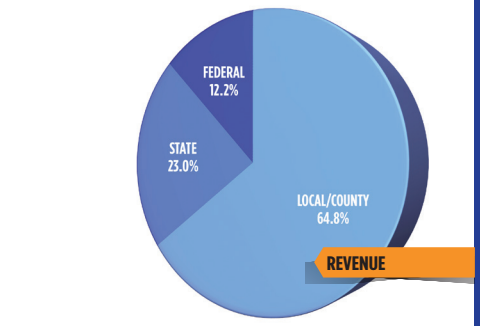
AP EXAMS
Monday, May 4 - Friday, May 8, and
Monday, May 11 - Friday, May 15

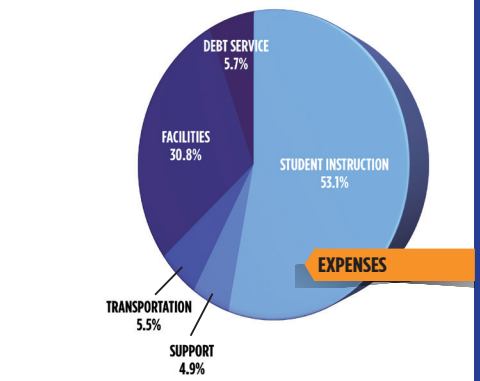
OPPORTUNITY SCHOOL CHOICE WINDOW
May 1 Deadline • Parent application must be postmarked
July 1 • Notification from non-resident district

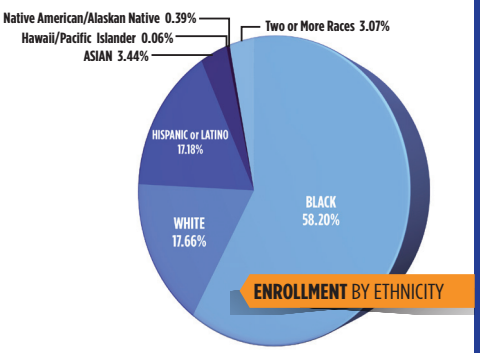
HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATIONS (Barton Coliseum)

THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2026
Times to be announced:
Visit www.LRSD.org

2024-2025 REVENUE & EXPENSES







REVENUE

Local/County	$223,677,135
State	$79,402,551
Federal	$42,070,001
Total Revenue	$345,149,687
Tax Rate (Mills)	46.4

EXPENSES

Student Instruction	$242,142,545
Instructional Support	$22,393,874
Transportation	$25,314,487
Facilities	$140,304,921
Debt Service	$26,157,998
Total Expenses	$456,313,825

Expense Per Pupil	$23,428
Average Teacher Salary	$67,193
First Year Teacher Salary	$50,000

LRSD's volunteer program, Volunteers in Public Schools (ViPS) is a vital component in the operation of all of our schools.

Total Volunteer Hours	709,900

* Impact value of over $23.4 million dollars

Total Number of Partners in Education (PIE) 278