



**Rogers Public Schools  
SUPERINTENDENT'S ANNUAL  
REPORT TO THE PUBLIC, 2018**

**Good evening. I am pleased on the district's behalf, to share the Annual Report for the Rogers School District.**

**Rogers Public Schools is truly committed to its mission to provide an environment of educational excellence where all belong, all learn, and all succeed. Our 22 schools provide a top-notch education for more than 15,600 students. As part of our commitment to excellence, I would like to assure you that we are in full compliance with the Standards for Accreditation for Arkansas Public Schools.**

**Thanks to the dedication and hard work of our team, we had many outstanding student and staff accomplishments during the past school year:**

- Two students were named National Merit Finalists.
- Darr Elementary principal Sharla Osbourn was named a Master Principal for the state of Arkansas.
- 27 seventh graders were recognized for their high ACT or SAT scores in the Duke Talent Identification Program.
- U.S. News and World Report ranked Rogers High School and Rogers New Tech High School among the Best High Schools in the country.
- The Office of Educational Policy recognized several Rogers schools for being among the highest achieving schools in the state.

- 145 of our hard-working AP students were recognized as AP Scholars.
- Fourteen Rogers juniors were honored by being selected to attend the highly competitive Arkansas Governor's School in 2018. The intensive, six-week program seeks to provide a unique experience where Arkansas' best students are exposed to unique academic challenges and enrichment on the campus of Hendrix College.
- Eastside Elementary students were named Odyssey of the Mind World Finalists.
- One of our teachers, Tiffany Taylor, was honored with a Presidential Award for Excellence in Science and Mathematics Teaching.
- The district added nine new National Board Certified Teachers: Marcus Alexander, Erica Bolin, Tracy Craft, Kristie Daut, Jessika Haubner, Jamie Porter, Yvonne Scorse, Harmony Linton and Lauren Sullivant. This brings the district's total to 106.
- Kirksey Middle School was named a Solution Tree Professional Learning Communities Model School.
- School Board members were recognized for their service by the Arkansas State School Board Association: Master Board Member Award Amy Horn; Outstanding Board Member Award Nathan Gairhan, Mitch Lockhart and Paige Sultemeier; and Pinnacle Board Member Award Kristen Cobbs.
- We also were pleased to excel in extracurricular activities including having the Arkansas Girls' Soccer Champions and Girls' Indoor Track Champions as well as runner-up in Boys' Soccer, Girls' Bowling and Girls' Cross Country.

**Student achievement is always our daily focus and we see a snapshot of their achievement through our state assessments. Our third through tenth grade students take the ACT Aspire tests as part of the state's accountability program and results show that Rogers consistently performs above the state and national scores. All of our schools have met the accountability requirements for the state and all schools are fully accredited.**

**Our goal is to close any achievement gaps and equip every student to be college and career ready.**

**Our district constantly works on improving curriculum and instruction as well as on mentoring our students. Each year our dedicated staff works to further improve achievement for all students to ensure each one reaches his or her highest potential.**

**We use credit recovery, mentoring, early interventions, individual attention, and professional development to keep students on track to graduate and be prepared for college or the next career step. Rogers has a 4-year graduation rate of 87.4%.**

**When we look at how our seniors compare to others, our college entrance exam scores are above the state average. In 2017, 934 of our seniors took the ACT, an increase of 240 students. Rogers' average composite score was 20.56. The district scored above the state composite of 19.93. Both the district and the state saw a dip in their scores. This was the first year for ALL students in a graduating class to complete the ACT test as required by the state. The national average was 21.0.**

**A great point of pride in the Rogers School District is our Advanced Placement Program. We had 1,594 students who took 2,595 AP tests in 2017-18. Students who score 3, 4, or 5 are given college credit at most schools across the nation. In 2018, 29.7% of our Advanced Placement students received a qualifying score of 3 or better with the**

**potential of receiving college credit. In 2018, 145 of our AP students were recognized as AP Scholars.**

**We can be very proud that 54% of students in grades 8-12 are taking one of the 40 AP and Pre-AP classes we offer.**

**As required by law (Arkansas Code Annotated §6-13-629), all members of the Rogers Board of Education have met their state training requirements for the preceding year in addition to the many hours they spend in regular and special meetings, policy and study sessions, and as liaisons on district committees.**

**As part of the annual report, the state asks that we inform the public about our transfer policies. The Rogers School District accepts non-resident students who request to transfer into the district as required by the Arkansas Public School Choice Act (A.C.A. §6-18-206) and the applicable rules and guidelines for School Choice issued by the Arkansas Department of Education, unless the addition of the transfer students creates the need for additional staff, services, or facilities. School Choice transfer application forms must be on file in the Superintendent's office on, or postmarked by, May 1<sup>st</sup>.**

**The Board may also approve legal transfers of students who have been released from their resident district if the transfer does not cause the district to add personnel or facilities. Petitions for legal transfers must be submitted by July 1<sup>st</sup> to be considered for the fall semester and December 1<sup>st</sup> for the second semester. The general policy is that the Rogers Board of Education will not approve requests for legal transfers out of the district but may make exceptions to this general policy in extraordinary circumstances upon the recommendation of the Superintendent.**

**This year's budget is \$145,428,980. The majority of the budget (81 percent) will be spent on salaries and benefits for certified and classified personnel. Of the remaining 19 percent, 8 percent will be used for debt payment, 8 percent for utilities and services, and 3 percent for supplies. Approximately 9 percent of our total funding comes from federal restricted funding. Of those federal funds, we will receive \$2,895,146 in Title I funds which will be used for reading and math programs, personnel, and professional development. We will receive \$428,855 in Title II, Part A funds, which will be used for professional development. We will receive \$457,248 in Title III funds which will be used for ESOL salaries and professional development. We also receive \$2,925,824 in Title VI-B funds for Special Education.**

**As you can see from our student achievement and state and national honors, the Rogers School District is achieving its vision: *to be a recognized educational leader in developing and challenging all students to realize their potential in our ever-changing world.***

**We sincerely thank our community for helping us prepare our students to become responsible citizens who are equipped to achieve their dreams. Thank you for supporting Rogers Public Schools.**

**Dr. Marlin Berry  
Superintendent**