



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Notable increase of Advanced Placement students

Aiken County students scored 3 or higher on 51% of the Advanced Placement exams they took last spring. That is a slight decrease from the 56% in 2009, but the number of students taking these rigorous, college-prep courses last spring increased by 24% over the same period (from 1114 in 2009 to 1385 in 2010).

“We are certainly encouraged with the number of students who challenged themselves by enrolling in AP courses this year. With such a large increase in AP students, it is not unusual for this to have an adverse effect on the scores. We will continue to provide our students with as much advanced college preparation in order for them to gain college credit,” states Superintendent Elizabeth Everitt.

The district is encouraging more students to take the challenging courses to prepare them for college, as well as adding Advanced P coursework in additional subjects. The 2010 exam numbers reflect scores for 55 classes offered at our district high schools, up from 45 A P classes offered in 2009. The number of A P exams taken by Aiken district students has increased by 52% since 2006 (from 912 in 2006 to 1385 in 2010).

Advanced Placement Tests

2006 - 2010

Percentage of Exams Taken with Scores of 3 or Higher

	<i>2006</i>	<i>2007</i>	<i>2008</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>2010</i>	
Aiken HS	63%	65%	66%	53%	58%	197 / 341
Midland Valley HS	27%	33%	36%	44%	38%	28 / 75
North Augusta HS	48%	58%	51%	58%	41%	163 / 399
Ridge Spring-Monetta	10%	NA	7%	NA	8%	1/12
Silver Bluff HS	31%	39%	44%	38%	42%	28 / 66
South Aiken HS	69%	67%	72%	68%	60%	277 / 464
Wagener-Salley HS	8%	13%	5%	NA	5%	1/19
District		59%	61%	56%	51%	701 / 1385
State	55%	56%	56%	57%	55%	15802 / 28763
Total Number of Exams	912	992	1089	1114	1385	

Students who score 3, 4, or 5 on the Advanced Placement Tests qualify for college credit at most colleges. Some, like Wofford and Clemson, have started requiring a 4 or higher.

