

Have You Heard?

This spring, more students than ever in Red Clay took an Advanced Placement (AP) Exam, giving them the opportunity to earn college credit to save money on tuition costs and graduate on time. In Red Clay, 1,209 students took 2,511 AP exams. Students scored a 3 or higher on 70 percent (70%) of the exams taken, an increase of 3 percentage points from last year. Red Clay continues to out-score the state and the nation by 10 or more percentage points.

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“AP has been called the ‘single happiest education story of the century,’ because both participation and performance have grown steadily in tandem over the past decade,” said College Board President David Coleman. “We are inspired by the students and educators in Red Clay who demonstrate the power of hard work and the pursuit of excellence.”

Red Clay has removed obstacles and actively encourages students to take AP classes, and the exams. “We have made every effort to make sure Advanced Placement courses are open to all students,” said Superintendent Merv Daugherty. “We have removed all obstacles for students to pursue rigorous course work. Red Clay administrators and teachers have done an excellent job in the classroom to promote rigor and encourage students to take AP courses.”

Across the nation, more students from all backgrounds are participating and succeeding in AP. “We know there are a number of benefits in taking high-rigor coursework,” continued Daugherty. “Students are immersed in high-level vocabulary, engaged in complex analysis and prompted in solving real world problems. These types of activities lead to increased achievement in high school, and further, at the college level.”

The benefits of AP have never been greater. Research shows that students who take AP are more likely to enroll in college, stay in college, do well in their classes, and graduate on time in four years. Nearly all U.S. colleges and universities grant credit and placement for AP Exam scores of 3 or higher. More than 3,800 U.S. and international colleges and universities received AP scores from students in 2017.