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NEWS RELEASE

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Houston County High and Veterans High Among Best in US & GA



HOUSTON COUNTY, GA - Houston County High and Veterans High made the *U.S. News & World Report* 2018 list of “Best High Schools.” Of Georgia’s 450 public high schools, only 48 earned silver medals, to include Houston County and Veterans. After close examination of more than 20,500 public high schools, *U.S. News* ranked Veterans High at 1,419 in the nation and 39 in Georgia. Houston County High is ranked 2,296 nationally and 59 in the state.



Schools were awarded gold, silver or bronze medals based on their 2015-2016 performance on state assessments, graduation rate and how well they prepare students for college. Both Houston County High and Veterans High were awarded silver medals based, in part, on Advanced Placement (AP) coursework and exams taken by seniors. In 2015-16, Houston County High had a 41 percent AP participation rate, and Veterans High had a 51 percent rate.



To produce the 2018 Best High Schools rankings, U.S. News & World Report teamed with North Carolina-based RTI International, a global nonprofit social science research firm. RTI implemented the U.S. News comprehensive rankings methodology, which is based on these key principles: that a great high school must serve all of its students well, not just those who are college bound, and that it must be able to produce measurable academic outcomes to show it is successfully educating its student body across a range of performance indicators.

Researchers first reviewed 28,813 public high schools in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Schools too small to be analyzed were eliminated, reducing the count to 20,548, which is the total number of public high schools across the country that had high enough 12th-grade enrollment and/or sufficient enrollment in other grades to be eligible for the rankings. The AP percentage was based on the number of 2015-16 seniors who passed at least one AP exam with a score of 3 or higher, divided by the number of 12th graders at that school.

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Houston County High School is located at 920 Highway 96 in Warner Robins. Dr. Doug Rizer serves as principal. Veterans High School is located 340 Piney Grove Road in Kathleen; Chris Brown is the principal. For more information, please visit <https://www.usnews.com/education/best-high-schools>.

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