

# All Fairfax County High Schools Make Washington Post's List of Top High Schools in U.S.

All eligible Fairfax County high schools<sup>1\*</sup> have been designated **among the most demanding public schools in the country** and are featured in the 2011 Washington Post list of more than 1,900 top U.S. high schools, found at <http://apps.washingtonpost.com/highschoolchallenge/schools/2011/list/national/>. These schools represent the top 7% of high schools nationwide.

McLean High School had the highest ranking of FCPS high schools on the list of schools, which is based on a formula devised by Washington Post education reporter Jay Mathews. McLean was ranked 105th on the 2011 list.

Rankings for other Fairfax County Public Schools are: Woodson High School, 108; Langley High School, 116; Lake Braddock Secondary School, 118; Centreville High School, 131; Madison High School, 132; Oakton High School, 153; Herndon High School, 160; West Springfield High School, 201; Fairfax High School, 205; South Lakes High School, 213; Robinson Secondary School, 220; Chantilly High School, 247; West Potomac High School, 311; Marshall High School, 347; Westfield High School, 363; Falls Church High School, 366; South County Secondary School, 473; Stuart High School, 522; Hayfield Secondary School, 730; Lee High School, 926; Annandale High School, 1031; Edison High School, 1119; Mt. Vernon High School, 1529.

The Challenge Index measures public high schools' ability to challenge their students. A school's ranking is determined by dividing the number of Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), or Cambridge tests given by a school to all its students by the number of seniors who graduated in May or June. The index is designed to identify schools that challenge average students.

## FCPS Graduation Rate Second Highest Among Large School Districts

FCPS has the **second highest graduation rate** (85.1% for the Class of 2008, the latest data available, behind only Montgomery County, Md., at 85.7%) among the 50 largest school systems in the United States according to a new report by *Education Week*. Get more information at <http://www.edweek.org/media/v30-34analysistable-c5.pdf>.

---

<sup>1</sup> **Note:** Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, which serves students across the region, was not included in the list because of its selective admissions process. It is recognized in a separate group titled "Public Elites."