

A Profile of the APEX Scholars - Class of 2017

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Ms. Jennifer Baker Principal
Mr. Terry Heintze. Assistant Principal
Ms. Regina Rodriguez..... Assistant Principal
Ms. Janan Slough. Assistant Principal
Ms. Vernitta Tucker..... Assistant Principal
Ms. Kathy Simmons..... APEX Coordinator
Ms. Jodi Edmunds..... Director of Counseling



THE STUDENTS

Class	Enrollment	APEX Students
Senior	572	57
Junior	522	58
Sophomore	600	57
Freshman	653	58

THE APEX SCHOLARS PROGRAM

The APEX (Advanced Placement Experience) Scholars Program offers a rigorous, comprehensive four-year curriculum to a select group of academically able students. The Program uniquely combines honors, accelerated honors, and advanced placement courses, and yet students remain an integral part of the high school community at Walter Johnson.

Program participants take a core curriculum of seven APEX-designated courses throughout their four years. These core courses are designed to nurture academic growth in the group, to facilitate cross-disciplinary learning, and to encourage peer interaction and group cooperation. APEX Scholars are expected to complete a well-rounded educational program. While graduation requirements dictate some of the APEX Scholars' curricular choices, the program of study allows students considerable freedom to emphasize course work in fields of their own choosing, especially in grades eleven and twelve.

The APEX Program was implemented in the fall of 1996; the 57 APEX Scholars in the Class of 2017 will be the Program's eighteenth graduating class.

Admission Process: Program participants were selected at the end of eighth grade. Selection was based on student application, teacher recommendation, GPA in seventh grade and the first semester of eighth grade, a writing diagnostic test, verified extra-curricular participation in seventh and eighth grades, and committee evaluation. Students selected for the program provided evidence of a well-rounded background as well as a high ability to master challenging coursework.

Program requirements: APEX scholars must meet all usual state and county requirements for graduation, as well as meeting the unique requirements for the APEX designation. By the end of senior year, APEX Scholars must have successfully completed a minimum of six Advanced Placement courses and must have taken a minimum of six AP examinations to demonstrate mastery of material. Additionally, there are seven, uniquely designed courses which are required of all APEX Scholars.

These classes have course numbers ending in '33' to indicate that they are only taken by APEX Program participants:

APEX Honors English 9
APEX Honors Biology
APEX/AP United States Government
APEX Honors English 10
APEX/AP US History
APEX/AP World History
APEX Advanced Senior Seminar

The Freshman Year of APEX

As freshmen, the Class of 2017 APEX students included in their schedules the following honors (APEX) courses: APEX Biology, APEX English 9, and APEX/AP Government. Throughout the freshman curriculum, writing was emphasized to ensure that students were prepared for the AP US Government examination. Though not a requirement of the program, all of the Class of 2017 APEX Scholars took this AP exam in their 9th grade year.

The Sophomore Year of APEX

Sophomores were required to take AP US History as an APEX class; and all took the correlating AP examination to demonstrate mastery in that subject. Students completed their sophomore schedules with other APEX honors English, other honors classes and some chose to include another AP course.

The Junior Year of APEX

Juniors were required to take AP World History as an APEX class. They were allowed to include additional AP classes in their junior schedules.

The Senior Year of APEX

As seniors, APEX students are required to take an Advanced Senior Seminar as their capstone course. This course is designed to introduce students to an independent seminar setting, where small group discussion enables students to examine and debate challenging readings while preparing a culminating Capstone project based on students core values and interest. This class meets for three hours every Monday evening for the first semester. Students get the experience of a college seminar while maintaining a minimum course load of six courses during the regular school day.



**APEX Scholars Program is a Signature Program of
Walter Johnson High School**

Walter Johnson High School

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Class of 2017 APEX SCHOLARS ACADEMIC PROFILE

Class of 2017 Summary Data: The 57 APEX Scholars in the APEX Program's eighteenth graduating class will have taken an average of 10 AP courses during their four years of high school. Through May 2016, the Class of 2016 has taken 388 AP exams with an AP Average Score of 4.46. Average SATs for the group thus far are 669 writing, 693 critical reading and 683 math. 38 of the 57 APEX participants in the Class of 2017 have weighted GPA's above 4.0; 24 were recognized in the National Merit Scholarship Program; and all 57 were AP Scholars after their junior year. APEX Scholars were also recognized as semifinalists in the National Achievement Scholarship Competition.

Academic Awards of APEX Students

National Merit Scholarship Program

Scholars.....	24
Semifinalists.....	5
Commended	17
National Hispanic Recognition Scholars.....	3

Advanced Placement Scholars Program

(Through May 2016 Testing)

AP National Scholars.....	33
AP Scholars with Distinction..	14
AP Scholar with Honor	2
AP Scholar	8

Distribution of Cumulative GPA's Weighted and Unweighted

(For 52 APEX Scholars in class of 2016)

Range	Unweighted	Weighted
4.51 and above	NA	38
4.01-4.50	NA	18
3.51-4.00	51	1
3.01-3.50	6	0
3.00 and below	0	0

Advanced Placement Test Data

For 49 APEX Scholars in class of 2017

(Tests taken through May 2016)

	5	4
Biology	7	4
Calculus AB& BC	45	9
Chemistry	2	10
Econ (both exams)	18	10
Eng. Lang/Comp	38	13
Foreign Languages	6	2
Gov't & Pol-US	40	8
Psychology	15	1
US History	21	20
World History	26	10

Scholastic Aptitude Test I

(Tests taken prior to March 2016)

Students Tested	Critical		
	Writing Avg.	Reading Avg.	Math Avg.
57	669	693	683

American College Testing

(Tests taken prior to October 2015)

Students Tested	Average Score
37	31

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