



OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

**Avon Public Schools**

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**Gary S. Mala**  
 SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

September 1, 2016

Dear Parents, Staff and Concerned Citizens:

I hope this message finds you well rested from summer and settling into the routines of a new school year.

As we think of the possibilities and accomplishments that may be achieved this upcoming year, I'd like to share with you some of the many positive highlights of what has recently occurred:

1. Avon High School's Grade 11 students performed among the top in the State on the first administration of the Connecticut School Day SAT, which was administered in March 2016.
  - AHS' Grade 11 students ranked 1<sup>st</sup> among neighboring districts
  - AHS' Grade 11 students ranked 8<sup>th</sup> in the state in ELA and 4<sup>th</sup> in math

English Language Arts		
Town	Percent Level 3 or Above	Average Score
<b>Avon</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>607</b>
Canton	84%	571
Farmington	84%	576
Granby	83%	565
Simsbury	88%	588
State	65%	520

Mathematics		
Town	Percent Level 3 or Above	Average Score
<b>Avon</b>	<b>77%</b>	<b>603</b>
Canton	57%	545
Farmington	61%	568
Granby	63%	555
Simsbury	73%	588
State	39%	502

English Language Arts		
Town	Percent Level 3 or Above	Average Score
New Canaan	96%	607
Darien	95%	619
Madison	93%	597
Wilton	93%	604
Westport	91%	598
Ridgefield	92%	608
Region 9	91%	587
<b>Avon</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>607</b>

Mathematics		
Town	Percent Level 3 or Above	Average Score
Darien	84%	626
New Canaan	84%	609
Ridgefield	80%	604
<b>Avon</b>	<b>77%</b>	<b>603</b>
Westport	76%	599
Wilton	76%	596
Simsbury	73%	588
Region 9	73%	573

2. Avon students in grades 3-8 continue to score among the top in the state, maintaining strong standing when compared to neighboring school districts.
  - Avon students ranked 8<sup>th</sup> in state in English Language Arts/Literacy
  - Avon students ranked 5<sup>th</sup> in math

English Language Arts/Literacy Percent Level 3 or Above					
Grade	Avon	Canton	Farmington	Simsbury	State
3	78%	75%	83%	79%	54%
4	83%	77%	82%	82%	56%
5	78%	71%	79%	84%	59%
6	84%	79%	76%	82%	55%
7	84%	72%	75%	76%	55%
8	80%	71%	77%	81%	56%

Mathematics Percent Level 3 or Above					
Grade	Avon	Canton	Farmington	Simsbury	State
3	76%	83%	79%	74%	53%
4	77%	70%	78%	66%	48%
5	63%	60%	70%	70%	41%
6	76%	67%	64%	66%	41%
7	83%	62%	74%	58%	42%
8	77%	62%	72%	73%	40%

DRG A & B -- ELA/Literacy Average Grade 3-8	
Darien	86.9%
New Canaan	83.3%
Easton	83.0%
Ridgefield	82.3%
Westport	82.2%
Trumbull	81.7%
Guilford	81.7%
Avon	81.1%
Simsbury	80.5%
Woodbridge	80.1%

DRG A & B -- Mathematics Average Grade 3-8	
Darien	81.7%
New Canaan	79.1%
Easton	76.5%
Trumbull	76.3%
Avon	75.2%
Glastonbury	74.6%
Westport	74.4%
Redding	74.0%
Farmington	72.5%
Weston	71.8%

3. Newsweek's 2016 Top Public High Schools in America
  - Avon High School ranked 116<sup>th</sup> out of almost 6,000 schools across the country.
  - Only two other Connecticut high schools ranked above Avon.
  - Only 16 Connecticut high schools ranked in the top 500.

Rank	School Name	State	College Readiness	Graduation Rate	College Bound	Poverty
39	Weston High School	CT	87.5	99.4	98.2	2.7%
56	Wilton High School	CT	85.3	99.1	95.0	2.4%
116	Avon High School	CT	82.5	99.2	92.9	6.8%

4. Curriculum review and revision over the past three years has yielded newly revised and Board approved curricula in the following areas:
  - English Language Arts, Grades K-12
  - Mathematics, Grades K-12
  - Social Studies, Grades 6-12
  - Science, Grades 6-12
  - School Counseling, Grades 6-12
  
5. Technology
  - All instructional spaces are equipped with the most current technology to support instruction with more than 2,000 Chromebooks in Avon classrooms, which is equivalent to 2 Chromebooks for every 3 students.
  
6. Facilities
  - HVAC replacement has been completed at Roaring Brook School with work to begin at Pine Grove School.
  
7. District Leadership
  - Personnel successfully transitioned in the Pupil Services Department as well as with the 3 primary leadership positions in Avon High School, Avon Middle School and Roaring Brook School.
  
8. Welcome of new students and families
  - 358 new students
  - 190 new families

I look forward to the privilege of serving you and your children. Please accept my best wishes for a good school year.

Very truly yours,



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