

Pittsburgh Business Times

Analysis of Longitudinal Achievement 2006-2021

Leonard A. Rich, Superintendent

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Kp_V1HxZH4FmtwojLwE2qjQw7dKOZjjNBwIFrU9hnb0/edit#gid=0

**PITTSBURGH
BUSINESS TIMES**

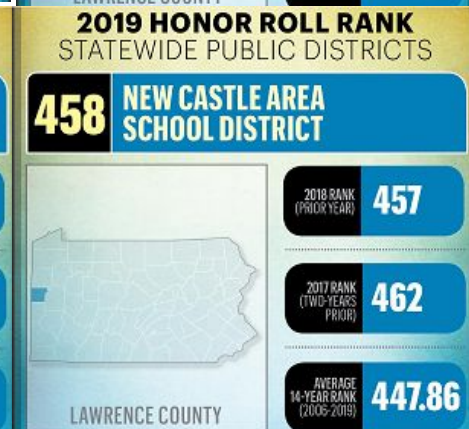
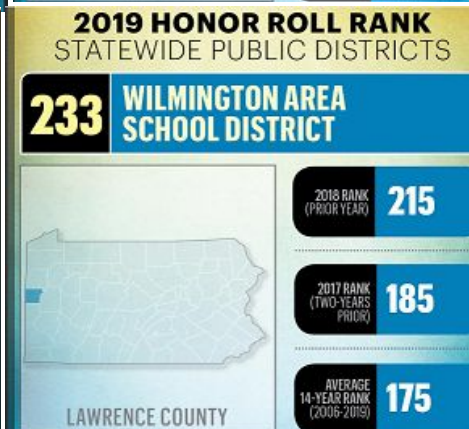
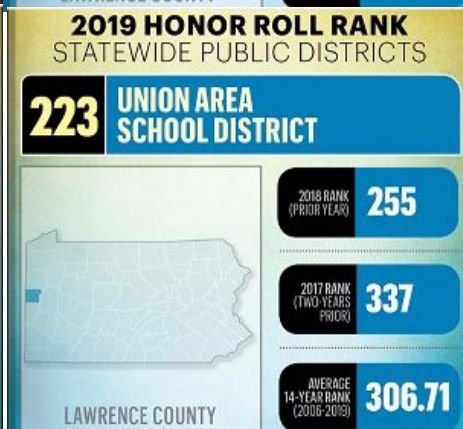
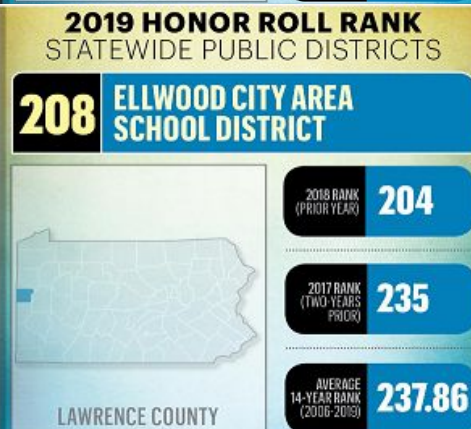
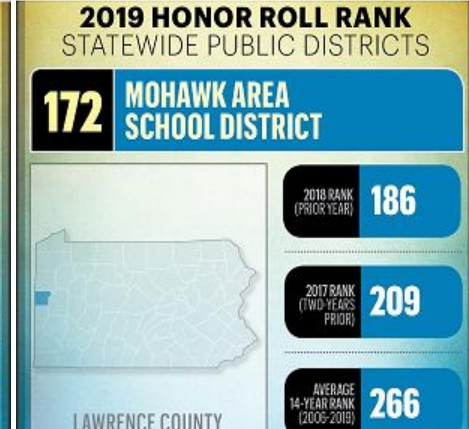
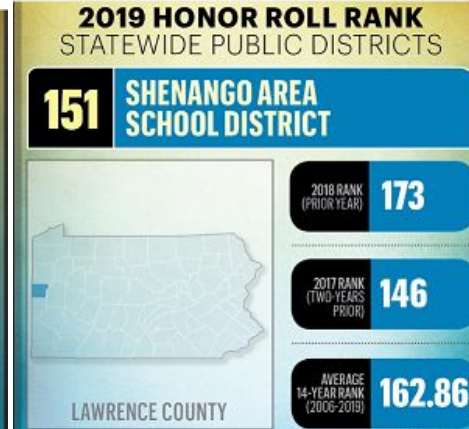
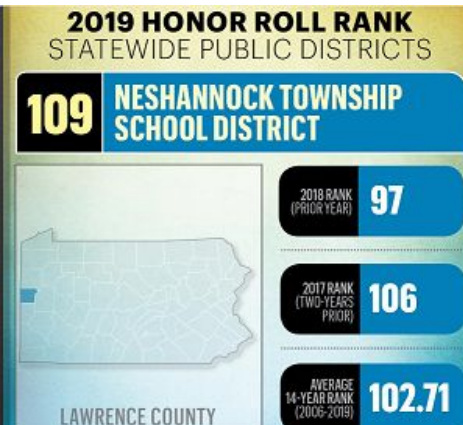
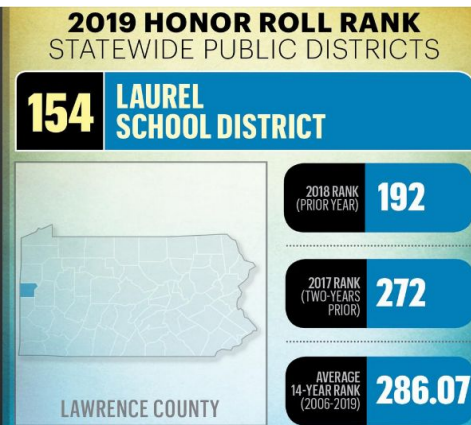
PBT School Rankings

The Pittsburgh Business Times has released its 2021 exclusive rankings of the region's top school districts.

For the past 17 years, the Business Times has ranked the region's school districts based on state standardized test score performance, identifying the highest-scoring school districts in the region.

The rankings are derived using a proprietary formula that includes three years of state standardized tests given to students in grades three, four, five, six, seven and eight, and Keystone Exams given to high school students, generally in the 11th grade. Three area districts that do not offer all grades are not ranked.

2019 Score, 2018 Score, 2017 Score, 2006-2019 Avg.



Top 10 Performing Districts in PA over the Last 10 years

Statewide Honor Roll Rank (avg. 2011-2021)	School district	County	Statewide Honor Roll Rank 2021	Statewide Honor Roll Rank 2011	Local Honor Roll Rank Decade	Improvement over 10 years
1	Unionville-Chadds Ford	Chester	1	3	NR	2
2	Radnor Township	Delaware	3	4	NR	1
3	South Fayette Township	Allegheny	9	12	1	3
4	Upper St. Clair	Allegheny	2	1	2	-1
5	Mt Lebanon	Allegheny	4	6	3	2
6	Tredyffrin-Easttown	Chester	7	2	NR	-5
7	Lower Merion	Montgomery	10	7	NR	-3
8	Hampton Township	Allegheny	8	9	4	1
9	Peters Township	Washington	6	10	5	4
10	Fox Chapel Area	Allegheny	5	11	6	6
266	Laurel	Lawrence	149	303	NR	154

Laurel's low ranking in 2011 of 303 and an average ranking of 286 over 2006-2019 impacts the 10 year average. Five of the top 10 school districts in Pennsylvania are in Allegheny County.

Lawrence County School Districts' Academic Performance Last 10 Years

Statewide Honor Roll Rank (avg. 2011-2021)	School district	County	Statewide Honor Roll Rank 2021	Statewide Honor Roll Rank 2011	Local Honor Roll Rank Decade	Improvement over 10 years
80	Neshannock Township	Lawrence	92	108	NR	16
125	Shenango Area	Lawrence	140	136	NR	-4
181	Wilmington Area	Lawrence	262	182	NR	-80
213	Mohawk Area	Lawrence	166	297	NR	131
234	Ellwood City Area	Lawrence	248	275	NR	27
266	Laurel	Lawrence	149	303	NR	154
285	Union Area	Lawrence	205	324	NR	119
458	New Castle Area	Lawrence	458	442	NR	-16

Between 2011-2017, the Laurel SD ranked between a low of 303 (2011) and a high of 272 (2017). Laurel SD did not break the top 40% of school districts in the state of PA until 2018.

Top 10 Performing School Districts in PA during 2021

Statewide Honor Roll Rank (avg. 2011-2021)	School district	County	Statewide Honor Roll Rank 2021	Statewide Honor Roll Rank 2011	Local Honor Roll Rank Decade	Improvement over 10 years
1	Unionville-Chadds Ford	Chester	1	3	NR	2
4	Upper St. Clair	Allegheny	2	1	2	-1
2	Radnor Township	Delaware	3	4	NR	1
5	Mt Lebanon	Allegheny	4	6	3	2
10	Fox Chapel Area	Allegheny	5	11	6	6
9	Peters Township	Washington	6	10	5	4
6	Tredyffrin-Easttown	Chester	7	2	NR	-5
8	Hampton Township	Allegheny	8	9	4	1
3	South Fayette Township	Allegheny	9	12	1	3
7	Lower Merion	Montgomery	10	7	NR	-3
266	Laurel	Lawrence	149	303	NR	154

**The order might change year to year, but the districts have been the same.
Predominantly affluent, low IEP, low ED, low minority population.**

Lawrence County School Districts Performance 2021

Statewide Honor Roll Rank (avg. 2011-2021)	School district	County	Statewide Honor Roll Rank 2021	Statewide Honor Roll Rank 2011	Local Honor Roll Rank Decade	Improvement over 10 years
80	Neshannock Township	Lawrence	92	108	NR	16
125	Shenango Area	Lawrence	140	136	NR	-4
266	Laurel	Lawrence	149	303	NR	154
213	Mohawk Area	Lawrence	166	297	NR	131
285	Union Area	Lawrence	205	324	NR	119
234	Ellwood City Area	Lawrence	248	275	NR	27
181	Wilmington Area	Lawrence	262	182	NR	-80
458	New Castle Area	Lawrence	458	442	NR	-16

Laurel ranked 3rd in the county using the PBT proprietary formula on achievement.

Top 10 Performing School Districts in PA during 2011

Statewide Honor Roll Rank (avg. 2011-2021)	School district	County	Statewide Honor Roll Rank 2021	Statewide Honor Roll Rank 2011	Local Honor Roll Rank Decade	Improvement over 10 years
4	Upper St. Clair	Allegheny	2	1	2	-1
6	Tredyffrin-Easttown	Chester	7	2	NR	-5
1	Unionville-Chadds Ford	Chester	1	3	NR	2
2	Radnor Township	Delaware	3	4	NR	1
11	North Allegheny	Allegheny	12	5	7	-7
5	Mt Lebanon	Allegheny	4	6	3	2
7	Lower Merion	Montgomery	10	7	NR	-3
14	Central Bucks	Bucks	24	8	NR	-16
8	Hampton Township	Allegheny	8	9	4	1
9	Peters Township	Washington	6	10	5	4
266	Laurel	Lawrence	149	303	NR	154

8 of the top 10 performing districts in PA have remained on the list year after year. North Allegheny fell to 12th while Central Bucks fell to 24th.

Lawrence County School Districts Performance 2011

Statewide Honor Roll Rank (avg. 2011-2021)	School district	County	Statewide Honor Roll Rank 2021	Statewide Honor Roll Rank 2011	Local Honor Roll Rank Decade	Improvement over 10 years
80	Neshannock Township	Lawrence	92	108	NR	16
125	Shenango Area	Lawrence	140	136	NR	-4
181	Wilmington Area	Lawrence	262	182	NR	-80
234	Ellwood City Area	Lawrence	248	275	NR	27
213	Mohawk Area	Lawrence	166	297	NR	131
266	Laurel	Lawrence	149	303	NR	154
285	Union Area	Lawrence	205	324	NR	119
458	New Castle Area	Lawrence	458	442	NR	-16

Laurel SD ranked 6th out of 8 school districts in Lawrence County in 2011 as measured by the proprietary formula of PBT.

Top 10 Most Improved District Performances in PA over the Last 10 Years

Statewide Honor Roll Rank (avg. 2011-2021)	School district	County	Statewide Honor Roll Rank 2021	Statewide Honor Roll Rank 2011	Local Honor Roll Rank Decade	Improvement over 10 years
208	Forbes Road	Fulton	121	450	NR	329
211	Northwestern	Erie	129	377	NR	248
152	Eastern York	York	95	341	NR	246
231	Somerset Area	Somerset	127	372	NR	245
412	Southeastern Greene	Greene	234	468	NR	234
114	Ridgway Area	Elk	96	302	NR	206
305	Shippensburg Area	Cumberland	195	380	NR	185
299	Iroquois	Erie	222	398	NR	176
161	Northern Bedford County	Bedford	111	284	NR	173
316	Tuscarora	Franklin	221	388	NR	167
266	Laurel	Lawrence	149	303	NR	154

Laurel has made a assent in the rankings without slipping backwards. Laurel’s growth ranks 14th in the state. In 2011 Laurel ranked 303. By 2017 Laurel ranked 272. Over the last 5 years Laurel has climbed 123 spots ranking in the top ⅓ of all schools in PA, rather than in the bottom %.

Lawrence County School Districts Most Improved SD 2011-2021

Statewide Honor Roll Rank (avg. 2011-2021)	School district	County	Statewide Honor Roll Rank 2021	Statewide Honor Roll Rank 2011	Local Honor Roll Rank Decade	Improvement over 10 years
266	Laurel	Lawrence	149	303	NR	154
213	Mohawk Area	Lawrence	166	297	NR	131
285	Union Area	Lawrence	205	324	NR	119
234	Ellwood City Area	Lawrence	248	275	NR	27
80	Neshannock Township	Lawrence	92	108	NR	16
125	Shenango Area	Lawrence	140	136	NR	-4
458	New Castle Area	Lawrence	458	442	NR	-16
181	Wilmington Area	Lawrence	262	182	NR	-80

Laurel SD is the most improved school district in Lawrence County over the last 10 years as measured by the proprietary formula of the PBT.

Summary Thoughts

Academic performance in the Laurel School District has shown steady improvement over the last 10 years. The district was in the bottom 40% of all PA school districts in terms of academic achievement as measured by the proprietary formula of the PBT. Between 2006-2019, LSD averaged a ranking of 286 out of 493 k-12 schools and 7 other LEAs who do not have secondary students. By 2017, LSD had climbed from its 10 year average of 286 to 272. By 2019, LSD had broken the top 40% of schools, rather than the bottom. As of 2021, LSD academic achievement broke the top $\frac{1}{3}$ of all districts in the state of PA. LSD continues to challenge to be the highest performing school district in Lawrence County. LSD has been the most improved school district in Lawrence County in terms of academic achievement as measured by the proprietary formula of PBT.

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