



## Destination 2025 Monthly: May 2017

Prepared by the Department of Research & Performance Management

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### Key Findings

- The share of juniors and seniors participating in dual enrollment has doubled during the last two years, going from 5% in 2014–15 to 10% in 2016–17.
- In middle schools, honors course offerings vary with school size, with smaller schools (> 300 students enrolled) tending to offer no honors courses, mid-size schools tending to offer 1 to 10 honors courses, and larger schools tending to offer 11 or more honors courses.
- Likewise for high schools, school size is strongly and positively correlated with number of advanced course offerings (Pearson correlation coefficient = .79).

### Overview

The two key performance indicators (KPIs) addressed in this report are aligned to Priorities 2 and 4 of Destination 2025: improving postsecondary readiness and expanding high-quality school options. This month's KPIs are:

- Priority 2, KPI 8: dual-enrollment participation
- Priority 4, KPI 4: advanced course options available by school

### Dual-Enrollment Participation

Shelby County Schools (SCS) has dual enrollment (DE) partnerships with seven local postsecondary institutions:

- Bethel University
- Christian Brothers University,
- LeMoyne Owen College
- Southwest Tennessee Community College
- Tennessee College of Applied Technology
- University of Memphis
- William Moore College of Technology (Moore Tech)

Students participating in SCS's dual-enrollment program earn high school credit as well as college credit at one of the above partnership institutions. The intended benefits of dual enrollment include the following:

- Reduce the financial burden of paying for college
- Shorten the time required to complete an undergraduate degree
- Provide a wider range of course options for high-school students
- Sharpen students' general academic preparedness for college
- Initiate students into the "college mentality" versus the "high-school mentality"
- Instill the desire and ambition to attend college into students who might not have considered it before (as is often the case with economically disadvantaged students and students from non-college-educated families)
- Create a seamless continuum of learning from high school to college
- Eliminate the duplication of courses taken in high school and college
- Provide access to college resources, facilities, libraries, etc.



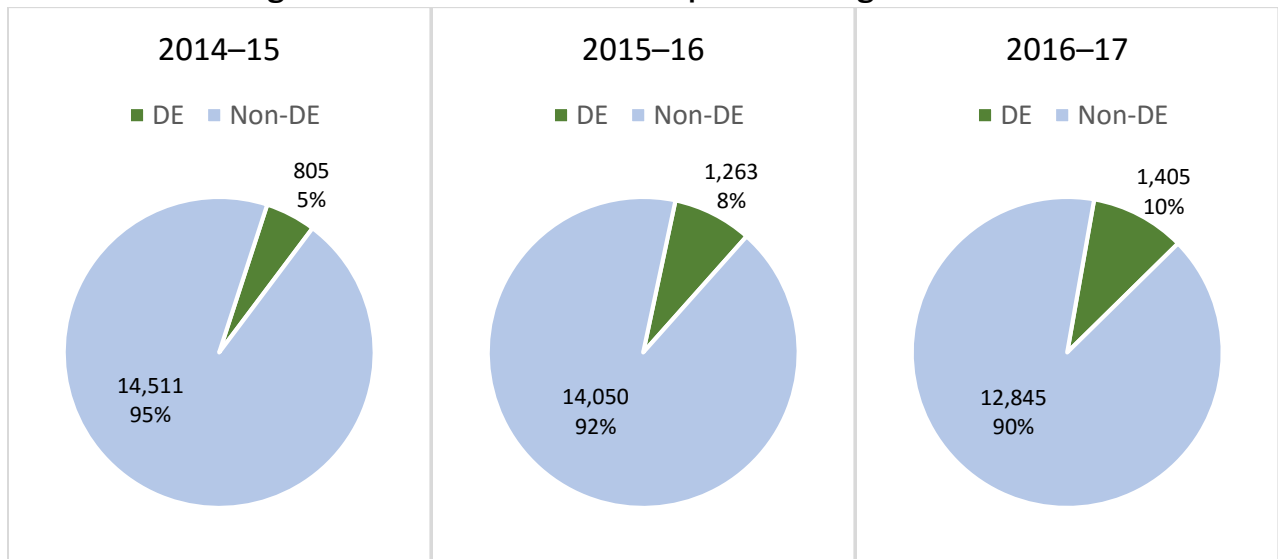
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SCS employs one Dual Enrollment Advisor to administer its dual-enrollment program. She liaises with the district's college partners, the staff at participating high schools, and current and potential dual-enrollment students. She educates high-school staff members and high-school students about the benefits of dual enrollment and about how to navigate the dual-enrollment process, including eligibility requirements, funding parameters, course offerings, required paperwork, deadlines, and the like. She also talks with potential students about the differences between high-school and college expectations, to give them a better understanding of what participating in the dual-enrollment program will entail.

Dual enrollment is primarily aimed at students in 11th and 12th grade. Participation in the program has risen substantially in the past two years: The share of dual-enrollment juniors and seniors has doubled, going from 5% in 2014–15 to 10% in 2016–17 (see Figure 1).

Figure 1. Dual Enrollment Participation During School Year



Note that the figures above represent dual-enrollment participation during the school year, but students participate in summer dual-enrollment opportunities as well. The number of participants for the summers of 2015 and 2016 were 182 and 97, respectively.



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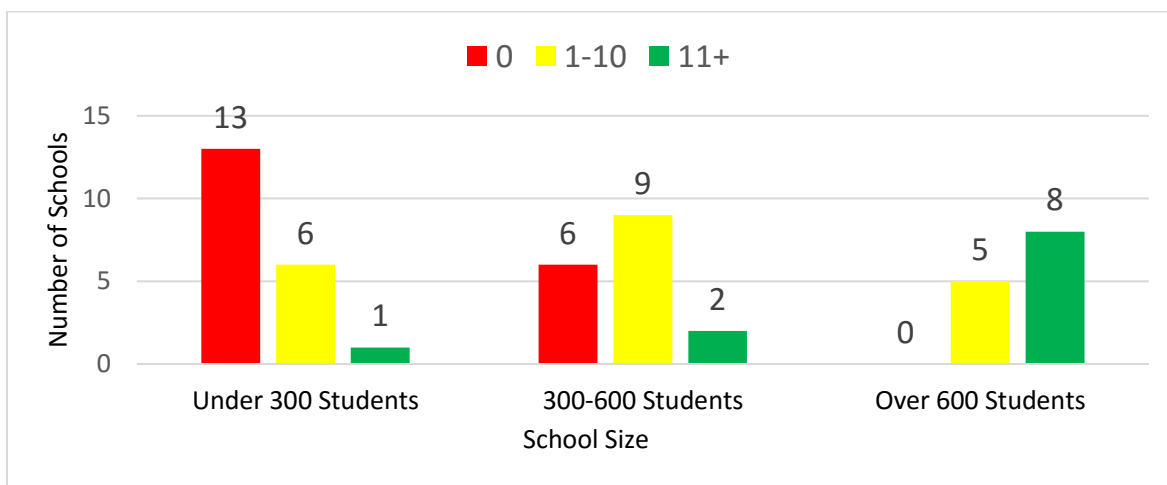
**Advanced Course Options Available by School**

In addition to dual enrollment, SCS offers other types of advanced courses, including honors, Advanced Placement (AP), and International Baccalaureate (IB)<sup>1</sup>. However, it should be noted that IB courses are only available at three certified high schools – Germantown High, Ridgeway High and Bolton High. In the middle grades, honors is the only available option, whereas all four advanced options (honors, DE, AP, and IB) are available at the high-school level.

Several factors affect schools' ability to offer advanced courses. Having students interested in and capable of the increased rigor of advanced coursework is one ingredient, and having teachers with the required subject-area knowledge and teaching skills is another. And school size is also a major determinant, with smaller schools often unable to offer multiple sections of many courses (a regular section and an advanced section), because there are not enough students or teachers. However, some small schools manage to offer more advanced courses than some large schools. Two of these schools with enrollment under 300 students, Middle College and Hollis F. Price, are designed specifically to offer advanced coursework with a focus on dual enrollment. Figures 2 and 3 show the number of advanced course offerings by school size for middle and high schools, respectively. The strong relationship between school size and advanced course offerings is clearly visible.

Note that in the remaining figures and tables, the number of courses offered refers to the number of unique advanced subjects that are available at a given school, not the number of times/sections the same course is offered for different groups of students. This analysis is meant to convey how many different types of courses an individual student could access at each school. For example, a high school may offer Algebra I Honors five times a day to different sections of students, but that course would be counted as just one course offering that a student would consider taking.

**Figure 2. Number of Honors Courses Offered in Middle Schools 2016–17**

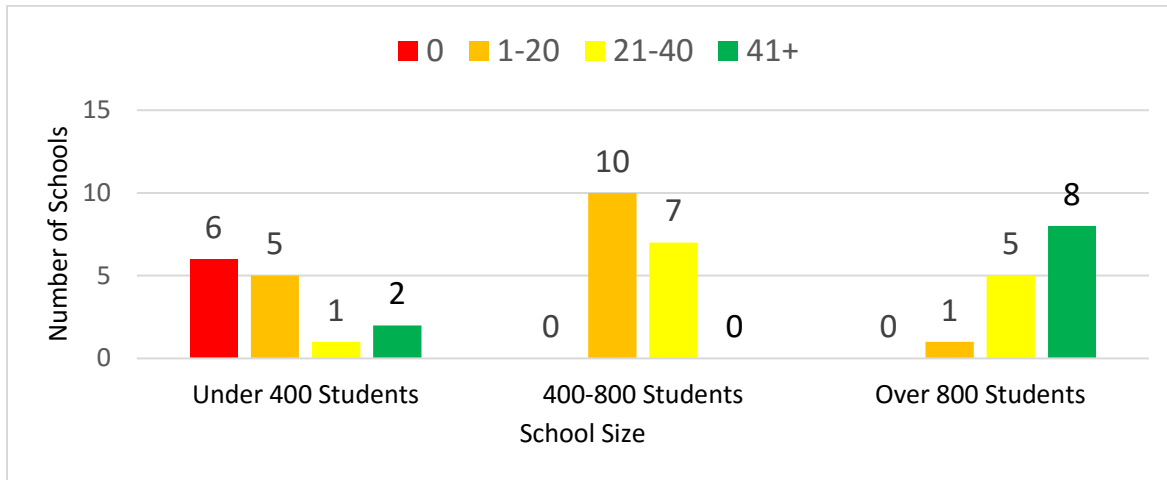


<sup>1</sup> SCS also offers CLUE and APEX courses, designed for students identified as intellectually gifted, but these programs are outside the purview of this report.



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**Figure 3. Number of Advanced\* Courses Offered in High Schools 2016–17**



\* Dual Enrollment, Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, and Honors

Of the District’s 50 middle schools, 38% (19) do not offer any honors courses. Three of these are alternative schools, nine are charters, and seven are traditional schools. However, it is important to note that some charter schools use their own student schedule platforms and may offer honors courses that are not reported centrally to the District. District staff in the Advanced Academics division work primarily with traditional schools to improve access to honors courses, and capacity-building efforts will be initiated for the seven traditional schools currently not offering any honors courses. Forty percent (20) middle schools offer 1–10 honors courses, and 22% (11) offer 11 or more. The highest number of honors courses offered by a middle school is 34. For a list of middle schools and the number of honors offerings at each, see Table 1.

**Table 1. Number of Honors Courses Offered in Middle Schools 2016–17**

Middle Schools	Honors Courses →		
	0	1-10	11+
A. Maceo Walker Middle		8	656
Airways Achievement Academy MS	0		131
American Way Middle		8	702
Barret's Chapel Middle		7	241
Bellevue Middle		13	524
Chickasaw Middle		8	277
City University School Boys Preparatory	0		68
City University School Girls Preparatory	0		103
Colonial Middle		34	1066
Cordova Middle		15	676



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Craigmont Middle	8	596
Cummings Middle	12	142
Dexter Middle	6	404
Douglass Middle	2	114
DuBois Middle School of Arts & Technology	0	176
DuBois Middle/Leadership & Public Policy	0	163
E.E. Jeter Middle	3	128
Geeter Middle	0	335
Georgian Hills Middle†	0	312
Germantown Middle	14	670
Gordon Achievement Academy MS	0	111
Grandview Heights Middle	0	508
Hamilton Middle†	0	251
Havenview Middle	23	637
Hickory Ridge Middle	8	858
Highland Oaks Middle	8	775
Ida B. Wells Academy MS	0	105
J. P. Freeman Middle	10	205
Kate Bond Middle	11	1178
Kingsbury Middle	4	594
KIPP Memphis Academy Middle	2	374
KIPP Memphis Collegiate Middle	0	261
Lowrance Middle	8	327
Maxine Smith STEAM Academy	15	321
Memphis Academy of Health Sciences	0	314
Memphis Business Academy	4	375
Memphis Grizzlies Preparatory Charter School	1	253
Memphis Rise Academy	1	331
Mt. Pisgah Middle	7	507
Nexus STEM Academy	0	98
Oakhaven Middle	8	312
Power Center Academy	0	432
Ridgeway Middle	15	686
Riverview Middle	0	249
Sherwood Middle	4	806
Snowden Middle	15	605
Treadwell Middle	0	405
Veritas College Preparatory	0	135
White Station Middle	23	1295
Woodstock Middle†	0	277

† Critical Focus School



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As for the District's 45 high schools, 13% (6) do not offer any advanced courses. Three of these are alternative schools and three are charter schools. Note again that some charter schools use their own student schedule platforms and thus may offer advanced courses that are not reported centrally to the District. Thirty-six percent (16) offer 1–20 advanced courses, 29% (13) offer 21–40, and 22% (10) offer 41 or more. The highest number of advanced courses offered by a high school is 145. For a list of high schools and their advanced offerings, see Table 2. (Schools that offer both middle and high grade levels are included in the list of high schools.)

**Table 2. Number of Advanced Courses Offered in High Schools 2016–17**

High Schools	Advanced Courses →				Total Advanced Courses	School Size
	DE	AP	IB	Honors		
B. T. Washington High	1	0	0	12	13	580
Bolton High	7	6	19	33	65	1,298
Central High	7	15	0	71	93	1,536
City University	0	0	0	14	14	281
City University School of Independence	0	0	0	8	8	20
Cordova High	8	14	0	60	82	2,263
Craigmont High	7	5	0	25	37	861
Douglass High	3	1	0	24	28	459
DuBois High School of Arts & Technology	0	0	0	0	0	209
DuBois High School of Leadership & Public Policy	0	0	0	0	0	94
East High	1	3	0	24	28	492
Freedom Preparatory Academy-Charter School	2	2	0	0	4	648
G.W. Carver College & Career Academy	0	0	0	0	0	232
Germantown High	6	7	28	52	93	2,000
Hamilton High	3	0	0	1	4	624
Hollis F. Price Middle College	28	0	0	19	47	109
Hope Academy	0	0	0	0	0	85
Kingsbury High	5	8	0	25	38	1,300
KIPP Memphis Collegiate High	0	9	0	12	21	458
Kirby High	4	0	0	16	20	1,049
Manassas High	7	0	0	6	13	530
Melrose High	1	1	0	14	16	566
Memphis Academy of Health Sciences High	2	0	0	9	11	422
Memphis Academy of Science & Engineering	5	0	0	14	19	450
Memphis Business Academy High	1	2	0	14	17	417
Memphis School of Excellence	0	4	0	19	23	469



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Memphis Virtual School	0	6	0	26	32	78
Middle College High	31	1	0	50	82	294
Mitchell High	6	0	0	16	22	459
Northeast Prep Academy	2	0	0	0	2	229
Northwest Prep Academy	0	0	0	0	0	197
Oakhaven High	0	2	0	13	15	378
Overton High	7	11	0	57	75	1,154
Power Center Academy High	0	7	0	32	39	700
Raleigh-Egypt High	4	0	0	17	21	918
Ridgeway High	3	4	26	44	77	1,206
Sheffield High	1	1	0	11	13	761
Southwind High	4	3	0	26	33	1,480
The Excel Center	0	0	0	0	0	346
The Soulsville Charter School	0	8	0	14	22	639
Trezevant High†	7	0	0	0	7	595
Westwood High†	1	2	0	10	13	362
White Station High	13	33	0	99	145	2,159
Whitehaven High	4	10	0	33	47	1,605
Wooddale High†	0	4	0	27	31	822

† Critical Focus School

### Recommendations

- Continue strengthening partnerships with local postsecondary institutions.
- Ensure that student prerequisites, teacher qualifications, and grant funding are aligned in order to expand dual-enrollment offerings.
- Deploy support from the Division of Optional Schools and Advanced Academics to help schools with two important aspects of offering advanced courses:
  - identifying students who qualify for advanced options
  - building teacher capacity to offer advanced courses—an issue in particular for high-level, specialized high-school courses
- Assist smaller schools in identifying resources to expand advanced offerings—especially with regard to staffing, the biggest barrier for small schools' ability to offer advanced courses.