

Ritenour School District



2023-2024

Annual Report

www.ritenourschools.org

Ritenour School District Annual Report

2023-2024



Ritenour is fully accredited

Top Grade

The Ritenour School District remains fully accredited by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). This is based on the latest DESE annual performance report (APR). The state of Missouri evaluates schools and districts annually in their performance in five standards: Academic Achievement, Subgroup Achievement, College and Career Readiness, Attendance and Graduation Rate.

Ritenour

Mission

The mission of Ritenour School District is to ensure learning occurs in a supportive environment that enables every student to think critically, solve problems and develop the knowledge and skills necessary for success in our diverse, global society.

Ritenour

Vision

Ritenour School District, in partnership with parents and community, will develop leaders recognized for academic excellence and produce graduates who will become productive citizens and lead lives of personal integrity and fulfillment.

Our PRIDE is Showing

★ District Namesake

The name “Ritenour” was chosen in honor of J.S. Ritenour, a prominent landowner who died on March 29, 1867. The family had a large tract of land in the vicinity of Lackland and Brown roads, an area then known as Ritenour Hill.

★ Stable Enrollment

Enrollment is exceptionally stable
6,567—1983 6,311—2023

★ Ritenour Serves Nine Communities

Overland	Vinita Park
St. Ann	Sycamore Hills
St. John	Woodson Terrace
Charlack	Breckenridge Hills
Edmundson	

★ Staying Connected

Keep up with the Ritenour School District by “liking” the district on Facebook or following the district on X, Instagram or YouTube. These social media sites are available by visiting the district website at www.ritenourschools.org.



YouTube

Check us out on the Internet!

Complete annual report information, including district news, upcoming events, alumni connections, maps and calendars can be found by browsing through the Ritenour School District’s website.

www.ritenourschools.org

Ritenour School District Annual Report

2023-2024

Student Demographics

K-12 Enrollment-RSD

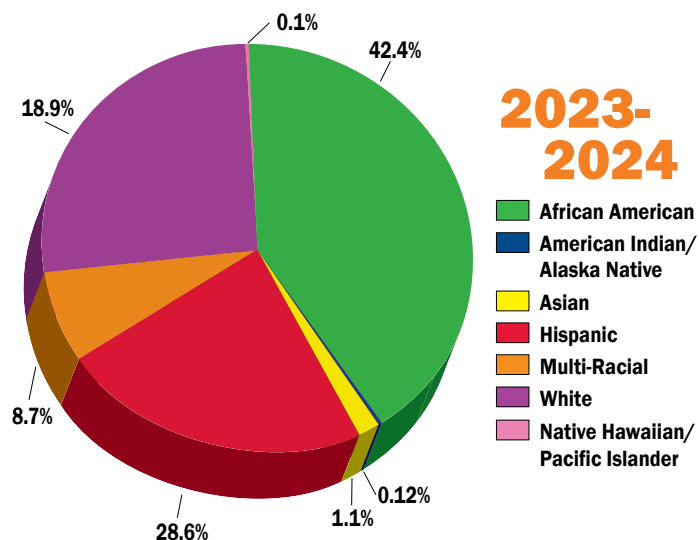
	2023-24*	2022-23**
Total	6,311	6,215
African American	42.4%	42.2%
American Indian/Alaska Native	0.2%	0.1%
Asian	1.1%	1.2%
Hispanic	28.6%	27.1%
Multi-Racial	8.7%	8.7%
White	18.9%	20.5%
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0.1%	0.1%

Pre-K Enrollment

RSD	111	124
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Proportional Attendance***

RSD	60.2%	59.8%
Missouri	78.2%	76.6%



*Ritenour School District data as of Dec. 5, 2024.

** Ritenour School District data as of Dec. 20, 2023.

***DESE now calculates a proportional attendance rate that reflects the proportion of students who have attended at least 90 percent of the time they have been enrolled in the district against the total proportion of all students.



Students to Classroom Teachers

	2023-24	2022-23
RSD	16	16
Missouri	16	16

Four-Year Graduation Rate

RSD	75.51%	72.50%
Missouri	90.79%	89.29%

Five-Year Graduation Rate

RSD	78.11%	81.25%
Missouri	91.59%	91.44%

Dropout Rate

RSD	5.3%	6.1%
Missouri	1.6%	1.8%

Where Our Graduates Go

RSD		
Entering a Four-Year College	23.0%	21.1%
Entering a Two-Year College	22.7%	15.2%
Entering a Post-Secondary (Technical Institution)	7.5%	6.5%
Missouri		
Entering a Four-Year College	34.3%	33.8%
Entering a Two-Year College	22.8%	22.7%
Entering a Post-Secondary (Technical Institution)	3.5%	2.9%

Placement Rates for Career-Technical Education Students

RSD	97.4%	76.2%
Missouri	93.7%	92.6%

Achievement Information

Missouri Assessment Program (MAP)—Grade 3

	<u>RSD-2023-24</u>	<u>RSD-2022-23</u>
Math		
Advanced and Proficient	20.0	20.0
Basic and Below Basic	80.0	80.0
English Language Arts		
Advanced and Proficient	24.8	29.6
Basic and Below Basic	75.2	70.4

Missouri Assessment Program (MAP)—Grade 4

	<u>RSD-2023-24</u>	<u>RSD-2022-23</u>
Math		
Advanced and Proficient	28.4	21.9
Basic and Below Basic	71.6	78.1
English Language Arts		
Advanced and Proficient	34.3	30.7
Basic and Below Basic	65.7	69.3

Missouri Assessment Program (MAP)—Grade 5

	<u>RSD-2023-24</u>	<u>RSD-2022-23</u>
Math		
Advanced and Proficient	17.1	20.7
Basic and Below Basic	82.9	79.3
English Language Arts		
Advanced and Proficient	27.2	31.3
Basic and Below Basic	72.8	68.7
Science		
Advanced and Proficient	23.8	22.9
Basic and Below Basic	76.2	77.1

Missouri Assessment Program (MAP)—Grade 6

	<u>RSD-2023-24</u>	<u>RSD-2022-23</u>
Math		
Advanced and Proficient	23.8	22.0
Basic and Below Basic	76.2	78.0
English Language Arts		
Advanced and Proficient	19.7	19.0
Basic and Below Basic	80.3	81.0

Missouri Assessment Program (MAP)—Grade 7

	<u>RSD-2023-24</u>	<u>RSD-2022-23</u>
Math		
Advanced and Proficient	17.0	15.2
Basic and Below Basic	83.0	84.8
English Language Arts		
Advanced and Proficient	22.1	18.1
Basic and Below Basic	77.9	81.9

Missouri Assessment Program (MAP)—Grade 8

	<u>RSD-2023-24</u>	<u>RSD-2022-23</u>
Math		
Advanced and Proficient	16.0	19.4
Basic and Below Basic	84.0	80.6
English Language Arts		
Advanced and Proficient	23.7	29.1
Basic and Below Basic	76.3	70.9
Science		
Advanced and Proficient	13.1	16.6
Basic and Below Basic	86.9	83.4

End-of-Course Exams Grades 9-12 and Grade 8 Algebra I

	<u>RSD-2023-24</u>	<u>RSD-2022-23</u>
Algebra I		
Advanced and Proficient	22.8	28.5
Basic and Below Basic	77.2	71.5
Algebra II		
Advanced and Proficient	13.1	14.0
Basic and Below Basic	86.9	86.0
Biology		
Advanced and Proficient	20.3	18.4
Basic and Below Basic	79.7	81.6
English II		
Advanced and Proficient	35.1	36.3
Basic and Below Basic	64.9	63.7

ACT Results

	<u>2023-24</u>	<u>2022-23</u>
Percent of Graduates Taking ACT		
RSD	26.6%	33.7%
Missouri	63.0%	65.7%
Composite ACT Score		
RSD	18.2	16.8
Missouri	19.9	20.1

District Points of Pride

★ Committed to the Whole Child

- There are over 1,100 caring adults serving students in the Ritenour School District. From teachers to principals to counselors to custodians, to staff working for agency partners, Ritenour has added significant resources to reach and teach Every Student, Every Day.
- The Ritenour Co-Care Food Pantry serves hundreds of families each week from its central location in the Husky Support Center.
- Ritenour received federal funding to address the challenges of returning to the classroom after the Covid-19 pandemic. Funds have been allocated to:
 - Academic supports to address learning loss
 - Social-Emotional Learning staff to support Every Student
 - HVAC upgrades
 - Window Replacement

★ Outstanding Programs and Facilities

- Ritenour High School (RHS) students are focused on the three E's – to enroll in college, to become employed in a career field, or to enlist in the military.
- RHS continues to partner with St. Louis Community College to provide opportunities for students to earn college credit before they graduate. We currently have students graduating with a high school degree and an associate's degree at the same time. A total of \$540,000 in tuition dollars was saved this year by RHS students.
- RHS has a successful work-based learning program.
- Ritenour launched an Army JROTC Program at RHS
- The RHS Huskies Marching Band received first place in the 2023 Ameren Thanks-for-Giving Parade in downtown St. Louis.
- Ritenour has five recent high school graduates in the Teach and Lead program at the Saint Louis University School of Education working toward their degrees, to return to Ritenour classrooms upon graduation. This program deepens the connection between students and their school and creates a pathway for success.
- The Ritenour International Welcome Center is one of the largest newcomer centers in the region, serving students who are new to the country and have little or no English proficiency.
- Ritenour's Husky Support Center at 9303 Midland Blvd. is the home of the district's award-winning transportation department, technology department, Ritenour Co-Care Food Pantry, and Mathnasium for Ritenour students.

★ Outstanding Programs and Facilities

(Continued)

- Ritenour is a 1:1 district for students in grades K-12, meaning every student has access to a learning device in the district. With money from the federal E-Rate program, the district is constantly improving its technology infrastructure.
- Ritenour High School was named a Special Olympics Unified Champion School, one of just 12 in Missouri. This designation celebrates the district's commitment to inclusivity and creating a welcoming environment for all students.

★ Outstanding and Award-Winning Students

- Ritenour High School (RHS) senior **Cailan Wooten**, was named the first-ever Ritenour student representative on the Overland City Council. Cailan also became one of just four U.S. students to receive the prestigious Lester B. Pearson International Student Scholarship to the University of Toronto.
- The RHS cheerleading squad made it to the state competition after finishing second in the MCCA St. Louis Regional Competition last fall. The squad included **Brooklynn Garner, Harmoni Clay, Dalijah Mitchell, Jaliyah Butler, Amya Johnson, Iyana Hunt, Kennedy Beverly, Patrick Pitts, Aniyah Turner, Dejah Nunn, Terriah Sullivan, Kristine Nator-Mundin, Auriela McGinnist, Sh'Mauria Adams**, alternates **Skye Hernandez** and **Raylynn Martin**, and team manager **Lillian Evans**.
- RHS freshman **Katrina Kesselring** was selected as a soprano for the St. Louis Suburban All-District Treble Honors Choir. She is a member of the RHS A Capella Choir and Symphonia Orchestra.
- RHS freshman **Samuel Noh**'s exceptional talent on the cello earned him a spot with the All-Suburban Orchestra Ensemble.
- RHS senior student journalists **Kya Merriman** and **Skylar Powers** each had a story published in the Nov. 16 edition of Old Newsboys, an annual printed newspaper that highlights local children's charities in the St. Louis metro area.
- The artistic talents of Iveland and Marvin elementary students were recognized in the St. Louis Symphony's Picture the Music Competition. Six remarkable pieces of artwork made it to the top 100 out of over 550 submissions including pieces by **Kai Boyd** (second grade, Iveland), **Aubrey Carpenter** (fifth grade, Iveland), **Brianna Bentum** (fifth grade, Marvin), **Penelope Vaughn** (fourth grade, Marvin), **Arianna Viney** (fifth grade, Marvin), and **Yadier Bravo Gonzales** (fourth grade, Marvin). Their artwork will be on display at the St. Louis Art

District Points of Pride

★ Outstanding and Award-Winning Students

(Continued)

- Museum from April 8-21 and at the Butterfly House in Chesterfield from April 23- May 6.
- Six outstanding RHS seniors are celebrating early decision acceptances to top-tier universities, earning impressive scholarships. **Allison Madrid, An Nguyen, Margaret Susovica**, and **Exauce Kadima** secured a spot at Washington University in St. Louis, **Cody Sears** received a scholarship at Lafayette University in Easton, Pa., and **Johcer Godinez** secured a spot at Lehigh University in Bethlehem, Pa.
 - Three RHS students were recognized for outstanding artwork at St. Louis Community College-Florissant Valley. **Malina Rush** took home a first-place award for her ceramic sculpture; **Chloe Arndt** received an honorable mention for her raku sculpture; **Gezel Urbina Torres** also received an honorable mention for her pencil drawing.
 - RHS Student Leadership was named a 2023-2024 Gold All-State Honors Council from the Missouri Association of Student Councils.
 - **Derrick Smith** and **Tyson Robinson**, 2024 RHS graduates, finished their track careers as Huskies by bringing home medals from the Class 5 Missouri State Class Track Meet. Smith, who signed with Graceland University for football, tied the Husky record in the 100-meter dash with a time of 10.65 seconds and a fifth-place medal. Robinson, who will continue his track career at Maryville University, finished fourth in the 300-meter hurdles with a personal best of 38.59 seconds.
 - Rising seniors **Ashley Plancarte** and **Karen Toledo Herrera** presented a dynamic session called “Serving and Supporting Heritage Language Students in School” at the regional Cambio de Colores conference in Kansas City, Mo.
 - **Cadet Major Alba Valenzuela-Castillo** received a ROTC college scholarship valued at \$81,000 toward her endeavors at the University of Missouri-St. Louis.
 - RHS junior **Jocelyn Garrido** received a QUEST scholarship to go to Spain during the summer as part of the AFS cultural and language immersion program.
 - RHS student **Riley Phil Panaligan** earned a Gold medal for his flute solo at the State Solo and Ensemble Festival at the University of Missouri-Columbia.
 - RHS seniors **James Miller** and **Flor Maria Quiroz Rivera** were recognized by St. Louis Community College’s STEM Academy for their achievements in the dual enrollment program. James earned 67 credits at STLCC while also earning credits at RHS, allowing him to graduate with both a high school diploma and an Associate’s degree in science. Flor is graduating with 37 credits from STLCC,

Continued ➤

★ Outstanding and Award-Winning Students

(Continued)

- saving her more than a year’s worth of college tuition while in high school. Thanks to Ritenour’s dual enrollment program, RHS students can attend STLCC for free before they graduate, saving them thousands of dollars in college tuition.
- Ritenour senior **Lillian Evans** was named a 2024 Special School District Rosemary Zander Award winner.
 - RHS junior **Michael Miller** and sophomore **Brenda Nash-Hicks** were among 17 students regionally selected for special recognition in the “Do the Right Thing” Program. Both were recognized for promoting safety for students and staff at RHS.
 - Kratz Elementary fifth-graders **Phoenixx Daniels**, **Drew May**, **Hakiem Baker** and **Alexson Flomo** were selected to perform in the St. Louis Suburban Honor Choir.
 - RHS student journalists brought home 26 national and state awards from the national School Newspapers Online platform, the Missouri Interscholastic Journalism Association and the National Federation of Press Women.
 - RHS sophomore **Julian Smith** was invited to the Missouri State Wrestling Championship.
 - RHS twirlers **Maggie Bannester** and **Gabby Sanders** became the High School Halftime division National Champions at the National Baton Twirling Association 2023 competition. They took 2nd place in the High School Dance Twirl division.

★ Amazing Staff

- The Missouri Association of School Administrators (MASA) selected Superintendent **Dr. Chris Kilbride** as the recipient of the annual Robert L. Pearce Award for 2024. The Pearce Award is one of MASA’s two most prestigious honors and includes a monetary award to the recipient and a scholarship for a student in the district.
- St. Louis Mayor Tishaura Jones declared Aug. 22, 2023, as “**Tavonda Palmer Harvey Day**” in St. Louis. Harvey, who is a Ritenour graduate and Director of Husky Academy, was honored on her birthday for her extraordinary efforts as a champion for students and educational equity, dedication, servant’s heart, and love for people.
- Buder Elementary interventionist (and Ritenour graduate) **Nicole Eberenz** was named Ritenour’s 2023 Emerson Excellence in Teaching Award recipient.
- Hoech Middle School vocal music teacher **Kim Carson** received the prestigious St. Louis Suburban Missouri Music Educators Association (MMEA) District 5 Outstanding Music Educator Award.

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District Points of Pride

★ Amazing Staff (Continued)

- Multitalented paraprofessional **Zulay Rueda** was the mastermind behind the beautiful mural that now graces the outside wall of El Comal - a restaurant in the Ritenour School District. International Welcome Center students and staff brought the vision to life.
- RHS physical science teacher **Aurora McCandless** was this year's recipient of the district's Stepping Up Award, which recognizes Ritenour support staff members who have gone the extra mile toward earning teaching certification and are now serving students in the classroom.
- **Brian Chance**, an SSD teacher at Ritenour High School was the 2024 Make A Difference Award honoree for going above and beyond in meeting the needs of the whole child.
- **Juana Pintor**, daytime lead custodian at Iveland Elementary, was named Ritenour's 2024 Ritenour Diamond Circle Employee of the Year.
- Iveland Elementary fourth-grade teacher **Sherita Ming** was named the district's 2024 Diamond Circle Teacher of the Year.
- Hoech Middle School teacher **Emily Hahn** was named the district's First-Class Teacher for her outstanding performance in the classroom as a first- or second-year teacher.

★ Recognized Finance

- Ritenour earned its 20th national Meritorious Budget Award.
- Ritenour again received the highest rating for financial practices and management from an external auditor.

★ Safety and Security

- Continued 4E Intruder Training
- Video Intercom Systems at each school
- Intruder alarms and video surveillance in every building
- Photo IDs for staff, middle and high school students
- Regular safety drills with students and staff
- District administrators meet at least twice yearly with local law enforcement agencies to keep current on best practices for safety and security
- Proposition S updates to increase security at schools and reconfigure some school entrances

★ Proposition S Projects

- Proposition S, a \$19.5 million zero tax rate change bond issue, was overwhelmingly passed by Ritenour voters on June 2, 2020. The bond issue funds needed facility improvements at all K-12 Ritenour schools.

★ Proposition S Projects (Continued)

- Since the summer of 2020, many projects have been completed, including a new fitness center at RHS, new cafeteria at RHS, new entryways at schools for improved safety and security, new and resurfaced parking lots, energy-efficient lighting upgrades, much-needed brick tuckpointing, replacement of playground pads and HVAC replacement and updates and more!
- Visit www.ritenourschools.org/PropS to view the entire list of Prop S bond issue projects.

★ Electric Bus Grant

In January 2024, Ritenour received a \$9.5 million grant from the EPA to purchase 24 electric buses. The grant also includes the infrastructure needed at the bus depot to charge and maintain the vehicles.

- Ritenour is one of two districts in the state to receive the grant.
- Approximately 3,750 Ritenour students ride school buses daily. The new electric buses will have air conditioning and be much quieter than Ritenour's current fleet. Each electric bus can cover approximately 130 miles on a single charge.
- Four diesel buses will be retained for longer trips
- We anticipate the new buses will be ready by the fall of 2025.

★ Other Important Grants

- In addition to the \$9.5 million EPA grant for electric buses, Ritenour has also received additional grants totaling \$1.17 million this school year, including:
 - \$400,000 for Safety and Security Upgrades
 - \$380,000 for Competency-Based Education
 - \$300,000 for socio-emotional support
 - \$87,000 for literacy funding

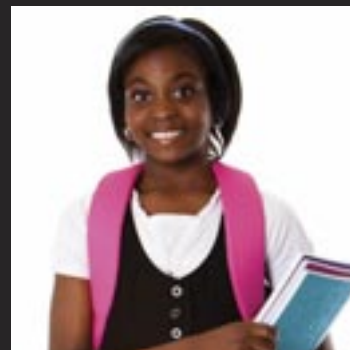
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2023-2024

District Information

Years of Experience of Professional Staff	2023-24	2022-23
RSD	13.7	13.2
Missouri	13.1	13.1
Professional Staff with Advanced Degrees		
RSD	73.8%	73.6%
Missouri	61.1%	61.7%
Average Teacher Salaries		
RSD	\$68,781	\$62,229
Missouri	\$57,794	\$56,129
Average Administrator Salaries		
RSD	\$126,620	\$123,421
Missouri	\$103,567	\$100,414
Average Current Expenditures per Pupil (Average Daily Attendance)		
RSD	\$13,334	\$14,838
Missouri	\$15,915	\$14,002
Adjusted Tax Rate of RSD (per \$100 of assessed value)		
Incidental	\$3.7155	\$4.2033
Teachers	\$0.0000	\$0.0000
Debt Service	\$0.8400	\$0.8400
Capital Projects	\$0.0000	\$0.0000
Assessed Valuation of RSD	\$856,745,100	\$700,131,510
Sources of Revenue for RSD		
Local	47.00%	49.19%
State	31.67%	33.92%
Federal	21.33%	16.89%

This report is prepared in accordance to guidelines established by the Missouri Outstanding Schools Act of 1993, Annual Public Reporting of Information by School Districts. The Ritenour Community Services Office, in the interest of better communication between school and community, publishes the Ritenour Annual Report. If you have a disability and need this publication in an alternative format, please call (314) 493-6080. The Ritenour School District does not discriminate on the basis of age, gender, race, creed, national origin or disability.



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Ritenour
School District
Educational Excellence Since 1867