

# Ritenour School District



2024-2025

# Annual Report

[www.ritenourschools.org](http://www.ritenourschools.org)

# Ritenour School District Annual Report

# 2024-2025



## 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    6,503—2024

### ★ 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](http://www.ritenourschools.org).



## 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](http://www.ritenourschools.org)

## Student Demographics

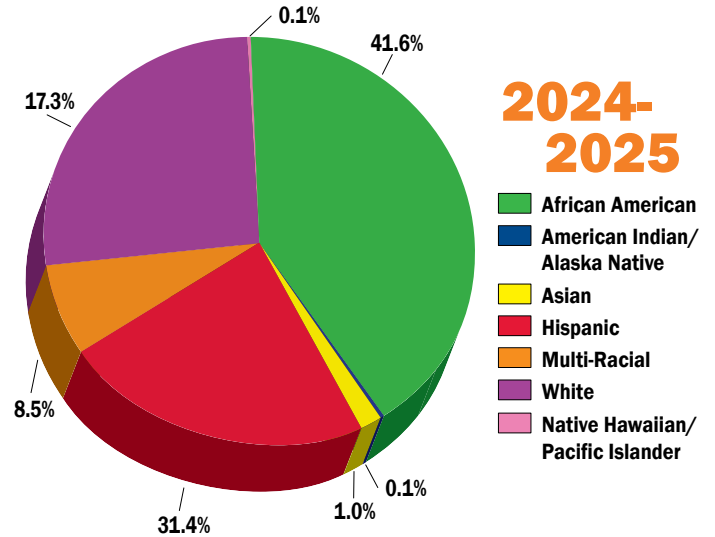
<b>K-12 Enrollment-RSD</b>	<b>2024-25*</b>	<b>2023-24**</b>
Total	6,503	6,311
African American	41.6%	42.4%
American Indian/Alaska Native	0.1%	0.2%
Asian	1.0%	1.1%
Hispanic	31.4%	28.6%
Multi-Racial	8.5%	8.7%
White	17.3%	18.9%
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0.1%	0.1%

<b>Pre-K Enrollment</b>		
RSD	148	111

<b>Proportional Attendance***</b>		
RSD	59.7%	60.2%
Missouri	78.5%	78.2%



\*Ritenour School District data as of Dec. 15, 2025.

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

\*\*\*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.



	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>2023-24</b>
<b>Students to Classroom Teachers</b>		
RSD	16	16
Missouri	16	16
<b>Four-Year Graduation Rate</b>		
RSD	78.5%	75.51%
Missouri	91.4%	90.79%
<b>Five-Year Graduation Rate</b>		
RSD	80.2%	78.11%
Missouri	92.2%	91.59%
<b>Dropout Rate</b>		
RSD	5.7%	5.3%
Missouri	1.4%	1.6%
<b>Where Our Graduates Go</b>		
RSD		
Entering a Four-Year College	19.4%	23.0%
Entering a Two-Year College	20.8%	22.7%
Entering a Post-Secondary (Technical Institution)	4.5%	7.5%
Missouri		
Entering a Four-Year College	33.7%	34.3%
Entering a Two-Year College	20.8%	22.8%
Entering a Post-Secondary (Technical Institution)	2.5%	3.5%
<b>Placement Rates for Career-Technical Education Students</b>		
RSD	94.5%	97.4%
Missouri	91.0%	93.7%

## Achievement Information

### Missouri Assessment Program (MAP)—Grade 3

	<u>RSD-2024-25</u>	<u>RSD-2023-24</u>
<b>Math</b>		
Advanced and Proficient	17.8	20.0
Basic and Below Basic	82.2	80.0
<b>English Language Arts</b>		
Advanced and Proficient	21.9	24.8
Basic and Below Basic	78.1	75.2

### Missouri Assessment Program (MAP)—Grade 4

	<u>RSD-2024-25</u>	<u>RSD-2023-24</u>
<b>Math</b>		
Advanced and Proficient	24.0	28.4
Basic and Below Basic	76.0	71.6
<b>English Language Arts</b>		
Advanced and Proficient	27.3	34.3
Basic and Below Basic	72.7	65.7

### Missouri Assessment Program (MAP)—Grade 5

	<u>RSD-2024-25</u>	<u>RSD-2023-24</u>
<b>Math</b>		
Advanced and Proficient	19.4	17.1
Basic and Below Basic	80.6	82.9
<b>English Language Arts</b>		
Advanced and Proficient	30.0	27.2
Basic and Below Basic	70.0	72.8
<b>Science</b>		
Advanced and Proficient	22.2	23.8
Basic and Below Basic	77.8	76.2

### Missouri Assessment Program (MAP)—Grade 6

	<u>RSD-2024-25</u>	<u>RSD-2023-24</u>
<b>Math</b>		
Advanced and Proficient	18.0	23.8
Basic and Below Basic	82.0	76.2
<b>English Language Arts</b>		
Advanced and Proficient	18.6	19.7
Basic and Below Basic	81.4	80.3

### Missouri Assessment Program (MAP)—Grade 7

	<u>RSD-2024-25</u>	<u>RSD-2023-24</u>
<b>Math</b>		
Advanced and Proficient	17.6	17.0
Basic and Below Basic	82.4	83.0
<b>English Language Arts</b>		
Advanced and Proficient	22.8	22.1
Basic and Below Basic	77.2	77.9

### Missouri Assessment Program (MAP)—Grade 8

	<u>RSD-2024-25</u>	<u>RSD-2023-24</u>
<b>Math</b>		
Advanced and Proficient	20.4	16.0
Basic and Below Basic	79.6	84.0
<b>English Language Arts</b>		
Advanced and Proficient	21.7	23.7
Basic and Below Basic	78.3	76.3
<b>Science</b>		
Advanced and Proficient	18.0	13.1
Basic and Below Basic	82.0	86.9

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

	<u>RSD-2024-25</u>	<u>RSD-2023-24</u>
<b>Algebra I</b>		
Advanced and Proficient	19.0	22.8
Basic and Below Basic	81.0	77.2
<b>Algebra II</b>		
Advanced and Proficient	15.0	13.1
Basic and Below Basic	85.0	86.9
<b>Biology</b>		
Advanced and Proficient	12.6	20.3
Basic and Below Basic	87.4	79.7
<b>English II</b>		
Advanced and Proficient	27.6	35.1
Basic and Below Basic	72.4	64.9

### ACT Results

	<u>2024-25</u>	<u>2023-24</u>
<b>Percent of Graduates Taking ACT</b>		
RSD	22.5%	26.6%
Missouri	61.8%	63.0%
<b>Composite ACT Score</b>		
RSD	18.4	18.2
Missouri	19.9	19.9



## District Points of Pride

### ★ Committed to the Whole Child

- There are over 1,200 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.

### ★ 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 diploma and an associate's degree at the same time.
- **RHS** has a successful work-based learning program.
- In its second year as a full program, **Ritenour High School's JROTC** nearly doubled its enrollment from 60 to 110 cadets for the 2024-2025 school year.
- The **RHS Marching Huskies** made history by competing in their first competition in over 20 years, earning first place overall in Class V at Central Methodist University. The band also won first place for Drum Majors and second place for Field Show and Drumline.
- The **Julie Hahn Center for International and Gifted Learners** 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 and Ritenour Co-Care Food Pantry. It serves as the center of supports for the Ritenour community and is one of the finest service centers in St. Louis County.
- 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.
- The **Ritenour School for Early Childhood Education** (RSECE) was named the 2024 Early Childhood Program of the Year by the Missouri School Boards' Association. The RSECE serves 224 preschoolers in a free, play-based program rooted in a Reggio-inspired approach that fosters curiosity, creativity, and critical thinking.
- **RHS** senior **Kennedy Beverly** received the St. Louis County Outstanding Student Leader Award for her commitment to leadership and service.

### ★ Outstanding and Award-Winning Students

- **Ritenour High School** (RHS) senior **Nadyah Majeed-Ali** was honored as the youngest student to earn St. Louis Community College (STLCC) Honors Scholar status at STLCC-Florissant Valley. She also completed the rigorous requirements faster than any other student in STLCC history.
- Ritenour Class of 2025 graduate **Maggie Bannester** represented as Miss Mark Twain's Teen and was named overall and rookie winner in the talent competition at the Miss Missouri pageant. Her baton twirling routine earned her top honors and scholarship awards.
- Several **RHS football players** helped with critical tasks on Nov. 5, 2024 (election night) for the St. Louis County Board of Elections, assisting with lifting and moving heavy voting equipment.
- **RHS** media students **Nala Rose** and **Jocelyn Garrido**, editors of the RHS *Pepper Box*, were featured in the Old Newsboys publication in November 2024 for their impactful reporting on local community organizations.
- **RHS** junior **Ryland Weeks** and sophomore **Samuel Noh** were selected for prestigious All-District music ensembles. Weeks, a tenor, performed with the St. Louis Suburban All-District SATB Honors Choir, while Noh, a cellist, played in the All-Suburban Honors Orchestra Ensemble.
- Fourth-graders in Mackenzie Shields' class at **Iveland Elementary** won a districtwide math competition in December 2024, earning a \$2,500 donation to the Ritenour Co-Care Food Pantry through Imagine Math.
- **RHS** senior **Reagan Roach** was awarded a full QuestBridge scholarship to Washington University, where she will study mechanical engineering at the McKelvey School of Engineering.
- Twelve students from **Iveland** and **Marvin** elementary schools placed in the top 100 of the 2025-2026 Saint Louis Symphony Picture the Music competition out of 15,000+ entries. Iveland honorees include: **Madalynne Dury** (first grade), **Alexa Gavarette Garcia** (third grade), **Isabella Inghish** (third grade), **Aliyah McCarty** (fourth grade), **Avaya Montemayor** (third grade). Marvin honorees (all fifth grade) include: **Yadier Bravo Gonzalez**, **Isabella Bucio**, **Margarita Garcia**, **Elsa Gilman**, **Eliza McNiff**, **Melanie Posadas**, and **Penelope Vaughn**. Their artwork was featured in a traveling exhibit. Honorees were celebrated at the Missouri Botanical Garden.
- Ritenour students and staff donated 6,850 items of food and 335 personal care items to the Ritenour Co-Care Food Pantry during the district's annual food drive. **Marion Elementary** collected the most food items, followed by **Ritenour Middle** and **Iveland Elementary**.

## District Points of Pride

### ★ Outstanding and Award-Winning Students

#### (Continued)

- Three **Ritenour High School** senior wrestlers and a sophomore finished their 2025 season at the Missouri State Championship, making history with the most girls to make it to mats in Columbia in one season: **Julia Nunez, Krisean Buchana, Calli Hodges** and **James Hagler-Young**.
- Six **Ritenour High School** seniors received early decision acceptances to Washington University—along with scholarships covering their full financial need: **Riley Panaligan, Sanaya Ford, Bryan Cuatianquiz-Rodriguez, Abby Roach**, and **Stephanie & Shania Wilson**.
- Four **RHS** sophomores were selected for the prestigious Missouri Scholars Academy at University of Missouri: **Manady Alhajjaj, Ashlynn Gaffney, Maddie Jacobsmeyer**, and **Alexis Kimani**.
- **Ritenour High School**'s journalism students shined at the Missouri Interscholastic Journalism Association's J-Day at University of Missouri, earning nine state awards, including four top All-Missouri honors — the highest recognition possible.
- **Ritenour High School**'s Student Leadership group was named a 2025 Gold Council of Excellence by the National Association of Student Councils—one of only 16 schools in Missouri to earn this huge honor—and received the Missouri Honor Council Gold Award.
- **RHS** Senior **Egypt Draper** was also recognized during the virtual state ceremony with the Distinguished Student Leader Award.
- 38 **RHS** students performed alongside the Grammy Award-winning group Voces8 at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis as part of a special residency program.
- **RHS** senior **Je'Riya Thomas** shined with a solo performance at the Bach Society of St. Louis' 2025 Gala on April 5 through the Find Your Voice program.
- **RHS** journalism students won international awards from Youth Journalism International:
  - 1st Place, Sports Opinion—**Randy Lewis** for “Nepotism causes debate in the NBA”
  - 2nd Place, Cartoons—**Elijah Powers** for “AI art”
  - Honorable Mention, Sports News Story—**Logan Simpson** for “A historic win foreshadows a successful season”
- **RHS/North Tech** student **Alazaya Rhae Smith** received the 2025 Rosemary Zander Award from Special School District of St. Louis County.
- North Technical High School awarded three **RHS** students the Tops at Tech Award:
  - **Johnnell Weeden**, Welding
  - **Eduardo Rendon**, Precision Machining
  - **Jacoby Tate**, Multimedia
- **RHS** sophomore **Katrina Kesselring** created a vibrant outdoor classroom at Buder Elementary for her Girl Scout Gold Award project.
- The **Ritenour High School Class of 2025** earned more than \$11.4 million in college scholarships.
- **RHS Class of 2025** student-athletes pursuing athletic careers in college include:
  - **Michael Miller** and **Dmarcus Wilson**, football at Westminster College
  - **Bryan Steiger**, football at Benedictine College in Kansas.
  - **Talia Jones, Kennedy Beverly** and **Patrick Pitts**, cheerleading at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
  - **Maggie Bannester**, feature twirler at Lindenwood University
  - **Gabrielle Sanders**, feature twirler at Western Michigan University
  - **Hailey Ebert**, softball at Stephens College
  - **Tyler Frost**, softball at Aurora University
  - **Richard Patton**, baseball at Harris-Stowe University
  - **Denisse Chaidez**, soccer at St. Charles Community College

### ★ Amazing Staff

- **Dr. Meggan Bruner**, a third-grade teacher at **Marion Elementary**, was named Ritenour's 2024 Emerson Excellence in Teaching Award recipient. She is celebrated for her dedication to student success and for creating a supportive learning environment.
- Diamond Circle Teacher of the Year: **Elizabeth Harms**, English language learner teacher at **Marvin Elementary**
- Diamond Circle Employee of the Year: **Alejandro Tagle**, district maintenance professional
- Make A Difference Award Honoree: **Tavonda Palmer Harvey**, director of **Husky Academy**
- First Class Teacher: **Julia Christopher**, second-grade teacher at **Iveland Elementary**
- **Bridget Elder**, librarian at **Kratz Elementary**, received the "Starfish Award" from the Special Education Foundation—one of only eight SSD teachers to receive this prestigious honor.
- **Christina Andrade Melly**, **RHS** English language arts teacher, and Ritenour NEA president, was elected in April as a junior director for Missouri NEA. During her term, she will continue in the classroom, and also advocate for public education in Jefferson City and Washington, D.C. throughout the year.
- **Kathleen Placke**, a **Ritenour High School** Spanish teacher, earned the Early Career Award from the Foreign Language Association of Missouri (FLAM).

## District Points of Pride

### ★ **Amazing Staff (Continued)**

- **Keaton Strong**, crisis intervention specialist at **RHS** and **Husky Academy**, presented at the National Renaissance Conference in California on the Social/Emotional Needs of Students Outside the Boundaries of the School and how the Renaissance/Leadership programs can promote positive impacts on the student environment making them want to come to school.
- **Strong** also received the prestigious Living Legends Award at the St. Louis History Museum for his continued work in the community for social services/social action.
- **Tavonda Palmer Harvey**, Ritenour director of alternative education, and her husband, Stanley K. Harvey, received the 2024 Delux Magazine Power 100 Power Couple Award for the work they do with youth and the community.
- **Ron Steinschriber**, **Ritenour High School** English language arts teacher and *Pepper Box* advisor, presented at the Journalism Education Association/National High School Journalism Convention in Philadelphia. His session was titled, "Intentionally Bringing Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion into Your Newsroom."
- **Amanda Stein**, a third grade teacher at **Iveland Elementary**, was part of a professional panel with the National Council of Jewish Women-St. Louis' EmpowHER series.
- **Evelyn Gilliam**, director of professional development, presented two sessions and delivered a keynote at the Missouri Association for Adult Continuing and Community Education (MAACCE) Conference at Lake of the Ozarks. She led sessions on "What's Your Why: Setting the Vision for Supporting Adult Learners" and "Connecting with People Who May Not Think Like You." Her keynote address focused on Juneteenth.

### ★ **Recognized Finance**

- Ritenour earned the national Meritorious Budget Award for the 23rd time in the past 24 years.
- 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.
- All Prop S projects were completed as of the 2024-2025 school year. Visit [www.ritenourschools.org/PropS](http://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 included 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 have air conditioning and are much quieter than Ritenour's previous fleet.
  - The electric buses arrived in the spring of 2025.

# Ritenour School District Annual Report

# 2024-2025

## District Information

	<u>2024-25</u>	<u>2023-24</u>
<b>Years of Experience of Professional Staff</b>		
RSD	13.2	13.7
Missouri	14.2	13.1
<b>Professional Staff with Advanced Degrees</b>		
RSD	77.2%	73.8%
Missouri	66.8%	61.1%
<b>Average Teacher Salaries</b>		
RSD	\$72,955	\$68,781
Missouri	\$59,777	\$57,794
<b>Average Administrator Salaries</b>		
RSD	\$128,177	\$126,620
Missouri	\$106,570	\$103,567
<b>Average Current Expenditures per Pupil (Average Daily Attendance)</b>		
RSD	\$13,730	\$13,334
Missouri	\$15,214	\$15,915
<b>Adjusted Tax Rate of RSD (per \$100 of assessed value)</b>		
Incidental	\$3.8205	\$3.7155
Teachers	\$0.0000	\$0.0000
Debt Service	\$0.8400	\$0.8400
Capital Projects	\$0.0000	\$0.0000
<b>Assessed Valuation of RSD</b>	\$847,188,820	\$856,745,100
<b>Sources of Revenue for RSD</b>		
Local	44.87%	47.00%
State	37.20%	31.67%
Federal	17.94%	21.33%



This report is prepared in accordance with 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.



Visit the Ritenour School District website by scanning this code with your smart phone camera.

