

AP students honored at DPHS



Courtesy photos

David Prouty High School advanced placement students celebrate their accomplishments during a Sept. 27 event.

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SPENCER — Advanced Placement (AP) students at David Prouty High School were recently commended for challenging themselves at the highest possible level.

Representatives from Mass Insight Education, which is assisting the school's AP students for another year, joined

the students and their teachers in recognizing their accomplishments at a Sept. 27 ceremony. For many of the students, taking AP courses fulfill a goal they had since first entering high school.

Freshmen and sophomore students in attendance at the program cheered for the juniors and seniors who are participating in the AP

program. Even though they could have settled for easier courses, these students embraced the challenges of college-level coursework. The result will be several additional hours of homework and preparation beyond general academic demands, but the students know their decision will pay off in college and beyond.

Mass Insight Education members have been highly impressed with the AP offerings at Prouty — and the many students taking advantage of them.

"John Smolenski, of Mass Insight Education, said that David Prouty students are receiving a private school education at a public school price. We completely agree," said DPHS Principal Elizabeth York.

The statistics demonstrate a steady increase in students pursuing AP opportunities at Prouty,

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Mass Insight Education recognizes accomplishments of AP students

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as well as improved results in those classes. Thanks to the tireless work of AP teachers, the students are leaving DPHS in possession of the skills and disciplines that will translate to success in college. Rather than adjusting to the increased demands of a college schedule, these students will be able to hit the ground running, educators said.

For students earning a qualifying score of 3 or 4 on AP exams, they will receive college credits for their achievements and in many instances skip the equivalent course in college. DPHS went from 18 students with qualifying scores of 3 or 4 in 2014-2015 to 43 such scores in 2015-2016. Additionally, the stu-

dents performed higher than the U.S. national average on the exams.

York and her staff recognize that the students' achievements emanate from a strong drive to succeed, as well as tremendous guidance from their teachers. The following AP teachers were thanked for going above and beyond to provide students with a rigorous course of study: Mr. James, Ms. Gingras, Ms. Howard, Mr. Hauske, Mr. Miller, Mr. O'Connor, Mr. Servant, Ms. McLaughlin, and Ms. Thibeault.

Prior to last year, DPHS hadn't seen more than 18 students place higher than a 3 or a 4 on AP exams in a single year. But the huge spike to 43 scores indicates to the staff that the program has great leadership at all levels — from students

who want to learn and teachers who strive to maximize their education.

The goal of Mass Insight Education is to help close achievement gaps at high schools and assist students in challenging themselves at the highest level. The nonprofit organization engages in partnerships with school districts throughout the nation.

To learn more about the organization, visit www.masinsight.org. For more information about AP courses and college credits pertaining to the exams, visit www.apscore.collegeboard.org.

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DPHS AP teachers come together for a photo.