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**OUTSTANDING EDUCATIONAL PERFORMANCE AWARDS:
HIGHLIGHTING HIGH-GROWTH ARKANSAS SCHOOLS, 2022**

**HIGH-GROWTH ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS IN
ARKANSAS BASED ON PERFORMANCE ON THE
ACT ASPIRE EXAMINATIONS**

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INTRODUCTION

The mission of the Office for Education Policy is to examine educational issues through the lens of academic research and disseminate our findings to educators, policymakers, and other stakeholders around Arkansas. Annually, we highlight excellent schools around the state in our **Outstanding Educational Performance Awards**, or the OEP awards.

This edition of the **OEP Awards** highlights schools in Arkansas based on student growth on the ACT Aspire exams in Mathematics and English Language Arts (ELA).

We choose to focus on student growth for these OEP awards because we think it is a better reflection than proficiency rates of how the school is impacting students. Growth is calculated at the student level, and essentially reflects how much a student improved his or her score from the prior year compared to what was predicted based on prior achievement history. In this case, the calculations are based on the 2020-21 scores as well as scores from 2018-19 and before. Proficiency rates, even those that move beyond the ‘percent proficient’ like our OEP GPA and Arkansas’ weighted achievement score, are more correlated with student demographics than growth scores. This means that schools can demonstrate high student growth regardless of the characteristics of the students that they serve.

In the 2020-21 academic year, ACT Aspire examinations were administered to students in grades 3 through 10 in Math, Reading, Writing, English, and Science. The scores obtained in Reading, Writing, and English were combined to create a combined ELA score.

For the purposes of these awards, we are using the content-area growth calculated and reported by the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE). Note that we used only growth for math and English Language Arts, excluding the growth score for English Learner progress to English Language Proficiency). In addition, we identify the highest growth schools by school level as identified by the ADE under Arkansas’ ESSA Plan: Elementary, Middle, and High school level.

In this report, we present a list of the top 20 schools in the state for Overall growth (average of Math and ELA growth), Math growth, and ELA growth. In some cases, these “top 20 lists” will contain more than 20 schools as some schools’ growth scores will be identical.

In the following weeks, we will focus on high-growth elementary schools, middle schools, and high schools in the various regions across the state. We will conclude this edition of the report by highlighting schools that are beating the odds (that is, schools that have high levels of student growth while serving a high percentage of low-income students).

We are pleased to be able to highlight how students are growing academically in schools across the state, and hope the information will spark discussion among stakeholders about how to ensure all schools are growing the knowledge of Arkansas students.

I. 2022 OEP AWARDS: HIGH GROWTH ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS IN ARKANSAS BASED ON CONTENT GROWTH IN THE ACT ASPIRE EXAMS

This section highlights elementary schools across the state whose students demonstrated high growth on the Arkansas ACT Aspire exams. The ACT Aspire was administered to students in grades 3 through 10 in April 2022 in Math and ELA courses which include English, Writing, and Reading.

Each table in this section presents the Top 20 schools for the noted subject area and school level. In addition, these tables include the region in which the schools are located, the grades served at the school, the weighted achievement score, and the content growth score in that particular subject.

The level of the schools, namely Elementary, Middle, and High, have been based on the school allocation given through the [My School Info](#) portal of the Arkansas Department of Education website.

A. Elementary School Overall ACT Aspire Growth Scores, 2022

Table 1: Top 20 Elementary Schools in Arkansas based on Overall ACT Aspire Growth

	School (District)	Region	Grades Served	Overall Content Growth
1	Genoa Central Elementary (Genoa Central)	Southwest	K-4	89.87
2	S.C. Tucker Elementary (Danville)	Northwest	K-4	88.55
3	Westside Elementary (Cabot)	Central	P-4	88.20
4	Stagecoach Elementary (Cabot)	Central	K-4	87.17
5	Ward Central Elementary (Cabot)	Central	P-4	86.97
6	Carolyn Lewis Elementary (Conway)	Central	K-4	86.83
7	Parkview Elementary (Van Buren)	Northwest	K-5	86.62
8	Don Roberts Elementary (Little Rock)	Central	P-5	86.59
9	Greenbrier Wooster Elementary (Greenbrier)	Central	K-5	86.43
10	Salem Elementary (Bryant)	Central	K-5	86.36
11	Green Forest Elementary (Green Forest)	Northwest	P-3	86.34
12	Weiner Elementary (Harrisburg)	Northeast	K-6	86.00
13	Hunt Elementary (Springdale)	Northwest	K-5	85.98
14	Sherwood Elementary (Pulaski County Special)	Central	P-5	85.91
15	Cavanaugh Elementary (Fort Smith)	Northwest	P-5	85.90
16	Baker Interdistrict Elementary (Pulaski County Special)	Central	P-5	85.89
17	Root Elementary (Fayetteville)	Northwest	K-4	85.86
18	Eastside Elementary (Rogers)	Northwest	K-5	85.76
19	Collegeville Elementary (Bryant)	Central	K-5	85.62
20	Cedar Ridge Elementary (Cedar Ridge)	Northeast	K-5	85.61

Tables 2-6: Top 5 Elementary Schools in Arkansas by Region, Overall Growth



Table 2: Top 5 schools in Northwest Region based on Overall Elementary ACT Aspire Growth

	School (District)	Grades Served	# of Test Takers	Overall Content Growth
1	S.C. Tucker Elementary (Danville)	K-4	101	88.55
2	Parkview Elementary (Van Buren)	K-5	178	86.62
3	Green Forest Elementary (Green Forest)	P-3	100	86.34
4	Hunt Elementary (Springdale)	K-5	260	85.98
5	Cavanaugh Elementary (Fort Smith)	P-5	135	85.90



Table 3: Top 5 schools in Northeast Region based on Overall Elementary ACT Aspire Growth

	School (District)	Grades Served	# of Test Takers	Overall Content Growth
1	Weiner Elementary (Harrisburg)	K-6	52	86.00
2	Cedar Ridge Elementary (Cedar Ridge)	K-5	128	85.61
3	Calico Rock Elementary (Calico Rock)	K-6	98	85.60
4	Riverside West Elementary (Riverside)	K-6	132	85.14
5	Valley View Elementary (Valley View)	P-2	810	84.56
5	Valley View Intermediate (Valley View)	3-6	810	84.56



Table 4: Top 5 schools in **Central** Region based on **Overall** Elementary ACT Aspire Growth

	School (District)	Grades Served	# of Test Takers	Overall Content Growth
1	Westside Elementary (Cabot)	P-4	112	88.20
2	Stagecoach Elementary (Cabot)	K-4	187	87.17
3	Ward Central Elementary (Cabot)	P-4	145	86.97
4	Carolyn Lewis Elementary (Conway)	K-4	199	86.83
5	Don Roberts Elementary (Little Rock)	P-5	437	86.59



Table 5: Top 5 schools in **Southwest** Region based on **Overall** Elementary ACT Aspire Growth

	School (District)	Grades Served	# of Test Takers	Overall Content Growth
1	Genoa Central Elementary (Genoa Central)	K-4	149	89.87
2	Emerson Elementary (Emerson-Taylor-Bradley)	K-6	65	84.15
3	Harmony Grove Elementary (Harmony Grove - Ouchita)	K-6	210	84.13
4	Nashville Primary (Nashville)	K-3	106	83.68
5	Taylor Elementary (Emerson-Taylor-Bradley)	K-6	153	83.25



Table 6: Top 5 schools in **Southeast** Region based on **Overall Elementary ACT Aspire Growth**

	School (District)	Grades Served	# of Test Takers	Overall Content Growth
1	Des Arc Elementary (Des Arc)	P-6	168	84.92
2	Rison Elementary (Cleveland County)	K-6	170	81.81
3	Monticello Elementary (Monticello)	K-2	332	81.77
3	Monticello Intermediate (Monticello)	3-5	332	81.77
4	KIPP Delta Elementary Literacy Academy (KIPP Delta)	P-5	152	81.44
5	McGehee Elementary (Mcgehee)	K-5	233	81.18

B. Elementary School Math ACT Aspire Growth Scores, 2022

Table 7: Top 10 *Elementary Schools* in Arkansas based on ACT Aspire *Math* Growth

	School (District)	Region	Grades Served	Overall Content Growth
1	Genoa Central Elementary (Genoa Central)	Southwest	K-4	90.76
2	Cavanaugh Elementary (Fort Smith)	Northwest	P-5	88.75
3	S.C. Tucker Elementary (Danville)	Northwest	K-4	88.66
4	Stagecoach Elementary (Cabot)	Central	K-4	88.02
5	Carolyn Lewis Elementary (Conway)	Central	K-4	87.88
6	Nashville Primary (Nashville)	Southwest	K-3	87.83
7	Weiner Elementary (Harrisburg)	Northeast	K-6	87.80
8	Don Roberts Elementary (Little Rock)	Central	P-5	87.70
9	Westside Elementary (Cabot)	Central	P-4	87.36
10	Bellview Elementary (Rogers)	Northwest	K-5	87.26

Tables 8-12: Top 5 *Elementary Schools* in Arkansas by Region, *Math Growth*



Table 8: Top 5 schools in *Northwest* Region based on Elementary *Math* ACT Aspire Growth

	School (District)	Grades Served	# of Test Takers	Overall Content Growth
1	Cavanaugh Elementary (Fort Smith)	P-5	135	88.75
2	SC. Tucker Elementary (Danville)	K-4	101	88.66
3	Bellview Elementary (Rogers)	K-5	186	87.26
4	Eastside Elementary (Rogers)	K-5	215	87.15
5	Pottsville Elementary (Pottsville)	K-3	126	87.08



Table 9: Top 5 schools in *Northeast* Region based on Elementary *Math* ACT Aspire Growth

	School (District)	Grades Served	# of Test Takers	Overall Content Growth
1	Weiner Elementary (Harrisburg)	K-6	52	87.80
2	Tuckerman Elementary (Jackson Co.)	K-4	118	86.75
3	Calico Rock Elementary (Calico Rock)	K-6	98	86.47
4	Cedar Ridge Elementary (Cedar Ridge)	K-5	128	86.28
5	Gosnell Elementary (Gosnell)	K-6	308	85.40



Table 10: Top 5 schools in **Central** Region based on Elementary **Math** ACT Aspire Growth

	School (District)	Grades Served	# of Test Takers	Overall Content Growth
1	Stagecoach Elementary (Cabot)	K-4	186	88.02
2	Carolyn Lewis Elementary (Conway)	K-4	199	87.88
3	Don Roberts Elementary (Little Rock)	P-5	435	87.70
4	Westside Elementary (Cabot)	P-4	112	87.36
5	Ward Central Elementary (Cabot)	P-4	145	87.15



Table 11: Top 5 schools in **Southwest** Region based on Elementary **Math** ACT Aspire Growth

	School (District)	Grades Served	# of Test Takers	Overall Content Growth
1	Genoa Central Elementary (Genoa Central)	K-4	149	90.76
2	Nashville Primary (Nashville)	K-3	106	87.83
3	Nevada Elementary (Nevada)	K-6	106	84.49
4	Oscar Hamilton Elementary (Foreman)	K-6	137	84.47
5	Parkers Chapel Elementary (Parkers Chapel)	K-6	234	84.19



Table 12: Top 5 schools in **Southeast** Region based on Elementary **Math** ACT Aspire Growth

	School (District)	Grades Served	# of Test Takers	Overall Content Growth
1	Des Arc Elementary (Des Arc)	P-6	168	85.26
2	Anna Strong Learning Academy (Lee County)	P-6	144	84.11
3	KIPP Delta Elementary Literacy Academy (KIPP Delta)	P-5	152	82.83
4	Rison Elementary (Cleveland County)	K-6	170	82.43
5	Monticello Elementary (Monticello)	K-2	331	82.38
5	Monticello Intermediate (Monticello)	3-5	331	82.38

C. Elementary School ELA ACT Aspire Growth Scores, 2022

Table 13: Top 10 Elementary Schools in Arkansas based on ACT Aspire ELA Growth

	School (District)	Region	Grades Served	Overall Content Growth
1	Green Forest Elementary (Green Forest)	Northwest	P-3	89.24
2	Westside Elementary (Cabot)	Central	P-4	89.05
3	Genoa Central Elementary (Genoa Central)	Southwest	K-4	88.98
4	Root Elementary (Fayetteville)	Northwest	K-4	88.57
5	S.C. Tucker Elementary (Danville)	Northwest	K-4	88.43
6	Parkview Elementary (Van Buren)	Northwest	K-5	87.60
7	Dardanelle Primary (Dardanelle)	Northwest	K-3	87.22
8	Ward Central Elementary (Cabot)	Central	P-4	86.79
9	Riverside West Elementary (Riverside)	Northeast	K-6	86.72
10	Salem Elementary (Bryant)	Central	K-5	86.67

Tables 14-18: Top 5 Elementary Schools in Arkansas by Region, ELA Growth



Table 14: Top 5 schools in Northwest Region based on Elementary ELA ACT Aspire Growth

	School (District)	Grades Served	# of Test Takers	Overall Content Growth
1	Green Forest Elementary (Green Forest)	P-3	100	89.24
2	Root Elementary (Fayetteville)	K-4	171	88.57
3	S.C. Tucker Elementary (Danville)	K-4	101	88.43
4	Parkview Elementary (Van Buren)	K-5	178	87.60
5	Dardanelle Primary (Dardanelle)	K-3	138	87.22



Table 15: Top 5 schools in Northeast Region based on Elementary ELA ACT Aspire Growth

	School (District)	Grades Served	# of Test Takers	Overall Content Growth
1	Riverside West Elementary (Riverside)	K-6	132	86.72
2	Woodrow Wilson Elementary (Paragould)	2-4	147	86.28
2	Paragould Primary (Paragould)	P-1	147	86.28
3	Park Elementary (Corning)	K-4	101	85.33
4	Cedar Ridge Elementary (Cedar Ridge)	K-5	128	84.94
5	Cave City Elementary (Cave City)	K-5	216	84.91



Table 16: Top 5 schools in **Central** Region based on Elementary **ELA** ACT Aspire Growth

	School (District)	Grades Served	# of Test Takers	Overall Content Growth
1	Westside Elementary (Cabot)	P-4	112	89.05
2	Ward Central Elementary (Cabot)	P-4	145	86.79
3	Salem Elementary (Bryant)	K-5	233	86.67
4	Stagecoach Elementary (Cabot)	K-4	187	86.31
5	Baker Interdistrict Elementary (Pulaski County Special)	P-5	145	85.82



Table 17: Top 5 schools in **Southwest** Region based on Elementary **ELA** ACT Aspire Growth

	School (District)	Grades Served	# of Test Takers	Overall Content Growth
1	Genoa Central Elementary (Genoa Central)	K-4	149	88.98
2	Emerson Elementary (Emerson-Taylor-Bradley)	K-6	65	85.02
3	Northwest Elementary (El Dorado)	K-4	176	84.27
4	Bradley Elementary (Emerson-Taylor-Bradley)	K-6	66	84.24
4	Harmony Grove Elementary (Harmony Grove - Ouchita)	K-6	210	84.24
5	Taylor Elementary (Emerson-Taylor-Bradley)	K-6	153	83.63



Table 18: Top 5 schools in **Southeast** Region based on Elementary **ELA** ACT Aspire Growth

	School (District)	Grades Served	# of Test Takers	Overall Content Growth
1	Des Arc Elementary (Des Arc)	P-6	167	84.73
2	McGehee Elementary (Mcgehee)	K-5	233	81.83
3	Rison Elementary (Cleveland County)	K-6	169	81.26
4	Monticello Elementary (Monticello)	K-2	332	81.20
4	Monticello Intermediate (Monticello)	3-5	332	81.20
5	DeWitt Elementary (DeWitt)	K-5	248	80.98

Appendix

A. Methods

All data used in this report were obtained from the Arkansas Department of Education via the link <https://myschoolinfo.arkansas.gov/Plus/Schools>.

We generated a statewide report for the 2021-22 school year, using the ESSA School Index report. Values included

- Grade Range
- Grade Span (School Level)
- Poverty Rate
- Combined Content Growth Score Current Year
- Combined Math Growth Score Current Year
- Combined ELA Growth Score Current Year

For more information about how school levels were assigned, see http://www.arkansased.gov/public/userfiles/ESEA/Documents_to_Share/Grade_Spans_and_Grade_Configurations_rv.pdf

For more information about how growth values were calculated, see http://www.arkansased.gov/public/userfiles/ESEA/Documents_to_Share/School%20Growth%20Explanation%20for%20ES%20and%20DC%20111017.pdf