



# LEAD Academy High School 2020-2021 Profile

1034 1st Avenue South, Nashville, TN 37210

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## MISSION & VISION

LEAD Public Schools, founded in 2007, prepares all of our students with the knowledge and skills to succeed in college and in life. At LEAD, we believe that every student has the potential to succeed in a challenging academic environment where rigor and scholastic excellence are balanced with character building, independence of thought, and joy of learning. Our vision is that all LEAD high school graduates will be Ready for College and Ready for Life with whatever path they choose.

## COMMUNITY

LEAD Academy is housed in the historic Cameron School located in the Chestnut Hill neighborhood, five-minutes from downtown Nashville. We proudly share the building with LEAD Cameron, an MNPS zoned middle school operated by LEAD Public Schools. All Davidson County students are eligible to attend LEAD Academy regardless of income, school zone, or academic performance.

## SCHOOL CULTURE

LEAD Academy's student body is predominantly low-income, students of color, and first-generation college students.

- 489 students and 47 staff
- 66% non-English language background
- 33% limited English proficiency
- 11 different languages spoken
- 33% born in a different country (Egypt, Mexico, Honduras, El Salvador, Somalia, etc.)
- 36% African American, 53% Hispanic/Latino, 11% White
- 13% receive Exceptional Education services
- 86% of the class of 2020 qualified for Fee Waivers.



**LEAD Academy has a graduation rate of 96% compared to 89% for the state of Tennessee and 80% for the district.**

## GRADING & RANKING

The numerical grading scale is as follows:

A	93-100	(4.0)
B	85-92	(3.0)
C	75-84	(2.0)
D	70-74	(1.0)
F	< 70	(0.0)

Students are not ranked at LEAD as part of MNPS policy.

## UNWEIGHTED GRADES

LEAD Academy does not weigh student grades. In compliance with Tennessee state law, AP students receive five additional points and honors students receive three additional points for each quarter. LEAD students are required to earn 26 credits for graduation:

English	4 credits	World Language	2 credits
Math	4 credits	Lifetime Wellness	1 credit
Seminar	4 credits	Fine Arts	1 credit
Science	3 credits	Personal Finance	0.5 credit
Social Studies	3 credits	Physical Education	0.5 credit
Electives	3 credits		

## ADVANCED PLACEMENT

Calculus AB	Human Geography
Chemistry	Psychology
English Language & Composition	Spanish Language & Culture
English Literature & Composition	US History

Enrollment in Honors or AP class is contingent upon departmental approval and students who take an AP course are required to take the AP exam. Over the last four years, LEAD has doubled the number of Advanced Placement (AP) offerings, tripled the enrollment in AP courses and increased the pass rate from 9% in 2017 to 23% in 2020.

## REPORTING DISCIPLINARY ACTION

LEAD Academy High School does not share discipline records with post secondary institutions. We counsel students to report any infractions on their college applications in accordance with our LAHS Honor Code. At LEAD Academy we practice Restorative Justice discipline run by a Student Support Team.

## ACCREDITATION

LEAD Academy High School is a public charter school within the LEAD Public Schools system and is fully accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools/AdvancEd.

## SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

LEAD Academy has earned the highest student growth scores (Level 5) in 5 of the last 6 years including Reward School Status in 2015 for top 5% student growth in the state of Tennessee. LEAD believes deeply in equity and accelerating learning for low income students. In 2019, 47% of LEAD Academy students were considered Ready Graduates (21+ ACT or 4 or more Early Post Secondary Offerings such as AP or Dual Credit; outperforming the state of TN [40%] and Metro Public Schools [29%]).

## EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

While we offer over 20 sports and clubs for our students, many can't participate due to family commitments.



- 80% of LAHS students work a job outside of school and/ or have caregiver & translation responsibilities at home.
- LAHS students work an average of 23 hours each week

## POSTSECONDARY & PERSISTENCE

LEAD's enrollment averages according to the National Student Clearinghouse Spring 2020 Report:

Class of 2016	32%	Class of 2017	39%
Class of 2018	48%	Class of 2019	62%

According to the [Nashville Public Education Foundation](#), Metro Nashville Public Schools has a 24% persistence average. Additionally, we are trending higher than the national average for low-income students, which is 14% according to the [National Center for Education Statistics](#).

### Class of 2019 Enrollment

- 25% Two-year College or Technical School
- 55% Four-year College/University
- 20% Workforce

### Class of 2020 Enrollment

- 41% Two-year College or Technical School
- 52% Four-year College/University
- 7% Workforce

### Postsecondary Enrollment Rate

Source: [TN Department of Education Report Card](#)

- LEAD Academy - 81%
- District - 57%
- State of Tennessee - 63%

## SEMINAR CURRICULUM

Our hallmark Seminar program is a college preparatory course that students participate in all four years of high school. We develop the curriculum based on what we know students need to be successful in high school, college and the workforce. By the end of the four-year program, students not only have the skills and habits but can also make a postsecondary decision based on personal best fit. These courses will be labeled as the following on a high school transcript:

- Freshman Seminar
- Sophomore Seminar
- ACT Prep
- Personal Finance
- Senior Capstone

## COVID-19 IMPACT

LEAD Public Schools is committed to providing a high-quality online continuous learning plan.

- Health and safety is our top priority.
- Students engage in virtual classes in much the same way they do when we are in person.
- Chromebook computers and Wi-Fi provided to all 489 LEAD high students..
- Meals are available for daily drive through pick-up.
- The Serve Other Stations established after the March 2020 tornadoes have continued for families during the pandemic to serve unique needs such as food, clothing, utilities, etc.
- The class of 2020 participated in spring 2020 virtual learning, but ended their academic year with quarter three grades prior to a drive-thru graduation. Spring 2020 virtual learning was not graded as we adapted to online platforms.
- College counseling services are being provided through 1:1 virtual meetings for the class of 2021, as we provided the class of 2020 which had 96% participation.

## VISIT & CONTACT

All visit inquiries should be booked through RepVisits or sent via email to Kelly Pietkiewicz. As of August 2020, LEAD Academy is currently conducting school through a virtual platform, so all communication with counselors should be through email.

LEAD Academy High School

College Counselor

Ms. Kelly Pietkiewicz

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LEAD Public Schools

Director of College Counseling

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