

# A Profile of the APEX Scholars - Class of 2023

## ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Ms. Jennifer Baker ..... Principal  
 Mr. Terry Heintze..... Assistant Principal  
 Mr. Jeff Leaman ..... Assistant Principal  
 Ms. Nicole Morgan.....Assistant Principal  
 Ms. Regina Rodriguez .....Assistant Principal  
 Ms. Gail Samuels .....Assistant Principal  
 Ms. Vernitta Tucker .....Assistant Principal  
 Mr. Nathan Schwartz ...APEX Co- Coordinator  
 Ms. Kathy Simmons.....APEX Co-Coordinator  
 Ms. Imani Ladson..... Director of Counseling



## THE STUDENTS

Class	Enrollment	APEX Students
Senior		78

APEX Honors English 9  
 APEX Honors Biology  
 APEX/AP United States Government  
 APEX Honors English 10  
 APEX/AP US History  
 APEX/AP World History  
 APEX Advanced Senior Seminar

## THE APEX SCHOLARS PROGRAM

The APEX (Advanced Placement Experience) Scholars Program offers a rigorous, comprehensive four-year curriculum to a select group of academically able students. The Program uniquely combines honors, accelerated honors, and advanced placement courses, and yet students remain an integral part of the high school community at Walter Johnson.

Program participants take a core curriculum of seven APEX-designated courses throughout their four years. These core courses are designed to nurture academic growth in the group, to facilitate cross-disciplinary learning, and to encourage peer interaction and group cooperation. APEX Scholars are expected to complete a well-rounded educational program. While graduation requirements dictate some of the APEX Scholars' curricular choices, the program of study allows students considerable freedom to emphasize course work in fields of their own choosing, especially in grades eleven and twelve.

The APEX Program was implemented in the fall of 1996; the 78 APEX Scholars in the Class of 2023 will be the Program's twenty fifth graduating class.

**Admission Process:** Program participants were selected at the end of eighth grade. Selection was based on student application, teacher recommendation, GPA in seventh grade and the first semester of eighth grade, a writing diagnostic test, verified extra-curricular participation in seventh and eighth grades, and committee evaluation. Students selected for the program provided evidence of a well-rounded background as well as a high ability to master challenging coursework.

**Program requirements:** APEX scholars must meet all usual state and county requirements for graduation, as well as meeting the unique requirements for the APEX designation. By the end of senior year, APEX Scholars must have successfully completed a minimum of six Advanced Placement courses and must have taken a minimum of six AP examinations to demonstrate mastery of material. Additionally, there are seven, uniquely designed courses which are required of all APEX Scholars. These classes have course numbers ending in '33' to indicate that they are only taken by APEX Program participants:

### The Freshman Year of APEX

As freshmen, the Class of 2023 APEX students included in their schedules the following honors (APEX) courses: APEX Biology, APEX English 9, and APEX/AP Government. Throughout the freshman curriculum, writing was emphasized to ensure that students were prepared for the AP US Government examination. Though not a requirement of the program, all of the Class of 2023 APEX Scholars took this AP exam in their 9<sup>th</sup> grade year.

### The Sophomore Year of APEX

Sophomores were required to take AP US History as an APEX class; and all but one took the correlating AP examination to demonstrate mastery in that subject. Students completed their sophomore schedules with other APEX honors English, other honors classes and some chose to include another AP course.

### The Junior Year of APEX

Juniors were required to take AP World History as an APEX class. They were allowed to include additional AP classes in their junior schedules.

### The Senior Year of APEX

As seniors, APEX students are required to take an Advanced Senior Seminar as their capstone course. This course is designed to introduce students to an independent seminar setting, where small group discussion enables students to examine and debate challenging readings while preparing a culminating Capstone project based on student's core values and interest. This class meets every Monday evening for the first semester. Students get the experience of a college seminar while maintaining a minimum course load of six courses during the regular school day.



**APEX Scholars Program is a Signature Program of  
 Walter Johnson High School**

# Walter Johnson High School

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## Class of 2023 APEX SCHOLARS ACADEMIC PROFILE

**Class of 2023 Summary Data:** The 78 APEX Scholars in the APEX Program’s twenty-fifth graduating class took an average of 6.8 AP courses during their first three years of high school. The average number of AP classes they will have taken by graduation is 10.36. Through May 2022, the Class of 2023 has taken 524 AP exams with an AP Average Score of 4.25. Average SATs for the group thus far are 732.5 for Evidence Based Writing and Reading and 715.7 Math. 76 of the 78 APEX participants in the Class of 2023 have weighted GPA's above 4.0; 16 were recognized in the National Merit Scholarship Program; and 77 of the 78 had achieved at least AP Scholars after their junior year.

<b>Distribution of Cumulative GPA's Weighted and Unweighted</b> (For 78 APEX Scholars in class of 2023)		
Range	Unweighted	Weighted
4.51 and above	NA	64
4.01-4.50	NA	11
3.51-4.00	76	2
3.01-3.50	2	0
3.00 and below	0	0

<b>Scholastic Aptitude Test</b> (Tests taken prior to March 2022)		
<b>Evidence Based</b>		
Students Tested	Reading & Writing Avg.	Math Avg.
67	732.5	715.7

<b>Advanced Placement Test Data</b> For 78 APEX Scholars in class of 2023 (Tests taken through May 2022)						
	5	4	3	2	1	Total
Biology	3	0	0	0	0	3
Calculus AB& BC	28	6	2	2	0	38
Chemistry	4	1	1	1	1	8
Computer Science	12	16	4		1	33
Econ (both exams)	25	22	3	2	0	52
Eng. Lang/Comp	33	24	9	1	0	67
Foreign Languages	12	6	3	0	0	21
Gov't & Pol-US	30	15	19	12	1	77
Physics(all 4 exams)	7	10	0	3	0	13
Psychology	23	9	4	1	0	37
US History	32	27	14	1	1	75
World History	56	13	4	0	0	73
Other	24	2	1	0	0	22
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>289</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>524</b>
<b>APEX Scholars average score: 4.43</b>						
Foreign Languages include Chinese Lang, French Lang, Italian Lang, Spanish Lang & Spanish Lit exam scores						
"Other" includes Comparative Government and Politics, Environmental Science, European History, Human Geography and Statistics exam scores						

<b>American College Testing</b> (Tests taken prior to April 2021)	
Students Tested	Average Score
24	33

### Academic Awards of APEX Students

#### National Merit Scholarship Program

Semifinalists .....7  
 Commended.....21

#### Advanced Placement Scholars Program

(Through May 2022 Testing)  
 AP Scholars with Distinction.....74  
 AP Scholar with Honor .....1  
 AP Scholar.....2

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