



# Arlington

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

*More Than a Remarkable Education*

## AP/IB Equity and Excellence Project Mid-Year Update

The Arlington ISD began the process of analyzing the district's student population enrolled in advanced academics courses such as International Baccalaureate, advanced placement and dual credit in the fall of 2015 as a part of the AP/IB Equity and Excellence Project. The district is one of 120 members of this project that will receive match-funded technical assistance from Equal Opportunity Schools to help close access and success gaps in AP and IB programs by fall 2016.

Through this thorough research, the Arlington ISD has found that 1,164 low-income students and students of color participate in these types of advanced and rigorous courses, which is 30 percent of all 11th and 12th-grade low-income students and students of color. By contrast, 40 percent of middle- and upper-income white and Asian students in 11th and 12th grades participate in these advanced courses.

The Arlington ISD is currently in the process of identifying an additional 932 low-income students and students of color for AP and IB courses. The district, in partnership with each high-school campus and the AP/IB Equity and Excellence Project, has established an enrollment management team designed to assist in the process of identifying, enrolling and supporting these students. Now in its second semester, the effort has resulted in a more in-depth review of eligible students as well as intentional recruitment practices that align with the district's *Achieve Today. Excel Tomorrow.* strategic plan to offer rigorous learning experiences that will prepare our graduates to excel in higher education or the career of their choice.

Nearly 300 schools applied for one of the 120 spots available in the AP/IB Equity and Excellence Project, and the AISD was selected because of its demonstrated commitment to ensuring that historically underrepresented students have the opportunity to succeed in challenging high school courses. The match-funded technical assistance from Equal Opportunity Schools is supported by Google Global Impact Awards and the researchers at the Education Innovation Laboratory at Harvard University.