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Five NN schools listed in Newsweek rankings

Several local schools rank among the nation's best.

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Five Newport News public high schools are among the top 1,300 in the nation, according to a list released online by Newsweek magazine Tuesday.

Hampton High School, York's Tabb High School and Poquoson High School also were among the 83 Virginia schools ranked.

The list ranks schools using a formula developed by Washington Post reporter Jay Mathews.

Newsweek uses the number of Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate or Cambridge tests taken by all students in a school, divided by the number of graduating seniors.

The 2008 rankings are based on 2007 tests and graduations. The schools listed are in the top 5 percent of all schools measured with the formula.

There are more than 23,800 public high schools in the United States, according to the U.S Department of Education.

Hampton High School, at 1,116th on the list, made the most progress of the local schools, moving up from 1,317th last year. This is the second year the home of the Crabbers has been listed.

Warwick High ranked highest among Newport News schools at 349th. Warwick has made the list five times but dropped more than 200 places. Menchville, 470th in its fourth year on the list, dropped 140 places. Woodside was at 947th in its fifth year on the list, dropping more than 200 places. Heritage made the list at 1,064th in its fifth year in the top 1,300 but dropped 50 spots. Denbigh, 1,225th in its third year in the rankings, dropped more than 400 places.

York's Tabb High School ranked 712th, rising 10 places in its fourth year on the list. Poquoson also improved its rank, rising eight places to 747th.

The story will be published in the May 26 issue. The complete list can be found online at www.newsweek.com/id/39380.

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