

Melrose High School was one of only 27 Massachusetts high schools to earn a spot on Newsweek magazine's list of America's Best High Schools.

Rankings on the list are based on the percentage of students who participate in Advanced Placement courses and pass the Advanced Placement test.

"The Newsweek story is a testament to the college readiness of our AP students," said Superintendent of Schools Joe Casey. "This is the third year we have been so recognized, and it's a testament to the students, the staff, and the parents of Melrose."

"I think this points to the effectiveness of our high quality educators, partnering with our community and our families for the benefit of students," said School Committee chair Margaret Driscoll.

There are 371 secondary schools in Massachusetts, but only the top 7% made the list.

Guidance Director John Buxton explained that the list measures how well the school prepares its students for college. "AP courses are in essence college level courses," he said. "They can be used for college credit at the vast majority of schools. If you have a large number of students that are taking the exams and a large percentage that are scoring 3 or higher, that points to those students' readiness for college."