



## **Ritenour School District Fact Sheet 2010-2011 School Year**

### **About the Ritenour School District**

The Ritenour School District, located in Northwest St. Louis County, is one of the oldest districts in the metropolitan area. Our proud history began with Buck School, a one-room log cabin built in 1846.

Today, Ritenour embraces the exciting challenges of the future. We have grown from that one room cabin into nine schools, a school for Early Childhood Education and a large adult community program. Over 600 professional, caring employees, active district parents and a highly supportive community work together to educate a culturally, socially and economically diverse student population.

Our history of educational excellence is well documented. The district is fully certified by the State Department of Education and our high school is fully accredited by the North Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. Ritenour boasts national Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence, Missouri Gold Star Schools, and numerous national and state champions in both academics and athletics. By remembering our traditions and embracing the changes of our future, Ritenour is truly a place to grow and a place to learn.

### **Excellent Schools**

- Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence
- Missouri Gold Star Schools
- Full Day Kindergarten
- Desirable Class Sizes
- Accessible for Students with Disabilities
- Latchkey Before and After Care
- English As A Second Language
- Gifted and Remedial Programs
- Alternative Learning Centers
- Full Time Nurses and Counselors
- Radio Station and TV Studio
- School for Early Childhood Education
- 6 Elementary Schools
- 2 Middle Schools
- High School
- Adult Learning Center
- Administrative Center

### **Top Grade – Ritenour is fully accredited**

School districts throughout Missouri Receive accreditation from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). This accreditation, or rating of quality, is awarded after a thorough assessment of district achievements, educational programs and services. The Ritenour School District meets or exceeds state standards in all areas and is fully accredited by the Missouri State Board of Education.

## **Technology Leader**

Ritenour continues to be a leader in educational technology with the help of voter-approved financing and technology grants.

Thanks in part to the Ritenour community's support of the Proposition K bond issue in November of 2008 – which included many new technology upgrades and Ritenour's ongoing commitment to integrate technology more effectively in classroom instruction – Ritenour students have the opportunity to see the world as they have never seen it before.

In addition to computers in the classrooms and computer labs at every building, some of the technology students and parents will see in Ritenour classrooms during the 2009-2010 school year includes:

- Wireless networks at all schools
- Ceiling mounted projectors in every classroom
- Mounted speakers in every classroom
- Interactive White Boards – several at each school
- Document Cameras – many at each school
- Laptop carts – for classroom use
- Neo 2 Word Processors – for third grade classrooms keyboarding classes

In addition, Ritenour boasts two eMINTS/METS classrooms at Wyland Elementary and Hoech Middle School. The classrooms were among 100 selected in Missouri in 2007-2008. The classrooms are outfitted with some of the latest educational technology, including computers for student use, SMART Boards, projectors, printers digital cameras and more.

## **Outstanding Employees**

Ritenour's more than 600 teachers, counselors, administrators and support staff are dedicated to providing opportunities to assure students succeed in the classroom and in life.

A teaching staff of over 400 features a majority of experienced professionals with advanced degrees, as well as a significant number of teachers new to the profession.

Ritenour teachers have an average of over 11 years of experience. 73% of Ritenour teachers have advanced degrees.

## **Using Best Teaching Practices**

Ritenour's award-winning Staff Development program continues to serve as the catalyst for student achievement. The district is committed to using best teaching and management strategies to assure student success. Through its Staff Development program, Ritenour provides all employees professional and personal growth opportunities throughout their careers.

The Staff Development program is teacher-directed having a Ritenour teacher, on leave from the classroom, serve as the district coordinator. Teachers also serve on the district Staff Development Advisory Committee and individual building staff development committees.

The Staff Development program features:

- 2-year mentoring program for new teachers
- Staff recognition programs
- District-sponsored workshops
- Participation in national, state and local conferences

## **Working Together for Student Success**

Parents, grandparents, neighbors, alumni and other community members are a vital part of the success of the Ritenour School District. Parent-teacher organizations, businesses and district volunteers give countless hours and generous support to Ritenour schools and students. Residents living in the communities of Ritenour understand that good schools and good neighborhoods are a winning combination. They understand everyone plays a part in making our district the best it can be for our students. Ritenour residents are committed to quality education. The continued support by voters of district bond issues and tax levies ensures Ritenour will be a source of pride for students and residents.

## **A Place to Call Home**

Ritenour is truly a place to call home. The nine municipalities that comprise Ritenour evoke a strong sense of 'neighborhood' for people of all ages to live and work together. Parks, community centers, hospitals, shopping centers and churches are always nearby. Situated near metropolitan St. Louis, Ritenour is a highly accessible community that features new commercial growth and offers a vast array of businesses. Extending southward from Lambert International Airport, the district is bound on each side by major traffic arteries and is only 15 minutes from downtown St. Louis.

Ritenour's prime location in the heart of St. Louis County makes it an easy-to-reach, viable element in a city rich in culture and traditions. In St. Louis, you are never far from fun. Whether you enjoy museums, the symphony, professional sports or the theater, St. Louis is a great place to call home.

## **Ritenour Mission Statement**

The mission of the Ritenour School District is to provide the supportive environment and challenging opportunities for students to acquire the knowledge, skills, and behaviors necessary for success in our changing world.

## **Ritenour Vision Statement**

The vision of the Ritenour School District is that the district be recognized as a leader for its academic excellence, student achievement, effective teaching and management practices, extensive community involvement and strong support, and for whose graduates become successful citizens leading lives of personal integrity and fulfillment.

## **Ritenour School District Fast Facts:**

### **Schools:**

#### **Elementary Schools (6)**

- Buder Elementary
- Iveland Elementary
- Kratz Elementary
- Marion Elementary
- Marvin Elementary
- Wyland Elementary

#### **Middle Schools (2)**

- Hoech Middle
- Ritenour Middle

#### **High Schools (1)**

- Ritenour High School

**Special Programs (2)**

- School for Early Childhood Education
- Adult Education Center

**Enrollment:** 6,642 students (*as of Nov. 2010*)

**Revenue Funding Sources**

34.6% - State  
58.6% - Local  
6.7% - Federal

**Student Demographics**

White – 46.5%  
African-American – 39.2%  
Hispanic – 11.3%  
Other Minority – 3.0%

**Staffing Ratios**

- District Wide Class Size of 18.0
- Teacher/Student Ratio of 17.0
- Certified Staff/Student Ratio of 15.4

**Average Current Expenditures per Student:** \$8,844

**Years of Experience of Professional Staff:** 11.4

**Professional Staff with Advanced Degrees:** 51.9%

**Average Teacher Salaries:** \$55,983

**Certification Status of Teachers**

Teachers with Regular Certificates – 99.8%  
Temporary or Special Assignment Certificates – 0.2%  
Classes Taught by Highly Qualified Educators – 98.7%

**Web site:**

[www.ritenour.k12.mo.us](http://www.ritenour.k12.mo.us)

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