



2023-2024 UPPER SCHOOL PROFILE

MISSION

Through superior academics and mentoring, The Colorado Springs School prepares students to think independently and to meet the challenges of a dynamic world with leadership, ingenuity, problem-solving skills, and personal integrity.

FAST FACTS

Enrollment
PreK-Grade 12
330

Enrollment
Grades 9-12
84

Class of 2024
26

Full-Time Faculty in
Upper School
19

With Advanced Degrees
71%

Established in 1962, The Colorado Springs School is a college-preparatory, day, and international school serving students from PreKindergarten through high school. We proudly serve students from across the Pikes Peak region, as well as international students. The school sits on 28 acres with eight buildings, which include an innovation lab, a 300-seat performance theatre, art studios, a field house, and athletic fields.

CAPTURING THE COLORADO SPRINGS SCHOOL

PHILOSOPHY

The Colorado Springs School is a college-preparatory school based on the belief that the closer the link between learning and experience, the more meaningful the resulting knowledge will be. Our goal is to prepare students for college and for life by equipping them with thinking and problem-solving skills, self-confidence, compassion, and a love of learning. We prepare students to meet the challenges of a dynamic world.

RELATIONSHIPS

Small class sizes mean teachers and students connect one-on-one. Students are known by every teacher and receive extensive, individualized feedback. Each student has a faculty advisor who monitors academic progress, establishes a supportive relationship, and communicates, as needed, with parents. CSS incorporates the Yale RULER Program, where students cultivate social and emotional skills that help them develop into healthy adults.

EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION

At CSS, students learn by doing. Our programs immerse them in hands-on activities in the classroom and beyond. We explore through curriculum-based seminars and adventures, both locally and across the globe. Intentional challenges stimulate students' academic and social growth.

CLASS OF 2023 FAST FACTS:

- **Average ACT Score: 26.5**
 - * National Average: 20.6
 - * Colorado Average: 23.2
- Average SAT Score: **1226**
- **\$3.7 million** in merit scholarships received

PREPARING STUDENTS FOR A DYNAMIC WORLD

AFFILIATIONS

Accredited by the Association of **Colorado Independent Schools (ACIS)**
Proud Member of the **National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS)**

Mike Edmonds
Interim Head of School

Brooke Kelly-Rawls
Acting Director of Admission

Tom Torrance
Upper School Director

Erik Playe
College & Career Counselor

Kelley Jefferson
Registrar

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

- AP AND ADVANCED COURSES:** CSS offers 13 AP Courses as well as Advanced courses. Students are eligible to take AP courses as early as their sophomore year.
- CALENDAR:** Our academic schedule maximizes the number of courses we offer. A block system allows for a variety of class lengths (52 & 72 minutes). The longer periods enable in-depth discussions, field experiences, and lab work.
- COLLEGE PLACEMENT:** One hundred percent of all CSS graduates go on to initiate a post-secondary educational experience.

SIGNATURE LEARNING EXPERIENCES

EXPERIENCE-CENTERED SEMINARS (ECS)

Each March, students embark on a three-week intensive study known as Experience-Centered Seminars. The curriculum is anchored by essential questions that require a multi-disciplinary approach. Though each one explores a unique theme, geographic location, and variety of immersive experiences, all are unified by rigorous and academic inquiry. ECS topics have included the study of geothermal energy in Iceland, local homeless challenges in Colorado Springs, and biodiversity in Madagascar, to name a few.

SENIOR CAPSTONE

Seniors embark on an individualized, student-generated Capstone for three weeks at the end of their senior year. They identify their

- area of interest, envision their own project, conduct interviews with professionals outside of CSS, and secure a community mentor. The project culminates in a presentation to outside mentors, faculty, peers and parents. Capstones help students explore potential career goals and interests.
- DIGITAL PORTFOLIO**
- Students deepen their learning and strengthen their skills by reflecting on experiences in Digital Portfolio, an online digital collection of their best work. They select pieces as “artifacts” that capture their understanding of one of eight capacities such as leadership and teamwork and global perspective. Digital portfolios provide a longitudinal record of learning for students and prospective colleges that is more real and comprehensive than standardized testing.

CURRICULUM AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Our AP and advanced courses, bolded below, are the most rigorous courses we offer in each discipline and students are prepared for the appropriate AP exam. A minimum of 24 credits are required for graduation.

ENGLISH <i>4 Credits Required</i> English World Literature & Composition English European Literature & Composition English American Literature & Composition English Senior Seminar AP Language & Composition AP Literature & Composition	HISTORY <i>3 Credits Required</i> Global Studies & World Geography World History US History Microeconomics Macroeconomics AP US History AP Comparative Government & Politics	WORLD LANGUAGE <i>3 Credits Required</i> French I, II, III, IV, V Spanish I, II, III, IV, V AP Spanish AP French	EXPERIENCE-CENTERED SEMINAR (one each year) <i>4 Credits Required</i>
SCIENCE <i>3 Credits Required</i> Biology Chemistry Introduction to Computer Science Physics Environmental Science Anatomy & Physiology Advanced Chemistry Advanced Environmental Science AP Computer Science AP Biology AP Psychology	MATHEMATICS <i>4 Credits Required</i> Advanced Geometry Algebra II Algebra II with Trigonometry Data Science Web Design Discrete Math Functions, Statistics, Trigonometry (FST) Advanced Precalculus Advanced Statistics AP Calculus AB AP Calculus BC	ARTS <i>2 Credits Required</i> Art Foundations Band Vocal Ensemble Maker's Theater Woodworking Painting (water or oil base) Video Production Yearbook Glass Ceramics Digital Photography Jewelry Dark Room Photography Printmaking Music Theory Bronze Casting Portfolio & Studio Art Advanced Ceramics Advanced Glass	COLLEGE OVERVIEW <i>0.25 credit</i>
			PUBLIC SPEAKING <i>0.25 credit</i>
			HEALTH AND WELLNESS <i>0.5 credit</i>

GRADING SCALE

UNWEIGHTED GPA	A+ 4.333	A 4.000	A- 3.667	B+ 3.333	B 3.000	B- 2.667	C+ 2.333	C 2.000	C- 1.667	D+ 1.333	D 1.000	D- 0.667	F 0.000	P PASSING
WEIGHTED GPA	A+ 5.333	A 5.000	A- 4.667	B+ 4.333	B 4.000	B- 3.667	C+ 3.333	C 3.000	C- 2.667	D+ 1.333	D 1.000	D- 0.667	F 0.000	P PASSING
CREDITS BY DEPARTMENT	ENGLISH 4.00	SCIENCE 3.00	HISTORY 3.00	MATH 4.00	WORLD LANGUAGE 3.00	THE ARTS 2.00	ECS 4.00							

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES 2019-2023



Institutions currently attended by
CSS alumni are in bold.

AMDA College of Performing Arts
American University
Arizona State University
Auburn University
Austin College
Baylor University
Belmont University
Beloit College
Boise State University
Boston University
Brown University
California College of Performing Arts
California State University - Northridge
Carleton College
Carnegie Mellon University
Carthage College
Catawba College
Centre College
Chapman University
Coe College
College for Creative Studies
Colorado Christian University
Colorado College
Colorado Mesa University
Colorado Mountain College
Colorado School of Mines
Colorado State University
Concordia University - Seward
Connecticut College
Cornell College
Cornell University
Cornish College of the Arts
Creighton University Culinary
Institute of America
Dartmouth College
Denison University
Dickinson College
Drake University
Drexel University
Duquesne University
Eckerd College
Elon University
Emory University
Florida State University
Fort Lewis College
Franklin & Marshall College

Gonzaga University
Grinnell College
Guilford College
Hampden-Sydney College
Hendrix College
Idaho State University
Illinois Institute of Technology
Ithaca College
Kalamazoo College
Kansas City Art Institute
Kansas State University
Kenyon College
Knox College
Lake Forest College
Lawrence University (Conservatory of Music)
Lewis & Clark College
Linfield University
Loyola Marymount University (Honors Program)
Macalester College
Marquette University
Maryland Institute College of Art
Miami University, Oxford
Middlebury College
Montana State University - Bozeman
Montana State University - Bozeman (University Honors)
Morningside University
North Carolina State University
Northeastern University
Northern Arizona University
Northwestern University
Oberlin College
Occidental College
Oregon State University
Oxford College of Emory University
Pace University - New York City
Pacific University
Pennsylvania State University
Pennsylvania State University - Harrisburg
Pikes Peak State College
Pikes Peak State College
Pima Community College

Pratt Institute
Purdue University
Quinnipiac University
Reed College
Regis University
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rhode Island School of Design
Rhodes College
Ringling College of Art and Design
Rockhurst University
Rollins College
Salve Regina University
San Diego State University
Santa Clara University
Savannah College of Art & Design
School of the Art Institute of Chicago
School of Visual Arts
Sewanee: The University of the South
Skidmore College
South Dakota School of Mines & Technology
Southern Methodist University
St. Olaf College
Stanford University
State College of Florida
Syracuse University
Texas A&M University
Texas Christian University
Texas Tech University Theater
Arts Preparatory School
The College of William and Mary
The College of Wooster
The King's College
Trinity University
Tufts University
Tulane University of Louisiana (Honors Program)
Union College
US Air Force Academy
University College London
University of Arizona
University of California - Berkeley & Santa Cruz

University of Colorado Boulder
University of Colorado Colorado Springs
University of Colorado Denver
University of Connecticut
University of Denver
University of Kansas
University of Florida
University of Florida (Honors Program)
University of La Verne
University of Massachusetts - Amherst
University of Miami
University of Minnesota - Twin Cities
University of Nebraska
University of Nevada - Las Vegas
University of New Mexico
University of Northern Colorado
University of Notre Dame
University of Oklahoma
University of Oregon
University of Pittsburgh
University of Portland
University of Puget Sound
University of Redlands
University of Rochester
University of San Francisco
University of Southern California
University of South Florida
University of Tulsa
University of Utah
University of Vermont
University of Washington
University of Wisconsin - Madison
Utah Valley University
Wartburg College
Washington State University
Western Colorado University
Western Washington University
Whitman College
Whittier College
Willamette University
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Yale University

