Westford Academy

2023-2024 School Profile

30 Patten Road Westford MA 01886 wa.westfordk12.us/pages/index

Administration

Daniel P. Twomey, Principal Betsy Murphy, Dean Amanda Welch, Dean Robert P. Ware, Dean



Community

Westford is a suburban community of 24,643 residents located 35 miles northwest of Boston, Massachusetts.

Westford Academy Facts

- Public High School founded in 1792
- Total Enrollment (9-12): 1469
- Class of 2023: 420
- Total Faculty: 140
- Student to Faculty Ratio: 13:1
- Average Class Size: 25

Graduation Requirements

English	20 credits
Math	20 credits
Science	15 credits
Social Studies	15 credits (10 U.S.)
PE/Wellness	10 credits
Health	2.5 credits
Electives	22.5 credits
World Language	10 credits/same language
Visual/Performing Arts	2.5 credits
Total	117.5 credits

Students must also earn a passing score on all MCAS Graduation/ Competency Determination requirements.

- Students are limited to two science courses each year.
- All science courses have a laboratory component.
- Only credits earned at Westford Academy or through Dual Enrollment are calculated into GPA, up to 35 credits per year.

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Counseling Department

Lauren Clark, Director

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Grade Point Ave	rade Point Average			
Numerical	AP	Honors	College Prep	
98-100	5.0	4.5	4.0	
93-97	4.7	4.2	3.7	
90-92	4.5	4.0	3.5	
87-89	4.3	3.8	3.3	
83-86	4.0	3.5	3.0	
80-82	3.7	3.2	2.7	
77-79	3.4	2.9	2.4	
73-76	3.0	2.5	2.0	
70-72	2.7	2.2	1.7	
65-69	2.0	1.5	1.0	
0-64	0.0	0.0	0.0	

GPA is determined for students using the weighted scale listed below. GPA is based on cumulative semester grades when credit is earned in a college preparatory, honors, and Advanced Placement courses.

*Westford Academy does not calculate class rank.

For the 2020-2021 school year, students had the choice to be either fully remote or hybrid. In April 2021, all students were offered to return to full time in-person learning.

Mission Statement

We value the development of curious life-long learners who are responsible, empathetic members of the community, demonstrating innovation through a wide variety of opportunities within inclusive, joyful learning environments that embrace their variability and honor their diversity. We believe in preparing out students for active, positive participation as both local and global citizens by developing and fostering creativity, communication, collaboration and critical thinking.

Post Secondary Plans 2023

Class of	2020	2021	2022	2023
4 yr. college	93%	86%	93%	92%
2 yr. college	3%	8%	2%	2%
Employment	2%	2%	1%	2%
Military/Other	2%	4%	4%	4%

Mean SAT Scores

Class of	2020	2021	2022	2023
# Tested	400	173	323	354
EBRW	620	655	625	618
Math	637	678	644	625

Mean ACT Score	s		
Class of	2019	2020	2021
# Tested	195	142	68
Composite	26.9	28.0	29.5

National Merit Scholarship Results

Class of	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Commended Students	49	34	27	30	20
Semifinalists	10	10	12	14	8

Advanced Placement Program

AP Courses Offered:

Advanced Placement courses are offered in:

Studio Art	Statistics
Biology	United States History
Chemistry	European History
Physics C – Mechanics	English Literature
Environmental Science	French Language
Psychology	Spanish Language
Calculus	German Language
Computer Science A	Music Theory

Advanced placement courses are typically offered during the junior and senior year and students maximize their educational opportunities within the confines of the master schedule and graduation requirements. All students receiving Advanced Placement credit are expected to take the AP examination in May.

2022 AP Distribution of Scores

Test Scores	Number of Scores	% Total Exams		
5	235	39%		
4	254	34%		
3	165	18%		
2	67	7%		
1	20	2%		

Class of	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total AP Students	439	475	407	448	476
AP Scholars	195	197	187	182	206
Number of Exams	887	951	818	889	1063
%Total of AP Students with Scores of 3 or above	97.3	96.6	93.37	89%	91%

2021 - 2023(Bold= 3 or More)

Albany College of P/H Sciences Amer Acad Dramatic Arts (NY) American University Amherst College Anna Maria College Arizona State U (Main) Assumption University Auburn University Babson College **Bates** College Bentley University Berklee College of Music **Boston College Boston University Brandeis University** Bridgewater State University Brigham Young University Brown University Bryant University Butler University Carnegie Mellon University Case Western Reserve U **Champlain College** Chapman University Clark University Clarkson University **Coastal Carolina University** Colby College Colby-Sawyer College Colgate University College of Charleston College of the Holy Cross Colorado State U (Fort Collins) Concordia University (Montreal) Connecticut College Cornell University Curry College Daemen College Dartmouth College Davidson College Dean College DePaul University **Drexel University** Duquesne University Elon University Embry-Riddle Aero U (Daytona) **Emerson College Emmanuel College Emory University Endicott** College Fairfield University Fitchburg State University Florida Atlantic University Fordham University Framingham State University Franciscan U (Steubenville) Franklin Pierce University Georgetown University Georgia Institute of Tech (Main)

Gonzaga University Gordon College Grand Canyon University Hamilton College Harvey Mudd College High Point University Hofstra University Huntington University Imperial College London Indiana University (Bloomington) Ithaca College James Madison University Johns Hopkins University Johnson & Wales U (Providence) Keene State College Lafayette College Lasell University Lesley University Liberty University Loyola University Maryland Loyola University Maryland Manchester Community College Manhattan College Marist College Maryland Institute College of Art Marymount Manhattan College Mass College of Art and Design Mass College of P/H Sciences Massachusetts Inst of Technology Massachusetts Maritime Academy McGill University Mercyhurst University Merrimack College Miami University (Oxford) Michigan State University Middlebury College Middlesex Community College Molloy College Monroe Community College Mount Holyoke College Muhlenberg College Nazareth College New England Inst of Technology New Jersey Institute of Technology New York University North Carolina State University Northeastern University Norwich University Norwich University Nova Southeastern University Pace University (New York City) Parsons School of Design Pennsylvania State U (Main) Pine Manor College Plymouth State University Pratt Institute **Providence College** Purdue University (Main) Quinnipiac University

Quinsigamond Community College **Regis** College Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute **Rivier University Rochester Institute of Technology** Roger Williams University Rutgers U (New Brunswick) Sacred Heart University Saint Anselm College Saint Joseph's University Saint Louis University Saint Michael's College Salem State University Salve Regina University San Diego State University Savannah College of Art & Design School of the Art Institute of Chicago School of Visual Arts Scripps College Simmons University Simon Fraser University Skidmore College Smith College Southern New Hampshire U Springfield College St. Bonaventure University St. John's College (Annapolis) St, Lawrence University St. Norbert College Stanford University Stetson University Stonehill College Stony Brook University Suffolk University SUNY at Albany SUNY at Binghamton SUNY at New Paltz SUNY University at Buffalo Swarthmore College Syracuse University Technical University of Munich Temple University Texas A&M University Texas Christian University Texas Tech University The College of William and Mary The Ohio State U (Main) The University of Alabama The University of Tampa The U Tennessee (Knoxville) The University of Texas (Austin) Trinity College Trinity College Dublin Tufts University Tulane University of Louisiana Union College United States Air Force Academy University College Dublin University of Arizona University of Arkansas

U California (Berkeley) U California (Davis) U California (Irvine) U California (Los Angeles) U California (San Diego) UCalifornia (Santa Barbara) U California (Santa Cruz) University of Chicago U Cincinnati (Main) University of Colorado Boulder University of Connecticut University of Delaware University of Detroit Mercy University of Florida University of Hartford U of Illinois (Urbana-Champaign) University of Kansas University of Kentucky University of Maine U Maryland (College Park) U Massachusetts (Amherst) U Massachusetts (Boston) U Massachusetts (Dartmouth) U Massachusetts (Lowell) University of Michigan U Minnesota (Twin Cities) University of New England U New Hampshire (Main) University of New Haven U North Carolina (Asheville) U North Carolina (Chapel Hill) U North Carolina (Charlotte) U North Carolina (Wilmington) University of Pittsburgh (Main) University of Rhode Island University of Richmond University of South Carolina University of Southern California University of Southern Maine University of St Andrews University of Toronto University of Utah University of Vermont U of Virginia (Main) U of Wisconsin (Madison) Vanderbilt University Vassar College Villanova University Virginia Polytechnic & State U Washington University in St Louis Wentworth Inst of Technology Wesleyan University Western New England University Westfield State University Wheaton College Worcester Polytechnic Institute Worcester State University Xavier University York College Pennsylvania

SCHOOL TO CAREERS PROGRAM

- Self-Assessment and Career Exploration Students are introduced to the career decision-making process during their freshman year. They learn to assess their values, skills and interests and apply that information to course selection and opportunities in the world of work. They also develop an online portfolio of their career exploration activities during their four years at Westford Academy.
- **Career Exploration Breakfast** The goal of this event is to help students connect academic schoolwork to career readiness and awareness beyond Westford Academy. Each sophomore and junior sits with two different community speakers in an informal, round table format. This active question and answer experience helps our students gain an understanding of careers and potential college majors. It may also lead to a junior job shadow site and/or a senior capstone site. *All juniors and sophomores attend this event*.
- Job Shadow This is a one-day visit to a workplace designed to give students the chance to observe someone at work in a specific career field. Students shadow an adult "role model" who is employed in a field of interest and can help the student with their educational and career decisions. Topics of discussion may include workplace norms and customs, and guidance in the career research and job search process. It is an important connecting activity that can lead to internship or work opportunities. All juniors participate in a May Job Shadow day. The Junior Job Shadow was canceled in May 2021 due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Senior Capstone Experience

Seniors participate in the 4th quarter Senior Capstone Experience in one of the following ways:

- **Internships** Unpaid work experience for students that is structured to help demonstrate practical applications for academic learning. These experiences help students focus on career goals, motivate them in school, and may even lead to future employment.
- **Community Service** Students volunteer their time in hospitals, nursing homes, or other community agencies. Previous sites include volunteering at the Cameron Senior Center, Lowell Humane Society or Habitat for Humanity. At least half of the student's weekly community service hours must be spent in direct contact with the organization for which they volunteer.
- **Research Paper or Project** (only for students enrolled in at least two AP courses) is in-depth research on an approved topic of choice. With the help of a faculty advisor and site supervisor in the community, the student plans and carries out an in-depth study of a particular topic, such as scientific research or developing a computer program.
 - In 2021, 2022 and 2023, 100% of the senior class participated in a Senior Experience, a modified version of the Senior Capstone that allowed for more flexibility due to pandemic restrictions.

Curriculum Information

Although Westford Academy offers four levels of courses in English, mathematics, science, social studies and world languages, students are not tracked. Most departments offer a variety of courses that are heterogeneously grouped. Elective courses provide opportunities to participate in many areas of performing and visual arts. Studio arts, symphonic band, theatre arts, and moviemaking are among the programs available to students.

Students are expected to enroll in a minimum of 32.5 credits each academic year. The schedule is based on a seven-day rotation with six classes meeting each day. Students earn 5 credits for successful completion of each full year course and 2.5 credits for each half-year course. Any questions regarding a student's transcript should be directed to the Counseling Department or by consulting the Program of Studies at: https://www.westfordk12.us/wa/2021-2022-program-studies-0

Co-Curricular Activity

Over 70 clubs, activities and organizations are available including Orchestra, Chorus, Theater Arts, Marching Band, Peer Counseling, Cirrus, D.E.C.A., GSA, HOSA, Amnesty International, National Honor Society, Student Council, Project Purple, and SADD. Interscholastic athletic activities include football, soccer, field hockey, track, cross country, basketball, baseball, ice hockey, swimming, gymnastics, cheerleading, wrestling, tennis, golf, volleyball, softball, alpine skiing, and lacrosse. Intramural activities are also offered to interested students.

Students are expected to participate in community service activities throughout all four years.

An active student exchange program brings students from different countries to spend a year or a semester at Westford Academy. Opportunities to travel to England, Germany, France, Spain, and Canada under the tutelage of Westford Academy staff are frequent summer, spring or winter break adventures for interested students.