

the Crefeld School



School Profile 2023-24

George Zeleznik, Head of School
Tori Wrye, Dean of College Counseling

CEEB Code: 393388
Member: NACAC, PACAC, NAIS, Progressive Education Network
Accreditation: PAIS, MSS-CESS

The Crefeld School
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THE SCHOOL

Founded in 1970, The Crefeld School's mission is to graduate self-aware, empathetic, lifelong learners, who possess an appreciation for diverse perspectives, their role in society, and their ability to act as agents of change. As a progressive school, we promote the actively engaged citizenry of our student body. We do this with an enriched, independent curriculum with opportunities for experiential, collaborative, and interdisciplinary learning, research, inquiry, and writing. Our program culminates with Graduation by Exhibition – an extensive portfolio of projects, papers, and tests, in addition to their class work.

ENROLLMENT

A gender inclusive school, Crefeld's student body consists of just under 100 students in grades 7-12. In 2023-24, demographics of the community are as follows:

16% African American 67% European American 8% Multiracial or Biracial
2% Asian American 7% Latinx

Our students come from approximately 50 different zip codes within 6 counties.

Approximately 45% of the student body receives need-based financial aid. The average graduating class size is 20. 80-90% will go straight on to four-year colleges. 5-10% will start out at two-year colleges. A very small percentage will take time off or enter the work force.

THE COLLEGE COUNSELING PROCESS

As a progressive school, Crefeld insists that students participate in the college application process with agency and integrity. We believe that this transition represents an opportunity for students to reflect on their achievements and their needs, and to seek out a school that will be a good match. We encourage parents to take a back seat in the process, and we provide counseling, rather than directives, to students. It is unusual for students to apply Early Decision to a school, but it does happen occasionally. Please note that Crefeld's second quarter generally ends in the third week of January, so Mid-Year reports are often not available until February 1.

OUR TRANSCRIPT

At The Crefeld School, students graduate when they demonstrate mastery of essential skills as demonstrated by our graduation portfolio. Students are not graded in comparison to other students. Students are graded A through F with C- being the lowest passing grade.

Grading Scale:

| Grade | Numeric Equivalent | GPA Translation | Grade | | GPA Translation |
|-------|--------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|-------|-----------------|
| A+ | 97-100 | 4.0 | C | 73-76 | 2.0 |
| A | 93-96 | 4.0 | C- | 70-72 | 1.7 |
| A- | 90-92 | 3.7 | D+ | 67-69 | 1.3 |
| B+ | 87-89 | 3.3 | D | 63-66 | 1.0 |
| B | 83-86 | 3.0 | D- | 60-62 | .7 |
| B- | 80-82 | 2.7 | F | <60 | 0.0 |
| C+ | 77-79 | 2.3 | *C- is the lowest Passing Grade | | |

Credits are included on the transcript, and GPAs are on the school report, for your convenience. Second semester electives are scheduled in early January, so will not be on the initial transcript.

COVID-19

On March 11, 2020 Crefeld transitioned to distance learning for the remainder of the year. All classes continued over Zoom. While Crefeld worked hard to make sure all students had access to distance learning, students were affected by the pandemic in various ways with some students who continued working outside the home to help with family income, and/or relied on access through “Internet Essentials” which was often spotty. Therefore, Crefeld gave every student the opportunity to choose whether they would be awarded a letter grade or whether to take the class P/F. This policy continued through the 2020-21 school year as we navigated a challenging year. We were sometimes able to hold classes in person 2x/week, and sometimes were completely remote. In addition, for 2020-21 only, we scheduled classes on a quarter system which was a hybrid of traditional 45 minute blocks (for World Language, academic electives, arts, and PE) earning .25 credits per quarter, while other academic “core” classes were scheduled for 90 minute blocks and earned .5 credits per quarter. Please direct questions about student transcripts to Tori Wrye at twrye@crefeld.org.

GPA INFORMATION

GPA is reported on the Secondary School Report, but not on transcripts. All GPAs are unweighted, on a 4.0 scale, and include all credit-bearing courses taken at The Crefeld School. All attempts at Crefeld classes are included on the transcript and calculated into the GPA. The exception is if a student repeats an entire year of schooling. In that case, first attempt at that grade level will not be on the transcript at all. Courses taken at other schools and programs are listed on the transcript but are not factored into the GPA. Grades of P (pass) earned during remote learning were not factored into GPA. Per our pandemic grading policy, courses in the pandemic where students earned no credit were removed from the transcript. Please direct questions about student transcripts to Tori Wrye at twrye@crefeld.org. Class of 2023 Middle 50%: 3.23 – 4.0, unweighted.



CLASS RANK

No class rank is calculated or recorded on a student’s transcript. Any institution may make a request to the Director of College Counseling, if class rank is required for admissions or for scholarships.

REPORTING OF DISCIPLINARY INFRACTIONS

When asked by colleges during the college admissions process, Crefeld will report all suspensions and expulsions from 9th grade forward.

CURRICULUM

The Crefeld School's curriculum is not tracked; all courses are college preparatory. Intensive classes are offered in history, science, English, and Graduation Exhibition Workshop. These courses should be viewed as Honors courses. Approximately 25% of high school students enroll in one or more Intensive classes. Due to small classes and scheduling constraints, students may not always be enrolled in all the Intensive courses they request—please contact the counselor for more information about a particular student.

All students in the Upper School are expected to graduate with 4 credits each in English, history and science, though exceptions may be made for individual students based on their needs.

Students are expected to complete 3 years of mathematics in high school. Typically, this will mean graduating having taken at least Algebra 2. The majority of our students will progress through the following sequence: Algebra 1 (if in MS, not on transcript); Geometry, Algebra 2, Pre-Calculus. We also offer both Introduction to Calculus and Finance as additional classes beyond the traditional sequence. Approximately 10% of our students come to Crefeld needing additional instruction. In those cases, we offer Topics in Math (combination of Pre-Algebra and Algebra 1) and Algebra Essentials (combination of Algebra 1, Algebra 2 and Geometry). These courses are individualized, based on student needs.

Students are also expected to take 2 years of a world language. We offer 2 years of Spanish and Mandarin. If students wish to continue a language or prefer to study a different language, they may do so through an accredited program and/or with a certified teacher/tutor. Courses taken outside of Crefeld will be listed on the transcript but not included in the GPA calculation. Students may be exempted from world language based on their learning needs.

Crefeld has a rich elective and arts program with varied offerings in both visual and performing arts. CrEF Lab is the Crefeld Engineering and Fabrication Lab which offers a variety of STEAM coursework in making, building, and technology. Physical education (or a qualifying course) is required for two semesters total. Academic electives in a variety of subjects are offered each year. Courses with the word "Workshop," "Projects," or "Studio" in the title are skills-based classes that may be taken more than once. Service Learning is required for two hours per week. Crefeld does not offer AP courses as a matter of philosophy. We value interdisciplinary work, research, and depth of study over teaching to a test.



GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

In order to earn a diploma from Crefeld, students must complete a graduation portfolio. Complete descriptions of each component may be found on our website at <https://www.crefeld.org/graduation-by-exhibition>. Students may graduate “With Distinction” for going beyond the portfolio requirements.

I: FORMAL WRITING

1. Literary Analysis
2. Timed Persuasive Essay

II: PERSONAL TRANSITION PLAN

III: MATHEMATICAL AND LOGICAL ANALYSIS

1. Calculation and Number Sense Test
2. Algebra 1 and 2 Test
3. Geometry Test

IV: RESEARCH AND UNDERSTANDING

1. History Oral Exams
2. Research Paper
3. Science Project
4. Technology Project

V: SELF-REFLECTION

1. Personal Learning Reflection
2. Creative Expression
3. Public Presentation

VI: CITIZENSHIP

1. Civics Exam
2. Leadership Project or Internship

Information about the portfolio can be found on page 2 of the transcript. On occasion, a student may graduate with a modified portfolio based on his/her Individualized Learning Plan. If that is the case, it will be indicated on the transcript.

HIGHER EDUCATION

Standardized Testing: As with any school in the United States, our students' test scores correlate most strongly with socio-economic status. We hope that you will look closely at our students' grades and courses as they are a much stronger indicator of success in higher education.



COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES:

The classes of 2019-2023 were accepted to and **enrolled** in the following colleges and universities (In all cases, more than one student may have been accepted and/or enrolled during the last five years):

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| Agnes Scott College | Guilford College | Quinnipiac University |
| Albright College | Hampshire College | Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute |
| Alfred University | Hampton University | Rider University |
| Arcadia University | Harcum College | Rochester Institute of Technology |
| Auburn University | Haverford College | Roger Williams University |
| Bard College | Hofstra University | Rollins College |
| Bates College | Indiana University of Pennsylvania (Main Campus) | Rosemont College |
| Beloit College | Ithaca College | Rowan University |
| Bennington College | Jefferson (East Falls Campus) | Rutgers University (New Brunswick) |
| Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania | King's College | Saint Elizabeth University |
| Bryn Mawr College | Kutztown University of Pennsylvania | Saint Joseph's University |
| Cabrini University | Lafayette College | Saint Mary's College of California |
| California College of the Arts | Landmark College | Salve Regina University |
| Champlain College | Lebanon Valley College | Sarah Lawrence College |
| Chestnut Hill College | Lincoln University | Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania |
| Cheyney University of Pennsylvania | Loyola Marymount University | St. John's University |
| Clark Atlanta University | Loyola University Maryland | St. Olaf College |
| Clarkson University | Lynn University | Stetson University |
| College of the Atlantic | Manor College | Stevens Institute of Technology |
| Community College of Philadelphia | Marist College | Stonehill College |
| Connecticut School of Broadcasting | Maryland Institute College of Art | Stony Brook University |
| Delaware State University | Marymount Manhattan College | Susquehanna University |
| Delaware Valley University | Massachusetts College of Art and Design | Temple University |
| Dickinson College | McDaniel College | Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology |
| Drexel University | Millersville University of Pennsylvania | The University of the Arts |
| East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania | Montgomery County Community College | Thomas Jefferson University (East Falls Campus) |
| Eastern University | Moore College of Art and Design | Towson University |
| Eckerd College | Morgan State University | Union College |
| Edinboro University of Pennsylvania | Muhlenberg College | University of California (Davis) |
| Elizabethtown College | Neumann University | University of California (Irvine) |
| Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (Daytona Beach) | New Jersey Institute of Technology | University of California (Riverside) |
| Emerson College | New York University | University of Delaware |
| Fairleigh Dickinson University (Florham) | Northampton County Area Community College | University of Denver |
| Farmingdale State College | Otis College of Art and Design | University of Glasgow |
| Florida Gulf Coast University | Pace University (New York City) | University of Hartford |
| Florida Southern College | Penn State University (Abington) | University of Hawaii at Manoa |
| Franklin & Marshall College | Penn State University (Brandywine) | University of Maine |
| Georgia State University | Penn State University (University Park) | University of Maryland (Baltimore County) |
| Georgian Court University | Pratt Institute (Main Campus) | University of Maryland (College Park) |
| Gettysburg College | Purdue University (Main Campus) | University of Massachusetts (Amherst) |
| Goucher College | | |

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| University of Pittsburgh (Bradford) |
| University of Pittsburgh (Main Campus) |
| University of Rochester |
| University of Scranton |
| University of the Arts London |
| University of Vermont |
| Ursinus College |
| Vassar College |
| Villanova University |
| Wagner College |
| Washington & Jefferson College |
| Wayne State University |
| West Chester University of Pennsylvania |
| Widener University |
| Worcester Polytechnic Institute |