



## SCHOOL PROFILE 2014-2015

**CEEB Code: 391-505**

### ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Nancy O. Starmer, *Head of School*

Scott Spence, *Associate Head of School*

### COLLEGE GUIDANCE STAFF

Suzi Nam, *Director*

[snam@georgeschool.org](mailto:snam@georgeschool.org)

Nancy M. Culleton, *Associate Director*

[nculleton@georgeschool.org](mailto:nculleton@georgeschool.org)

Rachel M. Fumia, *Associate Director*

[rfumia@georgeschool.org](mailto:rfumia@georgeschool.org)

Pamela E. Machemer, *Associate Director*

[pemachemer@georgeschool.org](mailto:pemachemer@georgeschool.org)

Terry Tuttle, *College Guidance Assistant*

[ttuttle@georgeschool.org](mailto:ttuttle@georgeschool.org)

### MISSION STATEMENT

*With Quaker tradition as its touchstone and academic excellence at its core, George School seeks to develop citizen scholars cheerfully committed to openness in the pursuit of truth, to service and peace, and to the faithful stewardship of the earth. We want our students to treasure learning for its own sake and to use it to benefit a diverse world. Above all, we want them to "let their lives speak."*

### SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY

George School is an independent, coeducational, college preparatory Friends boarding and day school that enrolls 534 students in grades 9 through 12, with a senior class of 135. Slightly over half (51 percent) are boarding students. Nearly 100 percent of graduates attend four-year colleges and universities in the United States and abroad. George School is one of the few US boarding schools to offer the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma.

Located on 240 acres of land in a suburban area 30 miles north of downtown Philadelphia, George School was founded in 1893 by the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) and operates under the spiritual care of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting. It is a purposeful

community of diverse backgrounds, talents, and interests, committed to community and residential life. Demographic highlights include:

- Students come from 23 states and 52 countries
- 15.7 percent are foreign citizens
- 12 percent are dual citizens and/or US citizens living abroad
- 24.2 percent identify as US students of color (including 13.6 percent African-American, 6.2 percent Asian American, 4.2 percent Latino, .4 percent Middle Eastern, and 4.2 percent biracial/multiracial)
- 13.7 percent are Quaker
- Students come from high-, middle-, and low-income families
- 49 percent receive financial aid

### FACULTY

The school employs 91 faculty members, 84 of them full time. Seventy-four percent hold advanced degrees. The average faculty member has 20 years of teaching experience. Two-thirds of faculty members live on campus; over one-third live in dormitories.

### ACCREDITATION

Pennsylvania Association of Independent Schools; Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. International Baccalaureate program accreditation by the International Baccalaureate Organization.

### SCHEDULE

The school year is divided into three terms (trimesters) of roughly eleven weeks each; the last week of each term is a final exam period. Each yearlong course meets four times (210 minutes) per week.

### GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

All students are required to take the equivalent of six yearlong courses (18 credits) each year. Each yearlong course carries three credits.

Typically, about one-third of sophomores and one-tenth of juniors and seniors carry an additional course.

Four-year students are required to take the following yearlong courses:

- **English:** 4
- **Foreign language:** 3, or demonstrated third-year proficiency. French, Spanish, Latin, and Chinese are offered. Students who enter George School already fluent in a language other than English may take courses from other subject areas in lieu of foreign language.
- **History:** 3, including US History. All freshmen take Global Interdependence.
- **Laboratory science:** 3 (or the equivalent), which must include one physical science and one life science course.
- **Mathematics:** 3, including Algebra 2 and Geometry.
- **Arts:** 3 (or the equivalent). Theater arts, stagecraft, painting and drawing, ceramics, sculpture, woodworking, video production, communication design, photography, instrumental music, choral music, music theory, and dance are offered.
- **Religion/Health/Theory of Knowledge:** 3 yearlong equivalents, which include Essentials of a Friends Community/Faith Traditions in the freshman year, Spiritual Practices/Holistic Health in the sophomore year, and three terms of religion and/or Theory of Knowledge classes in the junior or senior year.

All students must also fulfill these requirements:

- **Physical education or a team sport:** each term (seniors may take one term off). Freshmen and new sophomores must play at least two team sports; juniors must play at least one team sport; seniors must complete at least one athletic or arts-related “team activity.”
- **On-campus community service:** a minimum of 60 minutes per week doing kitchen work, classroom cleaning, clerical work, or a specialized assignment.
- **Off-campus community service:** a 65-hour project in the form of a school-sponsored domestic or international service program, or an independent project. Sites for recent school-sponsored service trips have included coastal Louisiana and Mississippi, Washington, DC, the Navajo Nation in Arizona, China, Cuba, Costa Rica, Ecuador, France, Ghana, Nicaragua, South Africa, and Vietnam.

## RIGOR OF ACADEMIC PROGRAM

*English and Mathematics:* The most rigorous four-year sequence in English consists of Freshman Literature and Composition, Advanced Sophomore Literature and

Composition, IB HL 1: Advanced American Literature, and IB HL 2: World Literature. The most rigorous four-year sequence in mathematics consists of Advanced Algebra, Abstract Geometry, IB HL 1: Precalculus, and one of the following: IB HL 2: Calculus, AP Calculus, or AP Statistics.

*Junior and Senior Years:* In representing to colleges the rigor of our students’ academic programs, College Guidance designates each student’s junior and senior year program as *demanding*, *very demanding*, or *most demanding*.

*Demanding* describes the program that typically includes these courses in the junior and senior years:

- American Literature and IB SL World Literature
- US History
- Foreign language through at least the third year
- At least one full-year biology or chemistry course
- Math courses that cover Algebra 2 as well as trigonometry and/or statistics
- Required art and religion courses

*Very demanding* describes the program that typically includes all or most of these courses in the junior and senior years:

- HL 1: American Literature followed by IB SL World Literature or IB HL 2: World Literature
- Accelerated US History
- An “intensive” foreign language course through at least the third year
- Physics, or an IB or AP science course
- A precalculus course
- Required art and religion courses

*Most demanding* describes the program that typically includes all or most of these courses in the junior and senior years:

- IB HL 1: Advanced American Literature and IB HL 2: World Literature
- AP US History and/or an IB history course
- A fourth-year IB (or IB/AP) foreign language course
- At least one AP or IB science course
- A calculus course
- Required art and religion courses

In addition, juniors and seniors taking our *most demanding* program typically complete *at least one* of the following:

- An academic course overload in the junior or senior year
- A fifth-year IB/AP foreign language course
- An AP or IB arts course

- AP Statistics, AP Calculus, or IB HL 2: Calculus
- A second AP or IB science course

By senior year, all IB Diploma candidates are taking either a *very demanding* or *most demanding* program. Many IB diploma candidates complete their foreign language sequence in their junior year.

### SPECIAL CURRICULA

*International Baccalaureate:* The program was introduced in 1985. Students pursuing the IB Diploma sit for three Higher Level and three Standard Level subject exams and complete Extended Essay, Theory of Knowledge, and CAS (Community, Action, and Service) requirements. Many students who are not IB Diploma candidates sit for IB certificates at the end of individual IB courses.

In May 2014, 162 students sat for a total of 381 IB examinations in 37 subject areas. In the Class of 2014, 41 candidates sat for the full IB diploma and all 41 earned the diploma (including eight bilingual diplomas). The average point total was 32; point totals ranged from 24 to 38. Currently about 40 seniors and over 50 juniors are enrolled in the full IB Diploma Program.

*Advanced Placement:* Juniors and seniors (and some sophomores) enroll in AP courses with departmental permission. Courses are offered in 2014-2015 (including some designated as IB) that prepare students for the following AP exams: Studio Art, Biology, Calculus AB, Chemistry, Economics, English Literature, English Language, French Language, Human Geography (open to sophomores and juniors only), Latin, Physics C, Spanish Language, Statistics, and US History.

*English Language Learning:* Approximately 12 students each year enter George School as ELL students. They take Advanced ELL English and ELL History classes (formerly designated ESL) the first year followed by Foundations classes (also designed for nonnative English speakers) in English and History the second year.

*Please see [www.georgeschool.org/Academics](http://www.georgeschool.org/Academics) for course descriptions and for more detail about requirements, special curricula, and College Guidance.*

### HONORS AND AWARDS

*Head of School's List:* recognizes commitment to excellence (based on attitude, effort, initiative, and preparation) of students who have been nominated in a single term by at least five staff members (at least three must be classroom teachers).

*Honor Roll:* recognizes students with no grade below B or a B+ average with no grade below C.

### GRADING AND RELATED PROCEDURES

*Grading Scale:* Grades of A through F (including + and -) are given in all academic and arts courses. Physical education and community service are graded S (satisfactory), D (unsatisfactory), and F. An I denotes incomplete. D- is the lowest passing grade.

*GPA:* At the end of junior year, the mean unweighted GPA for the Class of 2015 in core academic courses was 3.11. With the inclusion of religion and arts courses, GPAs averaged to 3.27 and were distributed as follows:

3.80–4.00	12	9%
3.50–3.79	23	17%
3.00–3.49	65	48%
2.50–3.00	32	24%
Below 2.50	3	2%

College Guidance does not release individual students' GPAs to colleges.

*Class Rank:* George School does not compute class rank.

*Grade Reporting:* First-term grades are reported at the end of November, second-term grades in mid-March, and final grades in June. Special midyear grades for seniors only are reported in early February. In yearlong courses, grades at the end of each term are cumulative for the year.

### STANDARDIZED TEST SCORES

Nearly all George School students take the SAT Reasoning Test. The middle 50 percent score ranges for the Class of 2014 were: Composite 1680–2000, Critical Reading 550–670, Mathematics 530–690, and Writing 550–670. About two-thirds of the class of 2014 also took the ACT; the middle 50 percent range of their composite scores was 23–29. Approximately 18 percent of the students in the class are non-native English speakers.

### NATIONAL MERIT RECOGNITION

The Class of 2014 included nine National Merit Commended Students.

## COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES AT WHICH THE CLASSES OF 2010-2014 MATRICULATED

Highlighted are those at which five or more students matriculated

Alfred University	Florida International University	Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts	<b>University of Chicago</b>
Algoma University College	Florida Southern College	Pennsylvania State University/ Abington	University of Colorado/Boulder
Allegheny College	Fordham University	Pennsylvania State University/ Altoona	University of Connecticut
<b>American University</b>	Franklin and Marshall College	Pennsylvania State University/ Berks College	University of Delaware
Amherst College	<b>George Washington University</b>	Pennsylvania State University/ Harrisburg	University of Edinburgh (Scotland)
Antioch College	Georgetown University	Pennsylvania State University/ Schreyer Honors College	University of Guelph
Arcadia University	Georgia Institute of Technology	<b>Pennsylvania State University/University Park</b>	University of Hartford
Babson College	Gettysburg College	Polytechnic Institute of New York University	University of Illinois at Urbana/ Champaign
<b>Bard College</b>	Goucher College	<b>Pratt Institute</b>	University of Kansas
Barnard College	Green Mountain College	Purchase College/SUNY	University of Kent
<b>Bates College</b>	Grove City College	<b>Purdue University</b>	University of Massachusetts/ Amherst
Beloit College	<b>Guilford College</b>	Queen's University	<b>University of Miami</b>
Bennington College	Hamilton College	Quest University Canada	<b>University of Michigan</b>
Binghamton University	Hampshire College	Reed College	University of Mississippi
Bloomsburg University	Hampton University	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	University of Missouri/Columbia
Boston College	Hartwick College	Rider University	University of Nebraska/Lincoln
Boston Conservatory	Harvard College	Rochester Institute of Technology	University of New Haven
<b>Boston University</b>	Harvey Mudd College	<b>Rutgers University/ New Brunswick</b>	<b>University of North Carolina/ Chapel Hill</b>
<b>Brandeis University</b>	<b>Haverford College</b>	Rutgers University/Newark	University of Northern Colorado
<b>Bryn Mawr College</b>	High Point University	Saint Augustine's University	University of Notre Dame
<b>Bucknell University</b>	High Point University	Saint Joseph's University	University of Oregon
Bucks County Community College	Hofstra University	<b>Sarah Lawrence College</b>	University of Ottawa
Butler University	Howard University	Savannah College of Art and Design	University of Pennsylvania
Cabrillo College	Hunter College/CUNY	School of the Art Institute of Chicago	<b>University of Pittsburgh</b>
California College of the Arts/ San Francisco	Indiana University/Bloomington	School of Visual Arts	University of Pittsburgh/Bradford
California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo	<b>Ithaca College</b>	Seton Hall University	University of Puget Sound
Carnegie Mellon University	James Madison University	Siena College	University of Redlands
Case Western Reserve University	Johns Hopkins University	<b>Skidmore College</b>	University of Rhode Island
Chapman University	Johnson & Wales University	<b>Smith College</b>	University of Richmond
Clark University	Kenyon College	St. John's College	University of Rochester
Coastal Carolina University	King's College	St. John's University	University of San Francisco
Colby College	La Salle University	St. Lawrence University	University of South Carolina
Colgate University	Lafayette College	Stanford University	<b>University of Southern California</b>
<b>College of New Jersey</b>	Landmark College	Stony Brook University	University of St. Andrews
College of the Atlantic	Lawrence University	Suffolk University	University of Tampa
<b>College of William and Mary</b>	<b>Lehigh University</b>	Susquehanna University	University of the Arts
College of Wooster	Lewis & Clark College	<b>Swarthmore College</b>	University of the Pacific
<b>Colorado College</b>	Loyola Marymount University	<b>Syracuse University</b>	University of the Sciences in Philadelphia
Columbia College Chicago	Loyola University Chicago	<b>Temple University</b>	University of Toronto (Canada)
Columbia University	<b>Loyola University Maryland</b>	Tulane University	University of Vermont
<b>Connecticut College</b>	Loyola University New Orleans	Union College	University of Virginia
<b>Cornell University</b>	Mansfield University	United States Military Academy	<b>University of Washington</b>
Dalhousie University	Marlboro College	University of Glamorgan	University of Wisconsin/Madison
Davidson College	Massachusetts College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences	University College London	<b>Ursinus College</b>
Delaware College of Art and Design	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	University of British Columbia	Vanderbilt University
Delaware Valley College	McGill University	<b>University of California/ Berkeley</b>	Vassar College
Denison University	Miami University/Oxford	University of California/ Davis	Villanova University
Dickinson College	Mills College	University of California/ Los Angeles	Virginia Commonwealth University
Drew University	Moravian College	University of California/ San Diego	Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
<b>Drexel University</b>	Mount Holyoke College	University of California/ Santa Barbara	Wagner College
Duke University	<b>Muhlenberg College</b>	University of California/ Santa Cruz	Wake Forest University
Duquesne University	National University of Ireland (Galway)	University of Central Florida	Washington University in St. Louis
Earlham College	Neumann University		Wellesley College
Eckerd College	New College of Florida		Western Washington University
Elizabethtown College	<b>New York University</b>		Wheaton College MA
Elon University	<b>Northeastern University</b>		Worcester Polytechnic Institute
<b>Emerson College</b>	Northland College		Yale University
Emory University	Northwestern University		
<b>Eugene Lang College The New School for Liberal Arts</b>	Nuova Accademia di Belle Arti Milano		
Evergreen State College	Oberlin College		
Fairfield University	Old Dominion University		
Fashion Institute of Technology	Oregon State University		
Florida Atlantic University	Parsons The New School for Design		