

School Profile 2022-2023

Our Mission: The school is grounded in a tradition of academic excellence combined with a strong work ethic; respect for individual differences and a commitment to scholarship guide our curriculum and our pedagogy. We engender among our students a sense of responsibility and challenge them to grow in a school community which is both structured and nurturing. We expect our students to emerge from their Suffield experience prepared for a lifetime of learning and active citizenship.

The School: Suffield Academy, founded in 1833, is an independent, nondenominational, coeducational secondary school enrolling students in grades 9-12 and postgraduate years. Suffield serves a diverse student body of boarding and day students from across the United States and from many foreign countries. Our enrollment for 2022–2023 consists of 417 students enrolled from 16 states and 34 countries. The Class of 2023 has 118 members, including 14 postgraduates.

Highlights of Suffield Academy:

- Admission to Suffield is very competitive. For the 2022–2023 academic year, 1,173 students applied for 136 available openings.
- In May of 2022, 162 students sat for 301 Advanced Placement exams in 19 subjects.
- The Class of 2022 applied to 250 colleges and universities. 100% of the class will go on to attend a four-year institution.

Leadership Program: Every student participates in our formalized Leadership Program that offers students at each grade level specific skills that will enable them to be effective leaders. The curriculum emphasizes public speaking, interpersonal skills, goal-setting, group dynamics, and problem-solving. Ninth and tenth grade students have class meetings twice a week and eleventh grade students meet once each week. Upperclassmen are selected each year to work as Teaching Assistants who help develop lesson plans, lead group discussions, and serve as important role models. Each Suffield senior has at least one formal leadership role on campus—they are all invested in leading the school. Each senior also presents a personal speech to our community as a capstone to his/her leadership experience at Suffield.

Curriculum: Suffield Academy is on a ten-week trimester system utilizing a modified block schedule. First trimester grades are available around December 1. Each student must take a minimum of four courses each term; the typical course load for most students is five. The average class size is ten students.

Graduation Requirements: Students must complete 18 credits to earn a diploma, including credits in: English [4]; Math [4]; Language, through level II [2]; Science [2]; History, including U.S. History and Regional Studies [2]; and Arts [1]. In addition to these course credits, students must earn credits in Leadership each year.

COVID-19 Response: In response to the COVID-19 health crisis, Suffield Academy closed its campus in March of 2020 and moved our spring trimester online, where students and faculty engaged in virtual distance learning for the remainder of the academic year. Our virtual curriculum maintained the rigor and scholarship long associated with our school. A Pass/Fail grading system was instituted for the spring trimester to acknowledge the different environments our students found themselves in as they pursued remote learning. Committed to equity and access, Suffield Academy worked to ensure that no students were unduly penalized for those situations. Our counselor recommendations will reflect anything remarkable for the spring 2020 trimester. For the 2020-2021 year, Suffield used a hybrid model including remote and in-person learning periods. Our grading scale returned to our traditional model.

Suffield Academy College Counseling Office

Ann Selvitelli, Director of College Counseling & Leadership
 aselvitelli@suffieldacademy.org | 860-386-4421

Kate Bashaw, Associate Director of College Counseling
 kbashaw@suffieldacademy.org | 860-386-4423

Kareem Nulan, Associate Director of College Counseling
 knulan@suffieldacademy.org | 860-386-4453

Kelli Tosone, Associate Director of College Counseling
 ktosone@suffieldacademy.org | 860-386-4418

Jade Schult, Associate Director of College Counseling
 jschult@suffieldacademy.org | 860-386-4450

Marlene Rusczyk, College Counseling Assistant
 mrusczyk@suffieldacademy.org | 860-386-4452

AP and Honors Courses: Suffield offers a number of courses at the Honors or AP level. Courses with an asterisk [*] indicate that the students in the course may sit for the corresponding AP exam, even though the course itself does not have an AP designation. Though AP offerings may vary from year to year, Suffield typically offers 14 courses in preparation for AP exams in the corresponding discipline. Please note that not all of those courses are officially designated as AP.

Advanced Course Offerings: In the world of highly selective college admission, Suffield Academy recognizes that each student is evaluated on the rigor of their curricular undertaking. In an effort to help you gauge our students’ course load, we have included this listing of AP and Honors courses typically offered in our core curriculum:

Mathematics

- Honors Geometry
- Honors Algebra II
- Honors Pre-Calculus
- Honors Calculus
- Honors Calculus II
- AP Statistics / Statistics Exam
- AP Calculus I: AB / Calculus AB Exam
- AP Calculus II: BC / Calculus BC Exam
- Honors Multivariable Calculus
- Honors Linear Algebra

Science

- Honors Physics 9; 10
- Honors Chemistry
- Honors Biology
- Advanced Anatomy & Physiology
- Honors Biotechnology
- Honors Research Methods
- Honors Environmental Science
- AP Biology / Biology Exam
- AP Chemistry / Chemistry Exam
- AP Physics C: E & M / Physics E & M Exam
- AP Physics C: Mechanics / Physics C Exam

English

- Honors English I
- AP Language [Honors English II]
- AP Literature [Honors English III]
- Honors English IV

History

- Honors U.S. History
- Honors Area Studies
- AP U.S. History / U.S. History Exam
- Honors Philosophy
- AP Government & Politics / U.S. Government & Politics Exam
- AP Economics / Macro & Micro Exams

Languages

- Honors French V* / French Language Exam
- Honors Spanish II; III; V
- Honors Spanish IV* / Spanish Language Exam

Technology

- Honors Introduction to Computer Science / Computer Science Principles Exam
- AP Computer Science / Computer Science A Exam [offered alternate years]

GPA Distribution

Suffield Academy does not publish a student’s cumulative GPA or class rank. Instead, we provide the graph below for your reference. Grades from other schools are not a factor in calculating grade point averages.

Grading Scale		
	Unweighted	Weighted Honors/AP
A+	4.33	4.33
A	4.00	4.33
A-	3.67	4.00
B+	3.33	3.67
B	3.00	3.33
B-	2.67	3.00
C+	2.33	2.67
C	2.00	2.33
C-	1.67	2.00
D+	1.33	1.67
D	1.00	1.33
D-	0.67	1.00
F	0.00	0.00
[Lowest Passing Grade: D-]		

