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Lerner Family Upper School
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Member
NACAC • PCACAC • ACCIS

CESJDS AT A GLANCE



84 seniors in the class of 2021



80% of faculty have
master's degree or higher



19 varsity sports



20 extracurricular clubs
and organizations



37 seniors (45% of the
Class of 2020) were
awarded merit scholarships
valued at \$6.35 million

COVID-19 UPDATE

CESJDS has for many years been at the forefront in using technology in the classroom and beyond. As a result, the school was able to pivot to a robust online learning program only two school days after suspending in-class learning in mid-March which included regularly scheduled synchronous and asynchronous learning. Our students continued to be actively engaged in their education and received grades for the remainder of the school year as the school chose not to use the pass/fail option.

SCHOOL OVERVIEW

With over 900 students, the Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School (CESJDS), founded in 1965, is one of the largest and most prestigious JK-12 Jewish day schools in the United States. CESJDS boasts 84 seniors among a high school student body of approximately 350. The school provides an environment in which students flourish academically and are prepared for leadership and active engagement in American society and the Jewish community. CESJDS is a member of the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS) and the Association of Independent Maryland Schools (AIMS). The School is approved by the State of Maryland Department of Education and accredited by AIMS.

INNOVATIVE CURRICULUM

CESJDS offers an innovative curriculum and is at the forefront of preparing students by blending knowledge and skills necessary for success in the 21st century. The curriculum is taught through a rigorous general and Judaic studies program, highlighted by the integration of technology in every discipline. Students are enrolled in eight or nine courses during an extended academic day. In addition to the traditional core courses and electives taught at the level expected of an outstanding college preparatory school, students are required to take courses in Judaic Studies, including Hebrew Language, Jewish History, and Jewish Text. Additional foreign language courses, including Arabic and Spanish, are offered as electives. Throughout their years at CESJDS, students excel and have regularly received recognition in the arts, athletics, and special interests. In addition, all CESJDS students are required to complete a minimum of 80 hours of community service prior to graduation. Each year our students receive an exceptionally high number of academic honors and recognition at the state and national levels.

SENIOR SEMESTER ABROAD: EXPLORING JEWISH HISTORY AND CULTURE

CESJDS seniors graduate in February and most elect to participate in the 13 week, school-sponsored trip to Israel and Eastern Europe. Led by a team of certified professional teachers, each of whom is also a licensed tour guide, students travel the length and breadth of Israel, exploring the country's history and culture through a program of study, volunteer work, and outdoor activities. During their experience abroad they also travel to Poland and the Czech Republic on a nine-day journey, exploring the history of Eastern European Jewry and the Holocaust. This semester-long program provides an invaluable opportunity for independent living, social and emotional maturation, and experiential education that prepare the seniors for a smooth transition to college.

STATISTICS FOR CLASS OF 2020

Grade Point Average for Middle 50%	3.65-4.51
SAT Evidence Based Reading Middle 50%	640-720
SAT Math Middle 50%	610-735
ACT Middle 50%	27-34

HONORS & RECOGNITION FOR CLASS OF 2020

2 National Merit Finalists
4 National Merit Commended Students

CURRICULUM LEVELS

Beginning with the Class of 2015, CESJDS transitioned to a two-level system of course offerings. Enriched College Prep (ECP) courses are rigorous, challenging, and nurture creativity, critical thinking, and collaborative learning skills. Advanced (ADV) courses expect that students will demonstrate significant skills in independent work, oral and written expression, critical and original thinking, and intense motivation toward their learning. CESJDS offers Mathematics and Hebrew Language courses at multiple levels. The Hebrew levels are determined by testing and placement through the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) standards.

In keeping with the school's tradition of emphasizing personal academic discovery, creativity, and a deep exploration of course material, CESJDS does not offer Advanced Placement (AP) courses. Students may elect to take AP exams.

UPPER SCHOOL PROGRAM

ENGLISH

4 credits required

English 9, 10, 11 (ECP, ADV)*
English 12 (1/2 credit) (ECP, ADV)
English World Lit (1/2 credit; ECP, ADV)

MATHEMATICS

3.5 credits required

Geometry (ECP, ACC, ADV)
Algebra II (ECP, ACC, ADV)
Pre-Calculus (ECP, ACC, ADV)
Data Analysis & Statistics (ECP)
Principles of Calculus (ACC, ADV)
Calculus I (ADV)
Multivariable Calculus (ADV)
ACC=Accelerated

SCIENCE

3.5 credits required

Biology I (ECP, ADV)
Chemistry (ECP, ADV),
Physics I (ECP, ADV), Physics II (ADV),
Physics III (ADV)
Genetics/Biotechnology I and II (ECP, ADV)
Bioengineering (ADV)
Anatomy & Physiology (ECP)

HISTORY AND SOCIAL SCIENCE

3.5 credits required

World History I (ECP, ADV)
World History II (ECP, ADV)
United States History (ECP, ADV)
21st Century American Identity (ECP, ADV)

JEWISH HISTORY

2 credits required; 5 credits available

Ancient/Medieval Jewish History (ECP, ADV)
Modern Jewish History I & II (ECP, ADV)
Modern Israel (ECP, ADV)
Jewish History Distributions (ECP, ADV)

JEWISH TEXT

2.5 credits required; 5.5 credits available

Courses offered in English (ECP, ADV) and Hebrew (ADV):

Ancient Hebrew Literature
Biblical Interpretation
Ethics
Jewish Law
Philosophy
Talmud Study
Theology

HEBREW LANGUAGE

2 credits required, 3.5 available

Hebrew Language (Levels 1-5 ECP; Levels 6-9 ADV)
Hebrew Literature (Level 12 ADV)
Heritage Learners (ECP, ADV)

ELECTIVES

3 elective credits required from either Foreign

Language, Fine Arts, or other subjects
Spanish I, II (ECP), Spanish III, IV, V (ECP, ADV)
Spanish VI (ADV)
Arabic I, II (ECP), III, IV (ADV)
Art/Graphic Design/Ceramics/Music
Journalism/Yearbook/Photography/Film
Sports Medicine I and II and Kinesiology
Computer Science/Coding I, II (ECP, ADV)
STEM courses (ECP, ADV)
American Women's History (ECP, ADV)
Creative Writing (ECP, ADV)

EXERCISE SCIENCE

1.5 credits required

Human Development
Physical Education
Students participating on an athletic team
may earn up to one credit in Exercise Science.

*ECP=Enriched College Prep | ADV=Advanced

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES

96% of our students attend a four-year college or university. The classes of 2018-2020 were accepted by the following colleges and universities. (* = matriculation)

The University of Alabama (1)*
American University (1)*
Arizona State University-Tempe
The University of Arizona (1)*
Babson College
Barnard College (2)*
Beloit College
Bennington College (1)*
Berklee College of Music
Binghamton University (3)*
Boston College (1)*
Boston University
Bowdoin College (1)*
Bradley University
Brandeis University (7)*
University of British Columbia
Brown University (1)*
University of California-Berkeley
University of California-Los Angeles
University of California, San Diego
University of California-Santa Barbara
Carnegie Mellon University
Case Western Reserve University (5)*
Catholic University of America
University of Central Florida
Chapman University
College of Charleston (6)*
University of Chicago (4)*
Christopher Newport University
Clark University
Colby College
Colgate University (2)*
University of Colorado Boulder (1)*
Colorado State University-Fort Collins
Columbia University (2)*
Connecticut College
University of Connecticut
Cornell College
Cornell University (3)*
Dartmouth College (1)*
University of Delaware (2)*
University of Denver
Dickinson College(1)*
Drexel University (2)*
Duke University (2)*
Earlham College
Eckerd College (1)*
Elon University (4)*
Elon University
Emerson College

Emory University (4)*
Fairleigh Dickinson University
Fashion Institute of Technology
Florida Atlantic University
Florida Institute of Technology
Florida State University
University of Florida(1)*
Fordham University
Franklin and Marshall College
Frostburg State University
George Mason University (1)*
George Washington University (4)*
Georgetown University (2)*
Georgia Institute of Technology (2)*
Gettysburg College
Goucher College
Hamilton College
University of Hartford (1)*
Harvard College (1)*
Haverford College (2)*
High Point University
Hofstra University (1)*
Hood College
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Indiana University-Bloomington (5)*
Iowa State University
University of Iowa
Ithaca College
Jacobs School of Music
James Madison University (1)*
Johns Hopkins University (2)*
Juniata College
University of Kansas
Kenyon College
King's College London
Knox College
Lafayette College
Lafayette College (1)*
Lehigh University (1)*
List College - JTS (1)*
Longwood University
Lynn University
Macalester College
University of Mary Washington
University of Maryland-Baltimore County (1)*
University of Maryland-College Park (54)*
Massachusetts College of Art and Design
Massachusetts Institute of Technology(1)*
University of Massachusetts-Amherst (2)*
McGill University

McGill University
The University of Memphis
Miami University-Oxford
University of Miami (2)*
Michigan State University
University of Michigan-Ann Arbor (6)*
Middlebury College
Montgomery College (9)
Mount Holyoke College
Muhlenberg College(3)*
University of New Hampshire
New York University (6)*
New York University (Tisch School of the Arts)
University of North Carolina at Charlotte
University of North Carolina at Greensboro
University of North Carolina Wilmington
University of North Florida
Northeastern University (2)*
Northwestern University (4)*
Nova Southeastern University (1)*
Oberlin College
Oberlin Conservatory of Music
Occidental College (1)*
Ohio University
Oxford College of Emory University
Pace University-New York (2)*
University of the Pacific
The Peabody Institute of Johns Hopkins University (1)*
Pennsylvania State University (2)
University of Pennsylvania (1)*
University of Pittsburgh (3)*
Pratt Institute (1)*
Princeton University(1)*
Purdue University
Radford University
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
University of Rhode Island
Rhodes College
Rice University (2)*
University of Richmond
Ringling College of Art and Design
Rochester Institute of Technology
University of Rochester
Rutgers University-New Brunswick
Rutgers University-Newark
Salisbury University
San Diego State University (1)*
University of San Francisco
Sarah Lawrence College

Savannah College of Art and Design
School of Visual Arts (2)*
Skidmore College (1)*
University of South Carolina-Columbia
University of South Florida
University of Southern California (1)*
St Bonaventure University
St. Mary's College of Maryland
St Olaf College
Stetson University
Stevenson University
Suffolk University
University at Albany, SUNY
Susquehanna University (1)*
Swarthmore College
Syracuse University (7)*
The University of Tampa (1)*
Temple University
The University of Tennessee-Knoxville
The University of Texas at Austin
The New School
The Ohio State University (2)
University of Toronto
Touro College
Towson University (8)*
Trinity College
Tufts University (1)*
Tulane University of Louisiana (9)*
Union College - Schenectady
The University of Edinburgh (1)*
University of Oregon
University of St Andrews
Ursinus College (1)*
Vanderbilt University (2)*
Vassar College (1)*
University of Vermont (1)*
Virginia Commonwealth University
Virginia Tech
University of Virginia (2)*
Washington College
Washington University in St Louis (9)*
University of Washington, Seattle
Widener University
William and Mary (2)*
University of Wisconsin-Madison (2)*
Yale University (1)*
Yeshiva University - Stern College for Women (1)*