



THE
BEAR CREEK
SCHOOL



2020 – 2021 SCHOOL PROFILE

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Enrollment 2020 – 2021

Preschool – Grade 12: 861

Upper School Enrollment: 253

Senior Class: 62

Student-to-teacher ratio: 8 to 1.

Typical class size is 18.

Faculty

Upper School Faculty: 29

Middle School and Upper School

Faculty with advanced degrees: 68%

Honors and Recognition

Bear Creek is a 2014 National Blue Ribbon

School of Excellence



Founded in 1988 and graduating a senior class since 2000, The Bear Creek School has grown to include 861 students in preschool through grade 12. In the fall of 2015, we opened our new 50,000 square-foot Upper School building and Performing Arts Center. The new building has a distinctive collegiate style designed to shape the way students collaborate, build community, and fully invest in the high school experience.

Mission and Values

The mission of The Bear Creek School is to provide a high quality, Christian liberal arts education in a nurturing environment that will enable each student to become the individual God intends.

Curriculum

The Bear Creek School's curriculum is a rigorous, college preparatory program.

- **In Literature:** focusing on the great books—books read by the intellectual giants of our culture, books that are great teachers
- **In History:** teaching the significance of history as part of the flow of the Western civilization continuum
- **In Language:** teaching Latin in Lower School, Early Middle School, and Middle School, and as an option in Upper School
- **In the Classics:** educating Upper School students in logic, philosophy, ethics, rhetoric, and apologetics
- **In STEM:** offering computer science, engineering, and AP sciences and calculus

Accreditations

- Northwest Association of Independent Schools (NWAIS)
- Cognia

Admission Guidelines

A successful academic record with demonstrated diligence, evidence of the potential to make a positive contribution to the school community, and a desire to live by Christian standards are important admission considerations. Results from the Independent School Entrance Exam (ISEE) or Secondary School Admission Test (SSAT), teacher recommendations, and a personal interview are required.

International Students

The Bear Creek School accepts international students to all grade levels; however, we are no longer issuing the Form I-20 to new non-immigrant F-1 visa students.

Ranking Policy

The Bear Creek School does not rank students but provides the following distribution from the class of 2021.

Grades reflect courses taken through junior year.

| GPA | #Students |
|----------------|-----------|
| 4.00 | 12 |
| 3.99 – 3.75 | 27 |
| 3.74 – 3.5 | 9 |
| 3.49 – 3.25 | 9 |
| 3.24 – 3.00 | 1 |
| 2.99 – 2.75 | 3 |
| 2.74 – 2.5 | 1 |
| 2.49 – 2.25 | 0 |
| 2.24 – 2.00 | 0 |
| 1.99 and below | 0 |

Graduation Requirements

| | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| English/Rhetoric | 4.5 |
| History | 4.0 |
| Mathematics | 3.0 |
| Science | 3.0 |
| Christian Studies | 3.0 |
| World Language | 3.0 |
| Physical Education | 1.5 |
| Health | 0.5 |
| Washington State History | 0.5 |
| General Electives | 1.5 |
| Fine Arts Electives | 1.0 |
| Senior Capstone Project | 0.5 |

Total 27.0 credits minimum

For graduation, students must have 4.0 credits in one of the following subjects: math, science, or languages.

Grading Scale

Course grades are not weighted. Only grades earned at The Bear Creek School are included in the GPA calculation.

| GPA | Percent | Grade |
|-----|----------|-------|
| 4.0 | 100 – 94 | A |
| 3.7 | 93 – 90 | A- |
| 3.3 | 89 – 87 | B+ |
| 3.0 | 86 – 83 | B |
| 2.7 | 82 – 80 | B- |
| 2.3 | 79 – 77 | C+ |
| 2.0 | 76 – 73 | C |
| 1.7 | 72 – 70 | C- |
| 1.3 | 69 – 67 | D+ |
| 1.0 | 66 – 60 | D |

Students who received a passing numerical grade in Semester 2 of the 2019 – 2020 school year were given the option to replace the grade with a Pass status. This option was made available because of the challenges students faced due to the School operating remotely during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Advanced Placement Program

Admission to AP classes is not restricted. However, students must petition to take more than two AP courses per year. In 2020 – 2021, 12 AP classes are offered.

| AP Students Tested in 2020 | AP Exams Taken | AP Scholar Report |
|----------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------|
| 137 | 280 | National AP Scholars 22 |
| % scoring 3 or higher 78% | | AP Scholars with Distinction 21 |
| % scoring 4 or higher 53% | | AP Scholars with Honors 11 |
| % scoring 5 26% | | AP Scholars 9 |

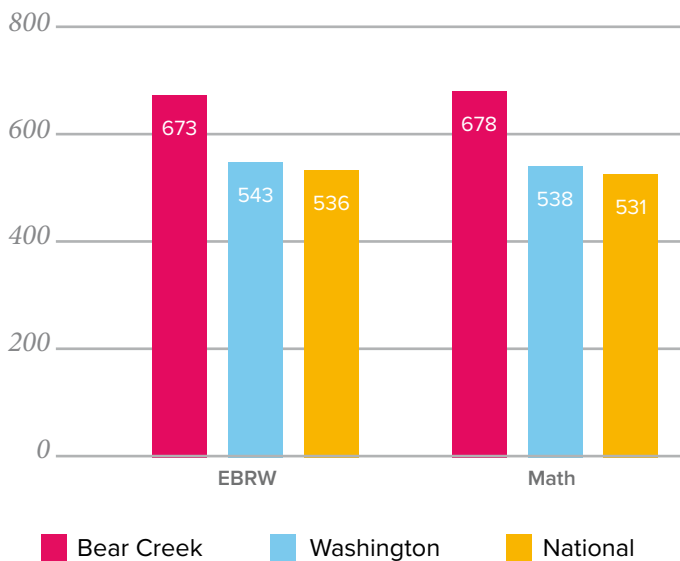
A student who completes an AP course and scores a 3, 4, or 5 on the AP exam will receive a one letter step bump (e.g., B to B+ or A- to A) on both Semester 1 and Semester 2 transcript grades for the particular AP class taken.

National Merit Recognition

| | | |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 14% | 14% | 11% |
| Class of 2019 | Class of 2020 | Class of 2021 |

SAT Performance

Statistics represent the mean SAT scores achieved by the class of 2020.



Course Load

The standard course load is seven classes per semester. The average class size is 14.

Classes Offered

English and Rhetoric

Honors Ancient Literature
Honors Medieval and Renaissance Literature
Honors Enlightenment and American Literature
Honors Senior English Rhetoric
AP English Language and Composition
AP English Literature and Composition

History

Honors Ancient and World History
Honors European History
Honors United States History
Art History, Culture, and Appreciation
United States Government and Politics
AP European History
AP United States History

Mathematics

Geometry
Algebra 2
Precalculus
Honors Precalculus
Calculus
AP Calculus AB
AP Calculus BC
AP Statistics
Multivariable Calculus

Science

Conceptual Physics
Chemistry
Honors Chemistry
Marine Biology
Biomedicine
Engineering
AP Biology
AP Chemistry
AP Physics 1

Christian Studies

Logic
Christianity and Contemporary Culture
Philosophical Theology
Systematic Theology
Historical Theology

Languages

French I, II, III, IV
Latin II, III, IV
Spanish I, II, III, IV

Fine Arts

Graphic Design 1, 2
Photography 1, 2
Advanced Graphics and Photography Studio Art 1, 2, 3
Sculpture and Mixed Media
Advanced Studio Art 1, 2
Music Theory
Musical Theater
Pit Orchestra
Film and Animation
New Play Development
Technical Theater
Theater Production
Concert Choir
Mixed Ensemble
Concert Band
Jazz Band
AP Music Theory

Physical Education

Health
Strength Training
Multi-Sport Experience

Electives

AP Computer Science A
Yearbook Editor

Athletics

Bear Creek has 15 varsity athletics teams which primarily compete in the Emerald City 1A league.

- Approximately 70% of Upper School students play at least 1 sport
- 54 League Championships
- 85 team state appearances
- 7 team state championships
- 17 individual state championships

House System

In 2017, Bear Creek launched a House System. Students and faculty are divided amongst five Houses. Throughout the year, these five Houses compete against each other for points which have the potential to earn their House various rewards. The goal of the House System is to provide an opportunity for students and faculty to interact across grade

levels to exemplify virtue, build a sense of Christian community, and serve each other and the world through their unique gifts.

JanTerm

JanTerm is a two week mini-semester during which all Upper School students enroll in four topical seminars. Approximately, 75 classes are offered annually. Some courses offered have been:

- Me Like Fire! The Art and Science of Grilling
- Experiencing Opera: Cosi Fan Tutte by Mozart
- Chocolate: The Golden Ticket
- Custom Boardgaming Design
- Information Technology in the Modern World
- Reading Blind: Beginning Braille
- The Craftsmanship of Hand Lettering
- Video Game Design
- Urban Sketching

Community Service

Community service is an integral part of our school values. All Upper School students complete a minimum of 100 hours of community service by the end of their senior year.

Disciplinary Consequences

Bear Creek will provide information on student disciplinary action involving suspension and expulsion to those colleges that request disclosure.

Senior Capstone Project

All seniors are required to develop and present a senior project prior to graduation. Projects are approved by a faculty advisor and evaluated by a panel of faculty and administrators. Recent senior projects include:

- God's Music in All Our Lives
- Darwin's Legacy
- Search and Rescue Drone
- Gravity: Limitations and Possibilities
- Where Animals and Government Meet
- Food: Authenticity, Industry, and Theology
- Art Therapy for Assault Victims

Invested in students. Intentional in outcome.

COLLEGE CHOICES

Our graduates have been accepted to the following colleges: (Not a complete list)

| | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| American University | DePauw University | Occidental College | University of California, Berkeley |
| Amherst College | DigiPen Institute of Technology | Pacific Lutheran University | University of California, Davis |
| Arizona State University | Dordt College | Parsons School of Design | University of California, Los Angeles |
| Auburn University | Drexel University | Pepperdine University | University of California, San Diego |
| Babson College | Duke University | Pitzer College | University of Cambridge |
| Barnard College | Durham University | Point Loma Nazarene University | University of Chicago |
| Bates College | Eastern Washington University | Pratt Institute | University of Colorado at Boulder |
| Baylor University | Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University | Princeton University | University of Connecticut |
| Belmont University | Emerson College | Providence College | University of Denver |
| Biola University | Emory University | Purdue University | University of Florida |
| Boston College | Fordham University | Quest University Canada | University of Hawaii |
| Boston University | Furman University | Reed College | University of Idaho |
| Bowdoin College | Furman University | Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute | University of Illinois |
| Brown University | George Fox University | Rhodes College | University of Massachusetts Amherst |
| Bucknell University | Georgetown University | Rice University | University of Michigan |
| Butler University | Georgia Institute of Technology | Rochester Institute of Technology | University of Notre Dame |
| Bryn Mawr College | Gettysburg College | Santa Clara University | University of Oxford |
| California Baptist University | Gonzaga University | Sarah Lawrence College | University of Pennsylvania |
| California Lutheran University | Grand Canyon University | Scripps College | University of Puget Sound |
| California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo | Grinnell College | Skidmore College | University of Rochester |
| Calvin College | Hamilton College | Stanford University | University of Southern California |
| Carleton College | Harvard University | Swarthmore College | University of St Andrews |
| Carnegie Mellon University | Harvey Mudd College | Syracuse University | University of the Pacific |
| Chapman University | Haverford College | Texas A&M University | University of Virginia |
| Claremont McKenna College | Hawaii Pacific University | The Juilliard School | University of Washington |
| Clark University | Johns Hopkins University | The Master's University | University of Waterloo |
| Clemson University | Kenyon College | The University of Alabama | University of Wisconsin, Madison |
| Colgate University | King's College London | The University of Montana | Vanderbilt University |
| College of the Holy Cross | Knox College | The University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill | Villanova University |
| College of William and Mary | Lafayette College | Trinity College | Wake Forest University |
| Colorado College | Lehigh University | Tufts University | Washington State University |
| Colorado School of Mines | Liberty University | Tulane University | Wesleyan University |
| Colorado State University | Linfield College | United States Coast Guard Academy | Wheaton College |
| Columbia University | Loyola Marymount University | United States Military Academy Westpoint | Whitman College |
| Connecticut College | Massachusetts Institute of Technology | United States Naval Academy | Willamette University |
| Corban University | Middlebury College | University of Alabama | Williams College |
| Cornell University | Mills College | University of Arizona | Worcester Polytechnic Institute |
| Covenant College | Montana State University | University of British Columbia | Yale University |
| Creighton University | New York University | | |
| Dartmouth College | Northeastern University | | |
| Davidson College | Northwestern University | | |