



THE
BEAR CREEK
SCHOOL



2022 – 2023 SCHOOL PROFILE

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Enrollment 2022 – 2023

Preschool – Grade 12: 910

Upper School Enrollment: 253

Senior Class: 66

Student-to-teacher ratio: 8 to 1

Typical class size is 18

Faculty

Upper School Faculty: 30

Middle School and Upper School

Faculty with advanced degrees: 74%

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 910 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.

- **Classics:** educating students in logic, philosophy, ethics, rhetoric, and apologetics
- **STEM:** offering ability based math beginning in elementary school, computer science, engineering, and AP sciences and math
- **Arts:** developing personal expression, creative thinking, imaginative communication, and intellectual curiosity
- **Literature:** focusing on the Great Books
- **Language:** teaching Latin, Spanish, and French beginning in elementary school
- **Athletics:** building character, commitment, teamwork, and good sportsmanship
- **Faith:** integrating a deep knowledge of Scripture and how to apply Biblical principles in their lives

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 2023.

Grades reflect courses taken through junior year.

GPA	#Students
4.00	12
3.99 – 3.75	31
3.74 – 3.5	11
3.49 – 3.25	6
3.24 – 3.00	3
2.99 – 2.75	2
2.74 – 2.5	0
2.49 – 2.25	1
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 and semester 1 and 2 of the 2020 – 2021 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 2022– 2023, 13 AP classes are offered.

AP Students Tested in 2022	141	AP Scholar Report	
AP Exams Taken	293	AP Scholars with Distinction	29
% scoring 3 or higher	80%	AP Scholars with Honors	15
% scoring 4 or higher	57%	AP Scholars	25
% scoring 5	26%		

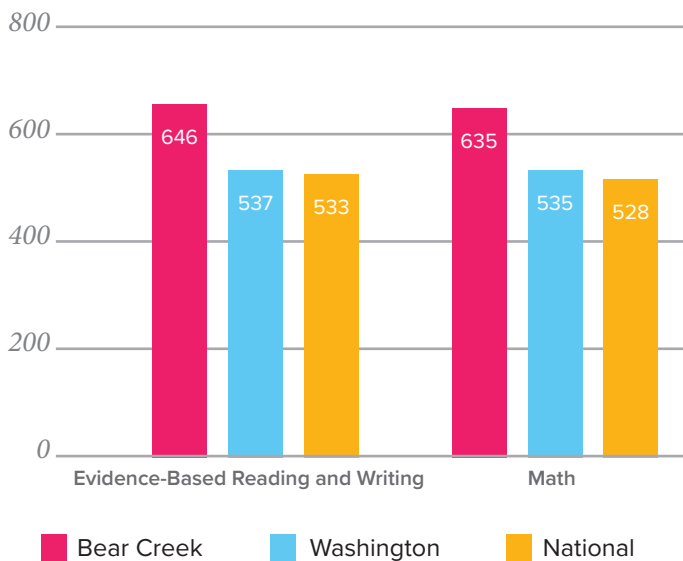
A student who completes an AP course and scores a 3, 4, or 5 on the AP exam will receive a one letter step bump (e.g., B to B+ or A- to A) on both semester 1 and semester 2 transcript grades for the particular AP class taken.

National Merit Recognition

14%	11%	11%
Class of 2020	Class of 2021	Class of 2022

SAT Performance

Statistics represent the mean SAT scores achieved by the class of 2022.



Course Load

The standard course load is seven classes per semester. The average class size is 15.

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
AP Environmental Science

Christian Studies

Logic
Christianity and Contemporary Culture
Philosophical Theology
Systematic Theology
Historical Theology

Languages

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

Fine Arts

Graphic Design 1, 2
Photography 1, 2
Advanced Digital Arts
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

Psychology
Introduction to Athletic Medicine
Yearbook Editor
AP Computer Science A

Athletics

Bear Creek has 15 varsity athletics teams which primarily compete in the Emerald Sound Conference.

- Approximately 75% of Upper School students play at least one sport
- 56 League Championships
- 92 team state appearances
- 9 team state championships
- 23 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 75 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.

COVID-19 RESPONSE

The Bear Creek School went fully remote in March 2020. During remote learning class expectations, learning objectives, and rigor was maintained using the OWL cameras, Surface laptops, TEAMS, and OneNote. For the 20-21 school year, Bear Creek implemented a Step Start plan which allowed students to gradually return to campus beginning one day per week and increasing to five throughout the fall based on COVID-19 protocols and data trends. Students also had the option to remain hybrid or fully remote for the 20-21 school year. For the 21-22 school year, with a few exceptions, all students returned to campus full-time.

A few other changes for our graduating class that resulted from COVID-19. We reduced our typical 100 hours of community service requirements to 75. Athletics was paused for spring 2020 and much of fall 2021, although some of our teams were able to practice following health and safety guidelines. Performing arts continued, however with modified practices and performances. House, clubs, and Chapel all continued but in a virtual and then hybrid setting. Bear Creek worked hard to maintain academic rigor and community support while also acknowledging the impact of the pandemic upon students and the community.

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	University of Alabama	Willamette University
Corban University	Middlebury College	University of Arizona	Williams College
Cornell University	Mills College	University of British Columbia	Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Covenant College	Montana State University		Yale University
Creighton University	New York University		
Dartmouth College	Northeastern University		
Davidson College	Northwestern University		