



SPRING BRANCH INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
WESTCHESTER ACADEMY FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

WILDCATS
901 YORKCHESTER, HOUSTON, TX 77079

Community & School Information

Student Enrollment	2023-2024
Seniors	115
Juniors	100
Sophomores	127
Freshmen	122
Total	464

Westchester Academy for International Studies (WAIS) is a District sponsored charter school. WAIS provides a challenging, advanced level curriculum that helps students develop a global awareness including a focus on international relations and problem solving while delivering an advanced level curriculum. Instructors use a variety of teaching methods and promote a culture of college readiness and success.

WAIS offers an International Baccalaureate World School curriculum with an authorized Middle Years Programme for 6-10th grades, and both a Diploma Programme and Career-Related Programme for 11 and 12th grades. All 9th and 10th graders take English, math, science and social studies at Advanced Academics level (AAC).

Along with a rigorous curriculum, students develop an international perspective through exploring the languages, cultures, business environments, governments, fine arts and technologies of other countries to prepare for the global workforce. Creative thinking, reflection, and problem solving are integral components of all classes.

In addition to the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme, students may take Advanced Placement courses.

Grading & Ranking Procedures

	GT/AP/DC/DE Pre-AP/IB	Grade Level
A = 90-100	7	6
B = 80-89	6	5
C = 75-79	5	4
C- = 70-74	4	3
F = Below 70	0	0

Spring Branch ISD reports class rank outside the top 10% only for those students who make a formal request to have it included on their transcript.

Curriculum

Students must complete the State of Texas Foundation High School Graduation Program with an Endorsement that requires a total of 26 credits as follows:

English	4
Mathematics	4
Science	4
Social Studies	3
World Languages	2
Fine Arts	1
Physical Education	1
Elective Credits	7

Students may select their endorsement from the following areas: STEM, Business and Industry, Public Service, Arts and Humanities, and Multidisciplinary Studies. Special permission is required to graduate on the Foundation Plan without an Endorsement that requires a total of 22 credits.

Advanced Placement Courses (AP)

AP World History
AP US History
AP Statistics
French
Spanish Language (Spanish IV)
Spanish Literature (Spanish V)

International Baccalaureate Courses (IB)

English Language and Literature SL/HL
History of the Americas HL
Math Analysis HL
Mathematics: Applications and Interpretation SL/HL
Biology SL/HL
Chemistry SL/HL
Physics SL/HL
Computer Science SL
French SL/HL
Mandarin SL
Italian SL/HL
Spanish SL/HL
Theatre Arts SL/HL
Visual Arts SL/HL
Music SL/HL
Theory of Knowledge
Personal & Professional Skills

Test Score Information

SAT	Math	Reading	Total
WAIS	521	548	1069
Texas	481	497	978
National	508	520	1028

ACT	English	Math	Reading	Science	Composite
WAIS	25.6	24.1	27.9	25.4	25.9
Texas	18.2	19.1	20.0	19.5	19.3
National	18.6	19.0	20.1	19.6	19.5

IB Assessments	2022	2023
Exams Taken	284	314
% of Exams Earning Passing Score	77	63

Advanced Placement	2022	2023
Total AP Students	103	89
Number of Exams	137	112
% of AP Students with Scores 3+	76	52

IB Diploma Candidates	2022	2023
IB Diploma Candidates	19	22
IB Career-Related Candidates	36	30
IB Diplomas Earned	18	9
IB Career-Related Certificates Earned	30	16

World languages are encouraged at all grade levels. The District's career and technology center, The Guthrie Center, provides instruction in 12 popular career focus areas.

Although students primarily earn college credit through IB/AP courses, they may also earn college credit through the District's Early College Program by taking courses at Houston Community College.

WAIS provides a Secondary Dual Language Program option for students continuing from SBISD elementary schools' Two-Way Dual Language Programs.

WAIS uses an Alternating Block Schedule, 8 classes/semester; each class meets for 90 minutes on alternating days (Upper School only). Semesters are 18 weeks with 9 week grading periods.

WAIS has earned distinctions from the Texas Education Agency in all four core subjects, post-secondary readiness, and for closing gaps. WAIS is regularly included in recognitions such as Best High Schools in Houston, Children At Risk; America's Best High Schools, U.S. News and World Report; and Best Charter High Schools, Niche.

College Attendance History

WAIS graduates continue their education attending 4-year institutions, out-of-state colleges and the military.

Angelina College	Missouri U of Science & Tech.	U of Aberdeen (Scotland)
Angelo State U	Mount Holyoke College	U of Alabama
Barnard College	New York University	U of Colorado
Baylor U	Northern Arizona U	U of Economics in Prague
Blinn College	Notre Dame	U of Houston-Clear Lake
Boston U	Oberlin College	U of Houston-Downtown
Bournemouth U (England)	Ohio State University	U of Houston-Main
Brandeis U	Ohio Wesleyan U	U of Mary Hardin Baylor
Brown University	Our Lady of the Lake U	U of North Texas
Bryn Mawr College	Parson's School of Design	U of Oklahoma
Carleton College	Prairie View A&M	U of Pennsylvania
Carnegie Mellon U	Regents U (London)	U of Rochester
Case Western Reserve U	Rice U	U of St. Thomas (Houston)
Colorado School of Mines	Sam Houston State U	U of Texas-Austin
Colorado State U	San Diego State U	U of Texas-Dallas
Concordia of Montreal	Santa Fe Community College	U of Texas-San Antonio
Duke U	Southern Methodist U	U of Virginia
Eckerd College	Southwestern U	U of Warwick (England)
Emory U	St. Edwards U	Universidad de Catolica de
Georgetown U	St. Mary's U	Murcia (Spain)
Houston Baptist U	Stanford University	Universidad de Guanajuato
Houston Community College	Stephen F. Austin State U	(Mexico)
Howard U	Swarthmore College	Universidad Pompeu Fabra,
Johns Hopkins University	Syracuse U	Spain
Kari-Franzens U (Austria)	Texas A&M U	Universidad Vascode Quiroga
Kettering U	Texas A&M U-Corpus Christi	(Mexico)
King's College (London)	Texas A&M U-Galveston	University of Greenwich
Knox College	Texas A&M U-Kingsville	Virginia Tech
Lamar U	Texas Lutheran U	Washington & Le U
Lone Star College	Texas Southern U	Western Washington U
Louisiana State U	Texas State U	Wheaton College
Loyola U of Chicago	Texas Tech U	Yale University
McGill U (Canada)	Trinity U	

Contact Information

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School Personnel

Dr. Valerie Hernandez	Director	(713) 251-1800
Alison Butler	Assistant Director (Upper)	(713) 251-1812
Jesse Tachiquin	Assistant Director (Middle)	(713) 251-1811
Cheryl Wegscheid	Middle Years Programme Coordinator	(713) 251-1893
Sara Sebesta-Camano	Career-Related Programme Coordinator	(713) 251-1956
Jacquelyn Phillips	Diploma Programme Coordinator	(713) 251-1977
Claudia Puente	Registrar	(713) 251-1804
Claudia Martir	Registrar's Assistant	(713) 251-1803
Steve Schlabach	Lead Counselor, 10-12, A-L	(713) 251-1840
Mona Bushehri	Counselor, 10-12, M-Z	(713) 251-1869
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