

SCHOOL PROFILE

2023-2024

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Member:
NACAC • PCACAC
ACCIS • NAIS • AIMS

CESJDS AT A GLANCE



90 seniors in the class of 2024



80% of faculty have
master's degree or higher



19 varsity sports



27 extracurricular clubs
and organizations



27 seniors (58.8% of the
Class of 2023) were
awarded merit scholarships
valued at \$7.35 million

COVID-19 UPDATE

For the class of 2024, COVID resulted in a virtual learning environment for the spring and fall of 2020 with no break in studies. During this time, the students continued to receive assignments and grades as they normally do. In November 2020 classes resumed in a hybrid model for the remainder of the school year.

SCHOOL OVERVIEW

With approximately 870 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 90 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. The School is approved by the State of Maryland Department of Education and accredited by the Association of Independent Maryland Schools (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. Jewish History courses are aligned with the skills standards of the History Department. Jewish Text courses teach critical analysis, problem-solving, close reading, and argumentation skills that are applicable across the curriculum. 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. All CESJDS students are required to complete a minimum of 80 hours of community service prior to graduation. Each year our students receive a 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, 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.

STATISTICS FOR CLASS OF 2023

Grade Point Average for Middle 50%	3.61-4.71	ACT Middle 50%	27-33
SAT Evidence Based Reading Middle 50%	615-720	10 National Merit Commended Students	
SAT Math Middle 50%	595-770		

CURRICULUM LEVELS

CESJDS offers 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.

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.

HIGH 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 (ENR, 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)
Statistics (ADV)
ACC=Accelerated | ENR=Enriched

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)
Ecology and Climate Science (ECP, ADV)

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 (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 text (ADV):
Ancient Hebrew Literature
Biblical Interpretation
Ethics
Jewish Law
Philosophy
Talmud Study
Theology

*ECP=Enriched College Prep | ADV=Advanced (highest level)

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/Movie Making/American Film
Emergency Care and Sport Safety
Computer Programming I,II, III, IV (ADV)
STEM courses (ECP, ADV)
Creative Writing (ECP, ADV)
Psychology (ECP, ADV)
Kinesiology and Athletic Training
History of Indigenous Americans

EXERCISE SCIENCE

1 credit required

Physical Education

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

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES

97% of our students attend a four-year college or university. The classes of 2021-2023 were accepted by the following colleges and universities. (* = matriculation)

Adelphi University
Albright College
American University (3)*
Appalachian State University
Arizona State University-Tempe (1)*
Baldwin Wallace University (1)*
Barnard College (2)*
Barry University
Bates College (1)*
Berklee College of Music (1)*
Binghamton University (4)*
Boston College (2)*
Boston University (3)*
Brandeis University (6)*
Brown University (2)*
Bryant University
Bryn Mawr College (1)*
Bucknell University
Butler University
Cal Poly
California State University-Fresno
California State University-Northridge
Case Western Reserve University (2)*
Claremont McKenna College (1)*
Clark University
Clemson University
Colgate University (1)*
College of Charleston (4)*
Colorado College
Colorado State University
Columbia University (1)*
Connecticut College (1)*
Cornell University (3)*
CUNY John Jay College of Criminal Justice
Curry College (1)*
Dartmouth College (1)*
Dean College
Denison University
Dickinson College (1)*
Drexel University (3)*
Duke University (1)*
Eckerd College
Elmira College
Elon University (2)*
Emory University (6)*
Fairleigh Dickinson University
Fashion Institute of Technology
Florida Atlantic University
Florida International University (1)*
Florida State University
Fordham University
Franklin and Marshall College (1)*

Frostburg State University
George Mason University
Georgetown University (3)*
Georgia Institute of Technology-Main Campus
Georgia Institute of Technology-Main Campus
Gettysburg College
Goldsmiths University of London
Goucher College (1)*
Guilford College
Hamilton College (1)*
Hampshire College (1)*
Harvard University (2)*
High Point University
Hobart William Smith Colleges (1)*
Hofstra University (3)*
Hood College
Indiana State University
Indiana University-Bloomington (6)*
Ithaca College (1)*
James Madison University
Johns Hopkins University (1)*
Juniata College
Kent State University at Kent (2)*
Kingston University
Lafayette College
Lebanon Valley College
Lehigh University (4)*
LIM College
List College - JTS (3)*
Louisiana State University
Lynn University
Maryland Institute College of Art
McDaniel College
McGill University (1)*
Merrimack College
Miami University, Oxford
Michigan State University (2)*
Middle Tennessee State University
Montclair State University
Montgomery College (5)*
Mount Holyoke College
Muhlenberg College (4)*
Nazareth College
New York University (1)*
Norfolk State University
Northeastern University (4)*
Northwestern University (1)*
Nova Southeastern University (1)*
Oberlin College (1)*
Ohio State University (1)*
Ohio University-Main Campus
Old Dominion University (1)*

Pace University, New York City Campus
Palm Beach Atlantic University
Pennsylvania State University (1)*
Princeton University (1)*
Purdue University
Radford University
Reed College
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rhodes College (1)*
Rider University
Roanoke College
Robert Morris University
Rollins College (1)*
Rowan University
Rutgers University-Camden
Rutgers University-New Brunswick (2)*
Salisbury University
Sarah Lawrence College
Smith College (1)*
St. Mary's College of Maryland
Stetson University
Stevens Institute of Technology
Stevenson University
Stony Brook University
Suffolk University
SUNY at Purchase College
SUNY Buffalo State
Swarthmore College
Syracuse University (4)*
Tel Aviv University
Tel Aviv University and Columbia University Dual Degree Program (1)*
Temple University
The College of New Jersey
The George Washington University (6)*
The New School (Parsons School of Design) (1)*
The University of Alabama
The University of Tampa (1)*
The University of Tennessee-Knoxville (1)*
The University of Texas at Austin
The University of the South
Toronto Metropolitan University
Towson University (4)*
Trinity College
Trinity University (1)*
Tufts University (3)*
Tulane University of Louisiana (3)*
Union College (NY)
University at Buffalo
University of Arizona (2)*
University of Arkansas
University of California-Los Angeles (1)*

University of California-San Diego
University of Central Florida (1)*
University of Cincinnati-Main Campus (1)*
University of Colorado Boulder (2)*
University of Colorado Denver
University of Connecticut
University of Delaware (2)*
University of Denver
University of Florida
University of Greenwich (1)*
University of Hartford (1)*
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
University of Kansas
University of Kentucky
University of Lynchburg
University of Mary Washington
University of Maryland-Baltimore County (4)*
University of Maryland-College Park (38)*
University of Massachusetts-Amherst (1)*
University of Massachusetts-Lowell
University of Miami (2)*
University of Michigan-Ann Arbor (10)*
University of Minnesota-Twin Cities
University of New Hampshire
University of North Carolina at Greensboro
University of North Carolina at Wilmington (1)*
University of Pennsylvania (4)*
University of Pittsburgh-Pittsburgh Campus (3)*
University of Rhode Island (1)*
University of Richmond
University of Rochester (2)*
University of South Carolina-Columbia (1)*
University of South Florida
University of Southern California (1)*
University of Toronto
University of Vermont (1)*
University of Virginia (6)*
University of Westminster
University of Wisconsin-Madison (5)*
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Ursinus College
Vassar College (2)*
Virginia Commonwealth University (1)*
Virginia Tech (1)*
Wake Forest University
Washington College (2)*
Washington University in St Louis (7)*
West Virginia University
Wheaton College - Massachusetts
Widener University
William & Mary (2)*
Yeshiva University
York College of Pennsylvania