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Newton South High School
2023/2024 School Profile

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Learning At Newton South During The Covid-19 Pandemic

From March 2020 through January 2021, nearly all teaching and learning at Newton South took place remotely. The spring of 2020 consisted largely of asynchronous instruction, however the 2020-2021 school year consisted of synchronous, online class meetings. A small number of high-needs students were offered in-person education beginning in September 2020. In January 2021 Newton Souh transitioned to "hyflex" instruction. Those students whose families chose for them to return to in-person instruction were in school and classmates joined remotely using video conferencing tools. In September 2021 Newton South returned to full-time in-person instruction.

GPA & Grading Policy Updates

In 2021-2022 Newton South returned to a traditional A-F grading system including the use of pluses and minuses.

During the 2020-2021 school year, Newton South reported grades on a modified grading scale, using the designations below. Credit was awarded for grades of A, B and P. No credit was awarded for final grades of NG.

A (Advanced): Student engages fully with the material and with the classroom community, uses feedback to improve performance, reflects on growth, and is able to independently and consistently demonstrate knowledge and mastery of skills.

B (Proficient): Student engages significantly with the material and with the classroom community, uses feedback to improve performance, reflects on growth, and is able to independently demonstrate knowledge and mastery of skills. Student may demonstrate some inconsistency in different skill or content areas.

P (Emerging): Student demonstrates proficiency in learning with teacher and or peer guidance and feedback. Student needs to show more consistency and independence in foundational knowledge and skill use. Student may also engage partially with the material and the class community, sometimes using feedback to improve performance and reflect on growth.

NG (Beginning): Student shows limited to no engagement with the material and class community. There is not enough work to elicit meaningful feedback from the teacher, providing little to no opportunity for growth, and there is minimal evidence of development of targeted skills.

GPA Policy 2023-2024

Newton South calculates Grade Point Average (GPA) based upon courses completed in the Newton Public Schools in grades 9-12. Grades earned outside of the Newton Public Schools are not included in GPA calculation. In the 2020-2021 school year, Newton South eliminated the calculation of a weighted GPA. For students in the Class of 2024, transcripts report an unweighted GPA representing grades earned at Newton South ninth through eleventh grade. After the first semester of twelfth grade, mid-year transcript will include an unweighted GPA based upon grades earned during the first two quarters of twelfth grade.

New Attendance Policy in 2024

A passing grade with reduced or no credit indicates the student failed to meet the attendance standard for the course

Academic & Standardized Test Performance

School and Community - Total Enrollment: 1862 - Class of 2024: 433

Newton is a small city of 85,000 located 4 miles west of Boston. Our excellent public educational system is strongly supported by its residents and attracts families from all over the world. Our community is comprised of primarily academic, executive and professional families. Since its inception in 1966, Newton Public Schools have embraced students from Boston through the METCO program. This program provides expanded academic opportunities to students enhancing racial, ethnic, and cultural diversity for all.

Class of 2023 Future Plans:

Total Post-Secondary Education: 94%

- 89% 4 year college
- 2% 2 year college
- 1% Specialized & Post-Grad Education
- 4% Gap year
- 3% Employment/military/
  vocational training

Student Demographics:

- Black/African American   3.5%
- Asian   24.1%
- Hispanic   7.5%
- Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander .2%
- Multi-Race/Non-Hispanic   6.6%
- White   58%

2023 AP Performance

In Spring 2023, 553 students in grades 9-12 took 1128 tests in 32 subjects. 87% earned scores of 3 or better.
- AP Scholars with Distinction: 75
- AP Scholars with Honors: 49
- AP Scholars: 81

National Merit & Achievement Programs

- Winners: 6 (Class of 2023)
- Finalists: 12 (Class of 2023)
- National Recognition Program: 4 (Class of 2024)
- Semi-Finalists: 7 (Class of 2024)
- Commended Students: 47 (Class of 2024)

Diploma Requirements

A minimum of 243 credits is required for graduation. Students planning to continue formal education after high school are strongly advised to complete at least 2 years of a world language. Our grading system is alphabetical. D- is a passing grade.

English (48 Credits), Mathematics (24 Credits) History/Social Science - including United States History (36 credits), Science - 12 in biological science and 12 in physical science (24 Credits), Visual/Performing Arts (12 Credits), Wellness/Physical Ed (15 Credits).

Class of 2023 - Middle 50% Standardized Test Scores

Middle 50% SAT Scores (331 Students Tested)

Percentile	Total	EBRW	Math
75th	1470	720	750
50th	1300	650	650
25th	1150	570	580

Middle 50% ACT Scores (127 Students Tested)

Percentile	Composite	Math	Science	STEM	English	Reading
75th	33	32	32	33	34	35
50th	30	28	29	29	31	31
25th	25	25	24	25	24	24

Unique Curriculum Offerings

Newton South High School has one of the most comprehensive academic programs in the state of Massachusetts. With a faculty second to none, students immerse themselves in courses that feed the mind and fill the heart through creativity, problem solving and reflection opportunities.

Interdisciplinary Small Learning Communities - Newton South offers three small learning communities characterized by cross-discipline integration of content to support contextual and experiential learning. Each small learning community offers a sequence of courses beginning in grade 10. The DA VINCI PROGRAM is a three year project-based, collaborative approach to learning science, technology, engineering, arts and math (STEAM). Students build skills in experimentation, analytical problem solving, presentation, communication and artistic representation. The GLOBAL COMMUNITIES PROGRAM develops thoughtful and committed global citizens. Students integrate knowledge in history, English and science through projects, essays and performance-based assessments. In the final year of the program, seniors apply their learning through a local experiential project or an international trip that leads to a Global Competency Certificate. The NEW MEDIA COMMUNITIES PROGRAM is a two year sequence integrating English, history and the arts that seeks to explore how we arrived at this age of visual media and how to navigate it responsibly and critically.

Career & Vocational Technical Education – This program offers students the chance to prepare for 21st-century careers through a comprehensive sequencing of technical and academic courses. Individualized student career plans are designed to assist in making informed choices for now and the future. Certifications are available in Automotive Technology, Carpentry/Construction Technology, Culinary Arts, Design & Visual Communication, Drafting, Early Education & Care, Graphic Communications, Greengineering, Introduction to Technical Theater, and TV/Video Production.

Legacy Scholars – A faculty nominated peer community for African-American, Latino, and Multi-racial students. Legacy Scholars work together with faculty mentors to build a culture of academic achievement and empowerment. Our first class of Scholars graduated in 2017.

WISE – Engaging senior students in a different form of learning experience outside the classroom in preparation for a transition to college or work is the goal of this program. Qualified seniors spend their final term of high school working on a substantial, self-designed academic project/internship, which benefits both the Newton South and local communities.

Newton South High School Honors & AP Course Offerings
2023-2024

Art
- Honors 2D Art
- Honors 3D Art
- Honors Media Art
- Honors Ceramics
- Honors Photography
- Honors Video
- AP Studio Art: Drawing
- AP 3-D Design
- AP Art History

Computer Programming
- Computer Science 1,2,3,4

English
- Sophomore English
- Global Justice Communities: World Literature 10
- New Media Communities: English 10
- Junior English
- Global Justice Communities: American Literature 11
- New Media Communities: English 11
- Global Justice English: Words that Change the World 12
- Shakespeare 12
- Horror & Science Fiction 12
- Women in Literature 12
- Multicultural Literature 12
- African-American Literature 12
- Asian & Asian-American Literature 12
- Film Studies 12
- Public Speaking & Presentation 9-12
- AP English Literature & Composition
- AP English Language & Composition

History/Social Science
- Modern World History 10
- Global Justice: Modern World History 10
- Global Justice: United States History 11
- New Media Communities: Modern World History 10
- New Media Communities: United States History 11
- Race, Class and Gender Identity 12
- Ethics in the Modern World 12
- Sustainability & Human Geography 12
- AP United States History
- AP European History
- AP U.S. Government and Politics
- AP Comparative Government
- AP Psychology
- AP Microeconomics

Mathematics
- Math 1-4 Honors
- daVinci Math 2, 3
- Precalculus Honors
- AP Calculus AB
- AP Calculus BC
- AP Statistics

Music
- Symphonic Band
- Select Wind Ensemble
- Honors Jazz Combo
- Honors Jazz Ensemble
- Madrigals 10-12
- String Ochestra
- Music Production
- Advanced Music Production & Songwriting
- AP Music Theory I
- AP Muic Theory II

Science
- Engineering III
- daVinci Science I
- daVinci Science II
- daVinci Steam III Capstone Project
- Chemistry
- Organic Chemistry
- Biology
- Global Biology
- Neurobiology
- Global Marine Biology
- Biotechnology
- AP Chemistry
- AP Biology
- AP Physics C Mechanics
- AP Physics C Mechanics & Electricity & Magnetism
- AP Environmental Science

Theatre
- Actor's Workshop
- Acting and Directing
- Acting for Screen & Stage
- Technical Theatre Studio

World Language
- Chinese 3-5
- French 3H, 4H
- Latin 3-5
- Spanish 3H, 4H
- AP Chinese Language and Culture
- AP French Language
- AP Spanish Language
- Prototype AP Russian Language and Culture

Curriculum Notes
- Mathematics 1 Honors is the only honors level course offered as part of a typical freshmen's curriculum
- In Math, some courses are only offered at the Accelerated ACP level
- Courses in grades 10-12 are offered at Honors, Advanced College Preparatory, and College Preparatory
- Due to the rigor of AP and honors courses we strongly recommend that students take no more than three courses at this level per year
- Most AP courses are only open to seniors

College Enrollments: Newton South Graduates
2019-2023

University of Alabama
Alfred State College
Allegheny College
American University
Amherst College
Arizona State University
University of Arizona
Assumption University
College of the Atlantic
Babson College
Bard College
Bates College
Bay State College
Baylor University
Bennington College
Bentley University
Bergen Community College
Berklee College of Music
Binghamton University
Biola University
Boston College
Boston University
Bowdoin College
Brandeis University
Bridgewater State University
Univerity of British Columbia
Brown University
Bryant University
Bryn Mawr College
Bucknell University
Bunker Hill Community College
Butler University
California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo
University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Davis
University of California, Irvine
University of California, Los Angeles
University of California, San Diego
University of California, Santa Barbara
University of California, Santa Cruz
Cape Cod Community College
Carleton College
Carnegie Mellon University
Case Western Reserve University
University of Central Florida
Champlain College
Chapman University
College of Charleston
University of Chicago
Claremont McKenna College
Clark Atlanta University
Clark University
Clemson University
Cleveland Institute of Art
Coastal Carolina University
Colby College
Colby-Sawyer College
Colgate University
College of the Holy Cross
College of William & Mary
University of Colorado, Boulder
University of Colorado, Denver
Colorado College
Colorado School of Mines

Colorado State University, Fort Collins
Columbia College Chicago
Columbia University
Columbia University Sciences Po
Columbus College of Art & Design
Concordia University
Connecticut College
University of Connecticut
Cornell University
Curry College
Dartmouth College
Davidson College
Dean College
University of Delaware
Denison University
University of Denver
DePaul University
Dickinson University
Drexel University
Duke University
Earlham College
Eastman School of Music @ U Rochester
EHL- Ecole Hoteliere de Lausanne
Elon University
Embry Riddle University
Emerson College
Emmanuel College
Emory University
Endicott College
ESADE Business School
Fairfield University
Fashion Institute of Technology
Fitchburg State University
University of Florida
Florida State University
Fordham University
Framingham State University
Franklin & Marshall College
Franklin Pierce University
George Mason University
Georgetown University
Georgia Institute of Technology
Gettysburg College
Gordon College
Grinnell College
Hamilton College
University of Hartford
Hartwick College
Harvard College
HES Amsterdam, School of Business
High Point University
Hobart William Smith Colleges
Hofstra University
Hotelschool The Hague
Howard University
IE University Madrid
IE University Segovia
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
Indiana University
Ithaca College
Johns Hopkins University
Johnson & Wales University
Kent State University
Kenyon College
Lafayette College

College of Lake County
Langara College
Lasell University
Lehigh University
Lesley University
List College, Jewish Theological Seminary
London Metropolitan University
Louisiana State University
Loyola Marymount University
Loyola University, Chicago
Loyola University, Maryland
Macalester College
Maine College of Art & Design
University of Maine
University of Manchester
Manhattan College
Marist College
University of Maryland
Mass Bay Community College
Massachusetts College of Art & Design
Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences
University of Massachusetts, Amherst
University of Massachusetts, Boston
University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth
University of Massachusetts, Lowell
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Massasoit Community College
McGill University
Merrimack College
Miami University, OH
University of Miami
Miami Dade College
University of Michigan
Michigan State University
Middlebury College
Middlesex Community College
University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
University of Mississippi
University of Missouri
Montana State University
Morehouse College
Mount Holyoke College
Universidad de Navarra
University of New England
University of New Hampshire
'University of New Haven
New York University
Nichols College University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
University of North Carolina, Charlotte
University of North Carolina, Greensboro
North Shore Community College
Northeastern University
Northwestern University
University of Notre Dame
Oberlin College
Occidental College

Ohio University
University of Oklahoma, Norman
Oxford College/Emory University
University of Oregon
Pace University
Pennsylvania State
University of Pennsylvania
Pierce College
University of Pittsburgh
Pitzer College
Plymouth State University
Pratt Institute
Princeton University
Providence College
Purdue University
Queen's University
Quincy College
Quinnipiac University
Reed College
Regis College
Reichman University (IDC Herzliya)
Rensselaer Plytechnic Institute
Rhode Island School of Design
University of Rhode Island
Rice University
University of Richmond
Ringling College of Art & Design
Rochester Institute of Technology
University of Rochester
Roger Williams University
Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
Rutgers University
Sacred Heart University
Saint Joseph's University
Saint Louis University
Saint Michael's University
Saint Peter's University
Salem State University
Salve Regina University
San Diego State University
University of San Francisco
College of San Mateo
Santa Clara University
Santa Monica College
Sarah Lawrence College
Savannah College of Art & Design
School of the Art Institute of Chicago
School of Visual Arts
Scripps College
Simmons University
Skidmore College
Smith College
University of South Carolina
University of Southern California
Southern California Institute of Architecture
University of South Dakota
University of South Florida
Southern Maine Community College
Southern Methodist University
Southern New Hampshire University

Springfield College
St. John's College
St. John's University
St. Lawrence University
St. Petersburg College
Stanford University
Stonehill College
Stony Brook University
Suffolk University
SUNY Cortland
Swarthmore College
Syracuse University
The University of Tampa
Tel Aviv/ Columbia University
Temple University
The University of Tennessee
The University of Texas, Austin
The University of Texas, Dallas
The George Washington University
The Hong Kong University of Science & Technology
The New School
Thomas Jefferson University
University of Toronto
Trinity College
Tufts University
Tulane University
Union College
University of Buffalo
Universite de Montreal
University of Edinburgh
University of St. Andrews
University of Westminster
Vanderbilt University
Vassar College
Vermont State University
University of Vermont
University of Victoria
Villanova University
Virginia Commonwealth University
Virginia Military Institute
Virginia Tech
University of Virginia
Wake Forest University
Washington University in St. Louis
Wellesley College
Wentworth Institute of Technology
Wesleyan University
West Virginia University
Western New England University
Westfield State University
Wheaton College, MA
Whitman College
Williams College
University of Wisconsin, Madison
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Worcester State University
Xavier University of Louisiana
Yale University