

Newton North High School

2024-2025 School Profile

“Learning sustains the human spirit.”



457 Walnut Street
Newtonville, Massachusetts 02460

CEEB Code = 221-555
www.newton.k12.ma.us

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Superintendent of Schools

Henry Turner, Ed.D.
Principal

Beth Swederskas 6230
Counseling Department Chair

Lila Reid 6230
Counseling Administrative Asst.

| College Counselors | Extension |
|--------------------|-----------|
| Jane Gladstone | 6236 |
| Jillian Hall | 6349 |
| Jennifer Moeller | 6348 |

| School Counselors | |
|-------------------|------|
| Brendan Amedio | 6242 |
| Nancy Decoteau | 6275 |
| Matthew Ford | 6234 |
| Jane Gladstone | 6236 |
| Belma Johnson | 6232 |
| Patrick Manning | 6231 |
| Sara Polstein | 6248 |
| Christine Potter | 6241 |
| Brian Rivera | 6245 |
| Kyra Slawski | 6233 |
| Beth Swederskas | 6230 |
| Jessica Volmer | 6251 |

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Blayne Lopes 6262
METCO Engagement Specialist

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Program for ex 252
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Tricia Stamper 6247
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Email: lastnamefirstinitial@newton.k12.ma.us
For example: swederskasb@newton.k12.ma.us

2024-2025 Grading Scale:

| | |
|----|-----|
| A | 4.0 |
| A- | 3.7 |
| B+ | 3.3 |
| B | 3.0 |
| B- | 2.7 |
| C+ | 2.3 |
| C | 2.0 |
| C- | 1.7 |
| D+ | 1.3 |
| D | 1.0 |
| D- | 0.7 |
| F | 0.0 |

Grade Point Average:

GPA calculation includes all leveled courses earning a letter grade. Unleveled courses, courses taken outside of Newton Public Schools and/or during the summer are not included in the GPA calculation. Cumulative GPA is calculated at the end of each semester beginning after the fifth semester. Initial transcripts for students in the class of 2025 report a cumulative unweighted GPA representing grades earned at Newton North in ninth through eleventh grade. After the first semester of twelfth grade, mid-year transcripts will include an updated cumulative unweighted GPA incorporating grades earned during the first two quarters of twelfth grade.

Grading System:

A through F, with pluses and minuses, passing grade 60. A passing grade without credits indicates that a student did not meet the attendance standard for the course.

Attendance Standard:

In addition to their academic grades, students will be assessed on whether they have met the attendance standard for the school each term, in each course. This will be reflected on their report cards with a “Y” or “N” next to the academic grade in a separate column.

The criteria to meet the attendance standard each term are as follows:

To earn a “Y” (=YES), students will have

- 5 or fewer total absences, and
- 2 or fewer unexcused absences

To earn a “N” (=NO), students will have

- 6 or more total absences, or
- 3 or more unexcused absences

A “N” may result in reduced credit.

School Facts

Total enrollment: 2,099
Class of 2025 enrollment: 510
Total faculty: 222
Student : Faculty ratio: 10.9 : 1
Average class size: 21.9
Teaching faculty with advanced degrees: 98%

Student Demographic Profile

African American or Black: 5.2%
Asian: 16.2%
Hispanic or Latino: 11.6%
Multi-race, Non-Hispanic: 7.0%
White: 59.7%
Economically Disadvantaged: 16.1%

Graduating Class of 2024

Enrollment: 499 students
Total to post-secondary education: 92.2%
Attending four-year colleges: 87.0%
Attending two-year colleges: 2.4%
Gap year before entering college: 3.4%
Other, including employment and military: 4.4%

Course Distribution Requirements

In order to graduate from Newton North High School a student must earn 243 credits and meet the requirements listed below.

The credits must include:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| English: | 48 |
| Life Science: | 12 |
| Physical Science/Chemistry: | 12 |
| History and Social Sciences: | 24 |
| United States History: | 12 |
| Mathematics: | 24 |
| Fine, Performing & Technical Arts: | 12 |
| Physical Education/Health & Wellness | 15 |
| Electives/Other Course Offerings: | 84 |

The standard science course sequence is:

| | |
|-----------|------------------|
| Grade 9: | Physics |
| Grade 10: | Chemistry |
| Grade 11: | Biology |
| Grade 12: | Science Elective |

NNHS Seals of Recognition

Seal of Applied STEM:

The Math and STE departments recognize students who demonstrate passion and excellence within the discipline(s) of Science, Math, Engineering and Computer Science. In addition to demonstrating excellence, students must also show significant growth over time, a commitment to personal study and STEM citizenship as well as demonstrate connections made/among experiences in STEM.

Seal of Biliteracy - The State Seal of Biliteracy is an award provided by state approved districts that recognizes high school graduates who attain high functional and academic levels of proficiency in English and a world language in recognition of having studied and attained proficiency in two or more languages by high school graduation.

Seal of Civic Action - The Seal of Civic Action is designed to reflect student's passion and dedication to civic life and service, as well as their willingness and ability to reflect on what they've learned during their civic work. Students will demonstrate their commitment to civic life and civic work, as well as provide a reflection that speaks to what they have learned.

Seal of Social Justice - The Seal of Social Justice is designed to reflect students' passion and dedication to social justice, as well as their willingness and ability to reflect on what they've learned during their social justice work. Students will demonstrate their commitment to social justice work, as well as provide a reflection that speaks to what they have learned.

Seals of Fine & Performing Arts: - Excellence in Art - Excellence in Music - Excellence in Theatre

To be awarded a seal in Fine & Performing Arts, a student must demonstrate excellence in the discipline; significant growth over time; commitment to personal study; commitment to art citizenship; and commitment to the NNHS art, music and/or theatre programs.

Scope, Sequence, and Course placement Philosophy

Newton North has a commitment to opportunity, access, and excellence for all students. The scope and sequence of courses in each department has been designed to support these overarching goals. Courses include an articulation of content and skills that can be developed and learned within a developmentally appropriate community of learners at each grade level. The curriculum is designed to support the continuous academic, social and skill development growth for all students. A core value at North is that all students are appropriately challenged and supported both in terms of the work in individual classes and more broadly across a student's schedule. As students consider their course load, we support them in finding an appropriate level of stretch and balance within their classes. Teachers consider this placement philosophy when making course level recommendations.

Course Levels

Following are the levels at which courses are offered at Newton North High School. More detailed information about these levels and how they are interpreted in the different departments within the school is explained in the individual department sections within Opportunities, NNHS Course Catalog. The Counseling Department and the Administrative Team recommend that students take no more than three Honors/AP courses in one year.

- Honors (H)
- Advanced College Prep (ACP)
- College Prep (CP)
- No Level

Multilevel Course Offerings

Multilevel courses contain students who are individually registered for different levels and learn in the same classroom community. We believe in the power of multilevel courses which:

- Provide a rich experience for students within a diverse learning community.
- Increase access and equity for all students by dismantling structures where implicit bias results in a sorting of students by race, gender, ability and/or socioeconomic status based on the subject area and level.
- Provide students with access to support and opportunity for challenge in the same learning community.
- Allow Newton North to offer classes that may not have enough enrollment to run as single-level classes. Newton North may make the decision to run other multilevel courses after registration occurs in order to meet our

Credit System

| Credits Awarded | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| For 3 Time/Week Courses | 2021-2022 and Prior | 2022-2023 and Beyond |
| Full Year Courses | 5.0 Credits | 12.0 Credits |
| Semester Courses | 2.5 Credits | 6.0 Credits |
| Non-PEHW Quarter Courses | 1.25 Credits | 3.0 Credits |
| PEHW Quarter Courses | 1.0 Credits | 3.0 Credits |

A course may be granted academic credit if it includes faculty supervision and accountability such as attendance and grading, and meets during the school day or has some form of training or instruction/curriculum. In the 2022-2023 school year, Newton Public Schools has changed the base credit awarded for courses.

All courses listed in the NNHS Course Catalog reflect the new credit system. Courses that meet fewer than 3 blocks per week will be awarded credit according to seat time based on the fact that 1 block per week for 1 quarter earns 1.0 credit.

Our credit system has changed to allow PEHW courses to earn equal credit to those earned in non-PEHW courses. It is also changing to reflect an accounting system that pairs better with our new bell schedule in which most courses meet three times per week and can be broken up into quarters.

After September 1, 2022, any student transcript containing any course taken under the new 12.0 credit system will be modified to reflect the new credit system. For student transcripts in which all courses were taken under the 5.0 credit system, credits will not be modified.

Class of 2024 College Admission Test Scores

SAT Scores

Mean: Evidence Based Reading and Writing: 632 Math: 631

Number of seniors taking SAT reasoning test: 398

ACT Scores

Number of students taking ACT: 205

| Subject | Mean |
|----------------|-------------|
| English | 29.1 |
| Mathematics | 27.5 |
| Reading | 29.8 |
| Science | 27.5 |
| Composite | 28.6 |
| STEM | 27.7 |

Spring 2024 Advanced Placement Tests

661 students sat for 1,438 exams in 26 subjects.

91.5% of exam scores were 3 or better.

| AP Test | # Taking Test | % with 3+ |
|------------------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| Art History | 23 | 78 |
| Biology | 58 | 91 |
| Calculus AB | 81 | 53 |
| Calculus BC | 134 | 86 |
| Chemistry | 75 | 97 |
| Chinese Lang & Culture | 8 | 100 |
| Comparative Gov't & Politics | 43 | 91 |
| Computer Science A | 5 | 100 |
| Computer Science Principles | 30 | 97 |
| English Lang & Comp | 164 | 89 |
| English Lit & Comp | 75 | 95 |
| European History | 21 | 95 |
| French Lang & Culture | 17 | 88 |
| German Lang & Culture | 3 | 100 |
| Italian Lang & Culture | 11 | 100 |
| Latin | 7 | 29 |
| Macroeconomics | 3 | 100 |
| Microeconomics | 8 | 100 |
| Music Theory | 10 | 100 |
| Physics | 85 | 85 |
| Psychology | 164 | 86 |
| Spanish Language & Culture | 27 | 100 |
| Statistics | 187 | 83 |
| US Gov't & Politics | 1 | 100 |
| US History | 198 | 94 |
| World History | 1 | 100 |

City of Newton

Newton, a suburb of Boston, is a small city with a population of approximately 88,000. Its population is heterogeneous with a large proportion of academic, business, and professional families. The citizens of Newton strongly support its public schools. Newton's excellent educational system attracts families from all over the world. Our students come from many other states and more than 70 foreign countries and speak more than 30 languages. Our diverse city is further enhanced by the METCO program, which brings students of color from Boston, and the CAPS program, which is a regional program for deaf and hard of hearing students.

Class of 2024 National Merit Scholarships

Scholarships: 3

Semi-Finalists: 7

Letters of Commendation: 20

What Makes Newton North Unique

- Truly comprehensive high school
- Rigorous honors and advanced placement courses
- Career and Technical Education programs offer authentic learning experiences in the following career areas: automotive technology, business, carpentry, culinary arts, design and visual communications, drafting, early education and care, graphic communications, engineering technology, and TV media arts. CTE students have the opportunity to pursue cooperative education workplace learning experiences.
- Students who have asked, been recommended for, and accepted to participate in a CTE program as a major have made a commitment to invest additional time into a career area and therefore receive additional credits. These program majors are leveled the same as our core subject areas; honors and advanced college prep (ACP).
- Students in the TV media arts CTE program produce the school news and documentaries from start to finish.
- College and Career Center staffed by specialized college counselors
- Nationally-ranked science, math, robotics, and mock trial teams
- Over 80 clubs and organizations including model UN, improv and sketch comedy groups, ultimate Frisbee, and one of the first Gay/Straight Alliance groups in the country.
- Impressive theater program provides study opportunities in acting, directing, costuming and technical theatre. Produces 12-15 shows annually, including plays, musicals, a full-length Shakespeare production, Choreography Project, and a Playwright's Festival featuring original student works.
- Vast music department teaches theory, composition, and improvisation. Ten ensembles perform 20-25 concerts annually, both locally and internationally, winning statewide and national awards.
- The Newton North Athletic Program has achieved sustained success over the years. Our program currently has 38 sports with Boys and Girls Ultimate Frisbee and Unified Basketball and track as recent additions. Unified sports provide an opportunity for students with intellectual disabilities to compete against other MA schools who provide the same opportunity. Last year Newton North was recognized by MaxPreps; a national publication as one of the top 40 athletic programs in the country and #1 in MA. The Tigers have recent State Championships in Boys and Girls Indoor and Outdoor Track, Dance, and Boys and Girls Volleyball and Finals appearances in Boys Basketball and Boys Soccer.
- National award-winning online newspaper and literary magazine
- Numerous travel, exchange, and service programs to destinations including China, France, Italy, Spain, Prague, Central America, Guadeloupe, Peru and New Orleans.
- Demonstrated success at narrowing the achievement gap
- Special mentoring program for our scholars of color (Dover Legacy Scholars) and first generation families (Transitioning Together)
- Strong commitment to English language learner and special education programs

Career and Technical Education Programs **5-Year Positive Placement Data 2019-2023**

| Program | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|--------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Automotive | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |
| Carpentry | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |
| Culinary Arts | 100% | 100% | 100% | 80% | 90.91% |
| Drafting | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |
| Early Education & Care | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |
| Graphic Communications | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |
| Design & Visual Communications | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |
| TV Media Arts | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |

Positive Placement data includes the number of students in postsecondary education, military service, and/or employed.

Newton Public Schools Annual SIMS Data reported to the DESE by November 30th each school year.

College matriculations of two or more Newton North High School students for the three most recent graduating classes (2022, 2023, 2024)

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| American University | Indiana University (Bloomington) | The University of Texas at Austin |
| Amherst College | Ithaca College | Trinity College |
| Arizona State University | Johns Hopkins University | Trinity College Dublin |
| Assumption University | Johnson & Wales University (Providence) | Tufts University |
| Babson College | Kenyon College | Tulane University |
| Bard College | Lafayette College | Union College |
| Barnard College | Lasell University | University College Dublin |
| Bates College | Lesley University | University of Arizona |
| Bennington College | Loyola Marymount University | University of British Columbia |
| Bentley University | Loyola University New Orleans | University of California (Berkeley) |
| Berklee College of Music | Macalester College | University of California (Davis) |
| Boston College | Massachusetts College of Art and Design | University of California (Los Angeles) |
| Boston University | Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences | University of California (San Diego) |
| Bowdoin College | Massachusetts Institute of Technology | University of California (Santa Barbara) |
| Brandeis University | MassBay Community College | University of Chicago |
| Bridgewater State University | McGill University | University of Colorado Boulder |
| Brown University | Merrimack College | University of Connecticut |
| Bryant University | Michigan State University | University of Florida |
| Bryn Mawr College | Middlebury College | University of Hartford |
| Bunker Hill Community College | Mount Holyoke College | University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign |
| California Polytechnic State University | New England College | University of Maine |
| Carleton College | New York University | University of Maryland |
| Carnegie Mellon University | Nichols College | University of Massachusetts (Amherst) |
| Case Western Reserve University | Northeastern University | University of Massachusetts (Boston) |
| Clark University | Northwestern University | University of Massachusetts (Dartmouth) |
| Clemson University | Oberlin College | University of Massachusetts (Lowell) |
| Colby College | Occidental College | University of Miami |
| Colgate University | Penn State University | University of Michigan |
| College of Charleston | Plymouth State University | University of New Hampshire (Main Campus) |
| College of the Holy Cross | Providence College | University of Oregon |
| Colorado College | Purdue University | University of Pennsylvania |
| Colorado School of Mines | Quinnipiac University | University of Pittsburgh |
| Columbia University | Reed College | University of Rhode Island |
| Concordia University (Montreal) | Regis College | University of Rochester |
| Connecticut College | Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute | University of South Carolina |
| Cornell University | Rhode Island College | University of Southern California |
| Curry College | Rhode Island School of Design | University of Toronto |
| Dartmouth College | Rochester Institute of Technology | University of Vermont |
| Davidson College | Roger Williams University | University of Virginia |
| Drexel University | Rollins College | University of Wisconsin (Madison) |
| Duke University | Sacred Heart University | Vanderbilt University |
| Eckerd College | Saint Anselm College | Vassar College |
| Elon University | San Diego State University | Villanova University |
| Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (Daytona Beach) | Santa Clara University | Virginia Tech |
| Emerson College | School of the Art Institute of Chicago | Wake Forest University |
| Emmanuel College | Scripps College | Washington University (St. Louis) |
| Emory University | Simmons University | Wellesley College |
| Endicott College | Skidmore College | Wentworth Institute of Technology |
| Fairfield University | Smith College | Wesleyan University |
| Fitchburg State University | Springfield College | Western New England University |
| Fordham University | St. Lawrence University | Westfield State University |
| Framingham State University | Stonehill College | Wheaton College (MA) |
| George Washington University | Suffolk University | William & Mary |
| Georgetown University | Swarthmore College | Williams College |
| Hamilton College | Syracuse University | Worcester Polytechnic Institute |
| Hampshire College | Temple University | Yale University |
| Harvard University | The Ohio State University | |
| Hofstra University | The University of Alabama | |