

SCHOOL PROFILE

2024-2025

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Family Upper School Campus11710 Hunters Lane
Rockville, Maryland 20852

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SCHOOL CODE: 210383

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SCHOOL OVERVIEW

With approximately 840 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 79 seniors among a high school student body of approximately 300. 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 3.5 year high school curriculum and is at the forefront of preparing students by blending knowledge and skills necessary for success in the 21st century. The rigorous dual-curriculum includes a balance of general and Judaic studies, alongside a carefully designed advisory program and robust co-curricular programming and opportunities. 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, while Jewish Text courses teach critical analysis, problem-solving, close reading, and argumentation skills that are applicable across the curriculum. Our faculty offer exceptional instruction and facilitate student centered learning that promotes critical thinking, analysis, problem-solving, independence, resilience, compassion, collaboration, as well as discipline-specific skills. Students have many opportunities to self-direct their learning, including course choice and determination of levels most appropriate to their learning. Students are enrolled in eight or nine courses during an extended academic day, engage in club, athletic, and arts opportunities both during and outside the school day, and grow as individuals within our vibrant, caring, and committed community.

IRENE AND DANIEL SIMPKINS SENIOR CAPSTONE ISRAEL TRIP:
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.

CESJDS AT A GLANCE



79 seniors in the class of 2025

80% of faculty have
master's degree or higher

19 varsity sports

36 extracurricular clubs
and organizations45 seniors (51.1% of the
Class of 2024) were
awarded merit scholarships
valued at \$6.52 million

STATISTICS FOR CLASS OF 2024

Grade Point Average for Middle 50%	3.92-4.62	3 National Merit Scholars
SAT Evidence Based Reading Middle 50%	650-745	1 Additional National Merit Finalists
SAT Math Middle 50%	590-760	12 National Merit Commended Students
ACT Middle 50%	27-33	1 Hispanic Scholarship Fund Scholar

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 (ECP, 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)

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 & Climate Science (ECP, ADV)

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

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

HEBREW LANGUAGE

2 credits required, 3.5 available

Level 101-104 EPC; 105-106 ADV
Level 203-204 ECP; 205-206 ADV
Level 303-304 ECP; 305-306 ADV
Level 403-404 ECP; 405-406 ADV
Heritage Learners (ECP, ADV)

ELECTIVES

3 elective credits required from either World
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 & Sport Safety
Computer Programming I,II, III, IV (ADV)
STEM Courses (ECP, ADV)
Creative Writing (ECP, ADV)
Psychology (ECP, ADV)
Kinesiology & Athletic Training
History of Indigenous Americans

EXERCISE SCIENCE

1 credit required; students participating on an athletic
team may earn up to 1 credit in Exercise Science
Physical Education

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES

96% of our students attend a four-year college or university. The classes of 2022-2024 were accepted by the following colleges and universities. (* = matriculation)

Adelphi University
Albright College
American University (3)*
Appalachian State University
Arcadia University
Arizona State University-Tempe*
Baldwin Wallace University
Bard College
Barnard College (2)*
Barry University
Berklee College of Music*
Binghamton University (4)*
Boston College (2)*
Boston University (2)*
Brandeis University (7)*
Brown University*
Bryant University
Bryn Mawr College*
Bucknell University
Butler University*
Cal Poly (College of Engineering)
California State University-Fresno
California State University-Northridge
Carnegie Mellon University*
Case Western Reserve University (2)*
Claremont McKenna College*
Clark University
Clemson University
College of Charleston (3)*
Colorado College*
Colorado School of Mines
Colorado State University-Fort Collins
Columbia University (2)*
Connecticut College*
Cornell University (4)*
CUNY John Jay College of
Criminal Justice
Curry College*
Dartmouth College*
Dean College
Denison University
DePaul University
Drake University
Drexel University (2)*
Duke University*
Eckerd College*
Elon University (2)*
Emmanuel College

Emory University (4)*
Emory University (Oxford College)
Fairleigh Dickinson University
Fashion Institute of Technology
Florida Atlantic University
Florida State University
Fordham University
Franklin and Marshall College*
Furman University
George Mason University
George Washington University (3)*
Georgetown University (3)*
Georgia Institute of Technology
Gettysburg College
Goldsmiths University of London
Goucher College (2)*
Guilford College
Hamilton College*
Hampshire College*
Harvard University (2)*
High Point University
Hobart William Smith Colleges*
Hofstra University (3)*
Indiana State University
Indiana University-Bloomington (2)*
Ithaca College*
James Madison University*
Johns Hopkins University*
Juniata College
Kent State University at Kent (2)*
Kenyon College
Kingston University
Lebanon Valley College
Lehigh University (3)*
LIM College
List College-JTS/Barnard*
List College-JTS/Columbia (4)*
Louisiana State University
Lynn University
Macalester College
Marshall University
Maryland Institute College of Art
McDaniel College*
McGill University*
Merrimack College
Miami University-Oxford
Michigan State University (2)*
Middle Tennessee State University

Montclair State University
Montgomery College (6)*
Mount Holyoke College
Muhlenberg College (3)*
Nazareth University
New York University*
Norfolk State University
Northeastern University (3)*
Northwestern University (2)*
Nova Southeastern University
Oberlin College
Ohio State University (2)*
Ohio University
Ohio Wesleyan University
Old Dominion University
Pace University
Palm Beach Atlantic University
Pennsylvania State University*
Princeton University (2)*
Purdue University
Quinnipiac University
Radford University
Randolph-Macon College*
Reed College
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rhodes College
Rice University*
Rider University
Roanoke College
Robert Morris University
Rochester Institute of Technology*
Rollins College*
Rowan University
Rutgers University-Camden
Rutgers University-
New Brunswick (2)*
Rutgers University-Newark
Salisbury University
Sarah Lawrence College
Savannah College of Art
and Design (2)*
Seattle University
Smith College*
St. John's University-New York
St. Mary's College of Maryland
Stevens Institute of Technology
Stevenson University
Suffolk University

SUNY at Purchase College
SUNY Buffalo State
Susquehanna University*
Swarthmore College
Syracuse University (6)*
Tel Aviv Univ/ Columbia Univ
Dual Degree Program (2)*
Temple University
The College of New Jersey
The New School
The New School (Parsons
School of Design)*
The University of Texas at Austin
The University of the South
Toronto Metropolitan University
Towson University (4)*
Trinity College
Trinity University*
Tufts University (4)*
Tulane University of Louisiana (2)*
Union College (NY)
University at Buffalo
University of Alabama
University of Arizona*
University of Arkansas
University of California-San Diego
University of Central Florida*
University of Chicago (3)*
University of Cincinnati*
University of Colorado Boulder (2)*
University of Colorado Denver
University of Connecticut
University of Delaware*
University of Denver
University of Florida*
University of Greenwich*
University of Hartford*
University of Illinois at
Urbana-Champaign
University of Kansas
University of Kentucky
University of Louisville
University of Lynchburg
University of Mary Washington
University of Maryland-
Baltimore County (2)*
University of Maryland-
College Park (45)*

University of Massachusetts-Amherst*
University of Massachusetts-Lowell
University of Miami (2)
University of Michigan-
Ann Arbor (10)*
University of Michigan-Flint
University of Minnesota-Twin Cities*
University of New Hampshire
University of North Carolina-
Greensboro
University of North Carolina-
Wilmington*
University of Pennsylvania (2)*
University of Pittsburgh-
Pittsburgh Campus (3)*
University of Rhode Island*
University of Rochester*
University of South Carolina-
Columbia*
University of South Florida-
Main Campus
University of Southern California
University of Tampa
University of Tennessee-Knoxville*
University of Toronto
University of Utah
University of Vermont*
University of Virginia-
Main Campus (5)*
University of Westminster
University of Wisconsin-Madison (3)*
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh
Ursinus College
Vassar College (2)*
Virginia Commonwealth University*
Virginia Tech (2)*
Wake Forest University*
Washington & Jefferson College
Washington College*
Washington University in
St. Louis (11)*
West Virginia University
Wheaton College-Massachusetts
Widener University
William & Mary*
Yale University*
Yeshiva University-Stern College (2)*
York College of Pennsylvania