

## PAST WINTER PROJECT TOPICS

### WINTER PROJECT TOPICS: 2024-2025

- **Austerity to Prosperity: American Food (Depression-1950s):** Students examined how post-WWII prosperity and the rise of roadside diners sparked a food and travel revolution that continues today in popular culture.
- **Design of an Athletic Recovery Room:** Students explored sports science and athlete recovery by researching, planning, and building a fully functional recovery station for Trinity-Pawling athletes.
- **From MTV to DIY: The History and Art of the Music Video:** Students explored the history and cultural impact of music videos, from their origins to today, and used them as inspiration for students to create, edit, and tell their own stories.
- **Into the Wilderness: A Creative Bookmaking Journey:** Students explored the theme of wilderness through nature engagement and original writing, which they compiled into handmade books that showcased their creativity and self-expression.
- **Leadership in Coaching and Business:** Students explored leadership styles and strategies of influential coaches and business leaders, identifying common traits and practices that offered valuable insights for emerging leaders.
- **Robotics: Construction and Programming:** Students designed a robot that was programmed to perform a particular function.
- **The History of Human Evolution:** Students traced human evolution from early bipeds to *Homo sapiens*, exploring key species, archaeological evidence, and transformative processes, and culminated in creating a timeline, family tree, and evolutionary map.
- **The Psychology of 'Clutch Athletes':** Students analyzed case studies of clutch athletes, examining their strategies and mindsets from statistical and psychological perspectives, and culminated in a student-produced short documentary.
- **To Whom Much is Given:** Students worked on community service opportunities each day, bettering the community of Pawling.
- **TPopoly:** Students worked in committees to design Trinity-Pawling's own version of Monopoly, determining property values, photos, groupings, and incorporating school customs and traditions into the game.

### WINTER PROJECT TOPICS: 2023-2024

- **The Twilight Zone: Trinity-Pawling Style:** Students became familiar with suspense and horror script writing.
- **Easy Riders and Raging Bus Project:** Students made a film on their phones in the "New Hollywood" style.
- **Wacky Contraption Physics: Mousetrap to Rube Goldberg:** Students made Rube Goldberg-esque machines.
- **Trinity-Pawling Maple Sugaring:** Students learned about maple sugaring and built a sugar shack with all necessary equipment.
- **Leadership in Coaching and the Inner Game:** Students learned about leadership from the coaches perspective.
- **Climate Change Resilience: Nature and our Responsibility:** This project empowered students to delve into climate change, understand its causes and consequences, and explore the role of nature in building resilience.
- **HGTP: Campus and Community Improvement:** Students worked on improvement projects in dorms and common spaces.
- **Trinity-Pawling Golf Range:** Students explored the possibility of creating a golf range on campus.
- **Ancient Battle Reenactment:** Students researched ancient battles and military equipment.
- **Shoe Dogs: The Art and Entrepreneurship of Shoes:** Students designed their own shoe brand on a digital platform.

### WINTER PROJECT TOPICS: 2022-2023

- **Edible Enterprising:** Students studied the business side of the culinary industry, including interviewing alumni in the restaurant industry; meeting a professional chef at the Culinary Institute of America; and connecting with the dining hall staff.
- **Fed Up with Hunger:** The group researched both local and global food insecurity, and worked with local food banks.
- **Field House Design and Decoration:** Students designed murals for empty wall spaces in the Smith Field House on campus.
- **Great Historical Battles and War Strategy:** The group studied and then built a 3D model of the Battle of Thermopylae.
- **The History of the United States Through Music:** Students studied different genres of American music, which included a trip to the Woodstock Museum at Bethel Woods.
- **Hoop Dreams, Life Itself:** Using the documentary *America to Me* as a foundation, the group examined racial, economic, and temporary American education, and then produced, shot, and edited a 30-minute documentary with a focus on Trinity-Pawling.
- **Inquiry into South Africa:** The group prepared for a study abroad trip to South Africa by closely studying its history, art, and culture, with an emphasis on the history of Apartheid.
- **LARPing Ancient Battles:** Students researched and reenacted two ancient battles, reconstructing the equipment used.
- **Into Thin Air:** Students studied *Into Thin Air*, explored Everest through films, and planned a simulated 60-day climbing expedition after a backpacking trip.
- **Parade of Animals:** Students studied the depth and breadth of the Hudson Valley Humane Society and the impact of the pandemic on the local pet population.
- **Totem Poles:** Students learned the history and meaning behind totem poles and then constructed their own.
- **Stereotypes and Biases in TV/Media: The African American Experience:** Students analyzed character portrayals from 1970s–2015 media and presented their findings via poster boards and a 20-minute podcast.
- **Urban Renewal: NYC and Robert Moses:** Students examined the influence Robert Moses had on the New York metropolitan area from 1933–1965, and built models of the bridges in the five boroughs.
- **The World Cup and the Culture of Soccer:** Students looked at this iconic soccer tournament and examined the political issues behind the tournament. They also examined the FIFA process of selecting host nations.



# Trinity-Pawling School

## 2025-2026 School Profile (CEEB 334440)

### THE COLLEGE COUNSELING TEAM

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### THE SCHOOL

Trinity-Pawling School, founded in 1907, is an independent college preparatory school for boys in grades 7 through postgraduate. Situated on a 230-acre campus in Pawling, New York, 60 miles north of New York City, the School provides a dynamic and active learning experience and emphasizes creativity, critical thinking, and character.

### ENROLLMENT

Approximately 275: 210 Boarding; 65 Day Students

### FACULTY AND STUDENTS

- » 60 faculty members, 65%+ hold advanced degrees.
- » 5:1 Student: Faculty Ratio

### ACCREDITATIONS / MEMBERSHIPS

NY State Board of Regents • NAIS • NYSAIS • NACAC • NYSACAC • NEACAC • International Boys' Schools Coalition  
Test Site for: AP, PSAT, SAT

### FINANCIAL AID

For those families who are unable to meet the full cost of tuition, need-based financial assistance is available. Trinity-Pawling is committed to enrolling a talented and diverse group of students representing a broad range of backgrounds.

### ACADEMIC CALENDAR

The academic year is divided into trimesters: Fall, Winter, and Spring. Each class meets four times, Monday through Friday. Saturday Programming includes the Institutes for Active Learning, community events, and guest speakers. Fall, Winter, and Spring grades are available in November, March, and June, respectively.

### GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

24 Credits in English (English is mandatory each trimester)  
18 Credits (2 credits per trimester) in Mathematics, Science, and History (6 of which must be U.S. History)  
18 Credits in Modern Languages\*  
8 Credits in Visual and Performing Arts  
2 Credits in Religion and/or Philosophy  
22 Additional credits in courses from the above disciplines  
Passing grades in the Practicum for Civic Leadership<sup>^</sup>  
Passing grades in the Institutes for Active Learning<sup>†</sup>

\* Some students are excused from the Modern Languages requirement, if they are international students or in the LEAD Program.

<sup>^</sup> Postgraduates may choose to complete either a GCC or SIP to satisfy their Practicum requirement.

<sup>†</sup> Seniors partake in leadership roles whereby they plan and run the Institutes' Saturday Programming.

### COURSES OFFERED AT AP AND HONORS

Advanced Placement Classes (15): Biology, Calculus AB, Calculus BC, English Literature, English Language, Chemistry, Environmental Science, Macroeconomics, Microeconomics, Music Theory, Physics 1, Physics C: Mechanics, Statistics, Studio Art, and U.S. History

Honors Classes (19): English 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Honors; Europe in the 20th Century Honors; Algebra 1, 2 Honors; Geometry Honors; Pre-Calculus Honors; Calculus Honors; Spanish 2, 3 Honors; Spanish 4 Honors/Language and Experiential Art; Chemistry Honors; Biology Honors; Advanced Music Composition; 9th and 10th Grade History Honors

### GRADING SYSTEM AND DISTRIBUTION

- » The transcript is shown as unweighted.
- » The last ten valedictorians had a 95 GPA.
- » Trinity-Pawling does not rank students.
- » A grade of 60 is considered a Passing/College recommending grade.

## STRENGTH OF PROGRAM FOR THE CLASS OF 2026

The parameters for the “Strength of Program” are derived from the members of the Class of 2026 and their senior year Advanced Placement (AP) classes. Honors courses and sophomore and/or junior AP courses are not included.

<b>Most Demanding</b> 6% of Students ≥4 AP Classes	<b>Very Demanding</b> 15% of Students 3 AP Classes	<b>Demanding</b> 54% of Students 1 or 2 AP Classes	<b>Traditional</b> 25% of Students 0 AP Classes
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## CLASS OF 2026: CLASS DISTRIBUTION

Previous 10 Years (2016-2025) / Class of 2026 Grades

CLASS	97-100	94-96	90-93	87-89	84-86	80-83	77-79	74-76	70-73	<70
Algebra 2	9/1	7/0	16/0	5/1	17/1	4/2	1/1	1/1	3/0	0/1
Algebra Honors	1/0	1/1	3/0	0/1	4/0	2/0	1/0	2/0	0/1	0/0
Anatomy & Physiology	2/0	8/0	19/0	8/0	16/0	6/0	2/0	6/0	1/0	0/0
AP Biology	1/0	4/0	12/0	2/1	9/0	3/0	1/1	1/0	1/0	0/0
AP Calculus AB	18/1	17/1	25/1	12/1	15/1	8/0	2/0	6/0	1/0	0/1
AP Calculus BC	14/0	10/0	8/1	6/1	4/0	3/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0
AP English Language	3/0	11/2	54/2	42/0	13/0	8/0	2/0	0/0	0/0	1/0
AP Microeconomics	6/0	6/0	16/0	20/0	12/0	4/1	0/0	3/0	0/0	0/0
AP U.S. History	23/0	23/1	96/5	40/3	34/4	32/1	2/0	1/0	0/0	0/0
Biology	14/2	15/4	33/4	29/1	28/0	24/0	19/0	8/0	2/0	0/0
Biology Honors	5/0	27/3	33/5	34/0	29/0	28/0	18/0	7/0	2/0	0/0
Calculus Honors	4/2	7/1	9/0	2/0	3/0	3/0	3/0	1/0	0/0	0/0
Chemistry	0/0	3/0	12/1	4/0	11/0	14/1	5/0	7/2	8/0	4/0
English 3	7/0	27/2	80/6	67/1	67/1	75/1	39/3	17/1	9/0	11/0
English 3 Honors	3/0	6/2	17/4	1/2	4/1	2/2	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0
Ethics	1/0	0/0	3/2	1/1	2/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0
Philosophy	0/0	6/0	3/1	1/0	0/0	1/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0
Pre-Calculus	6/0	25/0	22/2	20/2	22/0	31/0	5/0	4/0	4/0	3/0
Pre-Calculus Honors	4/2	21/4	24/3	20/1	22/2	31/1	5/0	4/0	4/0	3/0
U.S. History	3/0	12/0	30/0	54/0	49/3	84/6	36/1	36/4	27/2	6/0
U.S. History Honors	0/1	2/1	2/2	1/1	0/1	1/0	0/1	0/0	0/0	0/0

## THE INSTITUTES FOR ACTIVE LEARNING

During Saturday Programming each week, instead of classes, all students participate in dynamic, hands-on learning experiences that are focused on one of the four Institutes for Active Learning: Leadership, Citizenship, Entrepreneurship, or Environmental Stewardship. The activities based on these four cornerstones propel the development of other critical skills for 21st-century learners, including communication, collaboration, creativity, character building, critical thinking, service, and self-awareness. Together, they hold the key to the future of boys’ education. Seniors take an active leadership role, working with the faculty, in planning and running the Saturday Programming.

## THE PRACTICUM FOR CIVIC LEADERSHIP

The three-part Practicum for Civic Leadership (The Practicum) fosters problem-solving skills, promotes interdisciplinary exploration, and builds authentic communication skills. It consists of three elements — Winter Project, the Global Collaborative Challenge, and Senior Independent Project — and is a graduation requirement. Students choose their Winter Project, Global Collaborative Challenge, and Senior Independent Project with a focus on one of the four Institute themes. This provides a dynamic platform for students to harness 21st-century skills and apply them to real-world situations.

### • WINTER PROJECT (Middle School, Freshmen, and Sophomores)

Students select from a broad range of project offerings which link two of the Institutes. Each project has two faculty advisors, and each student implements the skills from both Institute disciplines to create a product that reflects his learning on the chosen topic. A student who does not find a course offering he likes is encouraged to create his own project, provided he is able to articulate how two Institutes will fit into his experience.

### • GLOBAL COLLABORATIVE CHALLENGE (GCC) (Juniors and Postgraduates)

During Wintersession, the entire junior class and postgraduate students work on a series of global issues. Students are placed into randomly-selected groups of five, and each group chooses a topic from a wide range of global issues — from healthcare to mass pollution to international policy. Students collaborate to address these relevant global issues and are challenged to fine-tune their communication skills when showcasing their findings to a faculty panel in a 12-minute presentation. After the presentation, the group must defend its position in a Q&A panel format. The group is graded on its ability to address the enormity of the global issue, the depth of their research, the quality of the presentation, the collaborative dynamics of the group, and the group’s defense of its presentation. This aspect of the Practicum for Civic Leadership is designed to encourage students to become creative problem solvers and informed communicators.

### • SENIOR INDEPENDENT PROJECT (SIP) (Seniors and Postgraduates)

For the Senior Independent Project (SIP), each senior identifies a topic of personal interest to explore in depth. This personal area of interest also aligns with one of the four Institutes. Throughout the Fall Term and Wintersession, each senior works on his independent project with guidance from a faculty advisor, exploring his chosen topic in great detail and creating a finished product that reflects his learning and engagement. The SIP consists of an oral presentation to a faculty panel, as well as a final presentation to the entire School, using an alternative medium such as a chapel talk, newspaper article, or video. Part of the independent exercise is finding a creative way to share the findings with the community. New seniors and postgraduates have the option of completing either a GCC or a SIP to satisfy their graduation requirement.

**DIPLOMA WITH DISTINCTION:** All seniors may also pursue a Diploma with Distinction — a graduation honor given to students who showcase exceptional independence and determination throughout their SIP process.

## GLOBAL COLLABORATIVE CHALLENGE TOPICS 2025

- Bringing Education Outside
- Ensuring Job Security Amidst Advancing AI
- Epidemic of Gun Violence
- Global Strategies to Reduce Plastic Waste
- How to Stop Elephant Poaching
- How to Stop Rhino Poaching
- Impact of Hosting the Olympics
- Investing Strategies for Financial Autonomy
- Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum Heist
- Olympics Redesign: Multicultural Identity
- Responsibilities of Social Media Companies
- Role of Corporations in Ensuring Fair Labor
- Sustainable Urban Farming for Food Security
- The Future Role of Humans in Space
- The Importance of Semiconductors
- The Israel-Gaza War: History and Peace
- Threat of Plastic on Marine Life
- Minimum Legal Drinking Age