

Bellingham High School

2020 Cornwall Avenue, Bellingham, WA 98225

Main: 360-676-6575 Counseling: 360-676-6470, Ext. 7116

bellingham.bellinghamschools.org



PROFILE

Bellingham High School

CEEB code number

480-094

Administration

Principal Benjamin Goodwin

Asst. Principal Chris Carlson

Asst. Principal Nikki Lockhart

Activities/Athletics coordinator

Chad Larsen

Counselors

Aimee Bachmeier

Jennifer Cowan

Valaree VanderMolen

Melody Wright

Superintendent

Dr. Greg Baker

Our School

First opened in 1936, *Bellingham*

High School serves approximately

1,200 students in grades 9 to 12

and is accredited by the

Northwest Association of Schools

and Colleges.

The BHS Bayhawks live by three

Collective Commitments:

- Take care of this place,
- Treat everyone with dignity and respect, and
- Do quality work.

Our goal is to provide students with engaging experiences and a place of belonging to prepare them for a fulfilling and productive life.

Athletics/Activities

Bellingham High offers a full-range of extracurricular activities.

Athletic competition is within the Northwest 2A League.

Bellingham Public Schools

The district includes four high schools serving students in grades 9 to 12, four middle schools serving students in grades 6 to 8, and fourteen elementary schools serving students preschool to grade 5. BPS serves more than 11,000 students.

Community

Bellingham, Washington is located in the northwest corner of the state between Seattle and Vancouver, British Columbia. Bellingham rests on the ancestral and unceded territory of the Lummi Nation and the Nooksack Tribe who have lived in the Salish Sea basin, throughout the San Juan Islands and in the North Cascades watershed since time immemorial.

Higher Education

Bellingham is home to three institutions of higher education: Western Washington University, a nationally recognized, comprehensive university, as well as Whatcom Community College and Bellingham Technical College that provide traditional two-year and certificate programs and vocational training.

BHS Academic Information

The school year is 180 days in length and is divided into two semesters. The academic program is organized around an eight-period block schedule.

Students take four classes per day (80 minutes each) plus a 40-minute advisory twice per week. Each class meets every other day. Seniors with six out of eight periods are considered at full-time status.

Grading

Grades are assigned according to the grading scale below with numerical equivalents listed on the official transcript.

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- = Invalid

Grade point average is unweighted and includes all grades except the following grade ratings: P (Pass), I (Incomplete), NC (No Credit), W (Withdrew with no penalty).

Each semester-long course is granted 0.5 credit (A through D).

College-level grading

Grades for courses taken at college level (for example, Running Start) receive equivalent high school credit according to the following formula:

3 college quarter credits = .6 high school credit

4 college quarter credits = .8 high school credit

5 college quarter credits = 1.0 high school credit

Rank

Bellingham Public Schools eliminated class rank with the 2020-21 school year.

Bellingham High School (continued)

Graduation Requirements

To qualify for graduation, a student must earn 30 credits, pass 46 classes, and complete a High School and Beyond Plan. Students also choose a graduation pathway that aligns with their High School and Beyond Plan and post-high school goals. Passing state tests is one pathway to graduation.

Credits (30 total) to graduate

4.0 credits English

English 101 (1 credit)

English 201 (1 credit)

Other (2 credits)

3.0 credits Mathematics

Algebra I (1 credit)

Geometry (1 credit)

Algebra II (1 credit)

3.0 credits Science/Science Lab

3.0 credits Social Studies

Social studies elective (1 credit)

World History (1 credit)

U.S. History (1 credit)

Civics (0.5 credit)

1.5 credits Physical Education

0.5 credits Health

1.5 credits Career and Technical Education

2.0 credits Visual/Performing Arts

2.0 credits World Language

9.5 credits of electives

CTE Dual Credit

This Washington state program provides opportunities to enroll in high school courses that are articulated with community or technical college programs to earn both high school and college credit.

Advanced Placement Courses

AP Biology

AP Calculus AB

AP Chemistry

AP Envi. Sci

AP Government

AP Human Geography

AP Lang/Comp

AP Lit/Comp

AP Micro/Macroeconomics

AP Music Theory

AP Physics

AP Psychology

AP Spanish

AP U.S. History

365 students took AP tests in the spring of 2024 and their scores, on average, met college credit requirements in nearly every subject.

Running Start

This program allows juniors and seniors to enroll in college classes and earn both high school and college credit at Bellingham Technical College, Northwest Indian College, Skagit Valley College, and Whatcom Community College.

Class of 2026

334 graduating seniors

Current Graduation Rates

4-year graduation rate: 85 %

5-year graduation rate: 95 %

College Entrance Rates

Attending 2-year college: 40 %

Attending 4-year college: 40 %

Recent colleges attended

Bellingham Technical College

Boise State University

California Polytechnic State University

California State University - Sacramento

Central Washington University

Cerritos College

College of Mount Saint Vincent

Denison University

Eastern Washington University

Fordham University

George Fox University

Georgia State University

Gonzaga University

Grand Canyon University-Traditional

Lasell University

Lewis & Clark College of Arts & Sciences

Linn-Benton Community College

Minneapolis College Of Art and Design

Montana State University - Bozeman

New Mexico State University-Main

New York University

Northwest University

Northwest Indian College

Oregon State University

Pacific Lutheran University

Pacific University

Portland State University

Pratt Institute

Saint Martin's University

San Diego State University

San Jacinto College

Scripps College

Seattle University

Seattle Pacific University

Skagit Valley College

South Seattle College

Stanford University

The Evergreen State College

University Of Alabama

University Of Arizona

University Of Dallas

University of Montana

University Of Nevada-Reno

University Of Oregon

University Of Portland

University of Puget Sound

University Of San Diego

University Of Utah

University Of Washington - Seattle

Utah State University

Warner Pacific University

Washington State University

Western Washington University

Whatcom Community College

Whitman College

Whitworth University

Willamette University

Yale University