



Notre Dame Belmont  
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# Notre Dame High School, Belmont School Profile 2025-2026

## About

Notre Dame High School, Belmont (NDB) is an independent Catholic college preparatory school dedicated to the educational mission of St. Julie Billiard and the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur. Notre Dame High School was established by the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur in 1851 and moved to the historic William Ralston Estate in 1923. The school is located on 10.6 acres in Belmont, California, a professional suburban community located midway between San Francisco and San Jose. Notre Dame High School, Belmont is a WASC accredited high school.

## Mission

We are a caring and compassionate community committed to promoting justice and peace while developing responsible young women of active faith, strong intellect and Christian leadership. We develop the gifts and talents of each student and foster Gospel values in an environment of academic excellence and mutual respect.

## Community

The school draws its student body principally from San Mateo County. Families of the school often reflect middle to upper middle class economic background. Of the 385 students, 103 comprise the 2026 senior class. International students encompass 4% of the student body. The student/teaching faculty ratio is approximately 10:1. The student/teaching faculty and professional staff ratio is approximately 6:1. The average class size is 19. For the class of 2025, 96% enrolled into a 4-year college, 3% into community college, and 1% enlisted in the military.

## Race/Ethnicity\*

<b>67%</b>	White/Caucasian
<b>18.2%</b>	Asian
<b>.5%</b>	American Indian/Alaskan Native
<b>1.8%</b>	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander
<b>1.8%</b>	Black/African American
<b>10.7%</b>	Multi-Racial (two or more races)

\*Self-reported data

NOTE: 19% self-reported Hispanic (ethnicity)

## Faculty/Administration

48.44 FTE, 82% hold one or more advanced degrees

## Accreditation

Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC)

## CEEB#

050275

## Student Activities Program

NDB offers a strong interscholastic sports program including cross country, tennis, flag football, golf, volleyball, water polo, wrestling, basketball, soccer, swimming, softball and track and field. Cheerleading is part of the program, as it competes in regional and national competitions each year. Other activities include the associated student body, student council, California Scholarship Federation, National Honor Society, mock trial, robotics, math team, one school publication (The Catalyst), Tiger TV news and broadcasting and Tri-School Productions.

## Capstone Project

At NDB, juniors complete a Capstone project within the Spiritual Life (religious studies) curriculum. They are asked to choose a local or global social justice issue, research this topic in depth, and engage in an academic-focused critical analysis. Additionally, students engage in theological and values-based reflection, examining the issue through the lens of the Notre Dame Hallmarks and Catholic Social Teaching.

## Double Block AP Lab Sciences

Our STEM program is designed to prepare students for college and careers. Unlike most AP courses, which cover a single semester of college material over a year in high school, both AP Chemistry and AP Biology at NDB encompass a full year of college-level coursework, including labs. Our students engage with college-level labs and analyses, as we allocate the necessary time for them to thoroughly explore the material. By meeting daily on a block schedule, students can delve deeply into the subject matter and complete the comprehensive lab work required. Feedback from our graduates indicates that they excel in their college courses due to the depth of coverage and the extensive lab experience gained at NDB. This daily engagement not only builds confidence, but also helps students master the content and develop crucial lab skills, which contribute to them pursuing science in college and beyond.

## Students with Learning Differences are Empowered for Success

The Empowered for Success (EFS) Program is a four-year program designed to support and guide students with documented learning differences (i.e. cognitive, psychological, physical and medical conditions). Our program strives to empower students to become strong self-advocates and voice their support needs. Students in the EFS Program improve their self-determination skills by learning to make meaningful choices regarding their academic and personal goals. Our team offers regular check-ins to review student learning plans and teach students how to effectively utilize their accommodations based on their individual needs. Students are expected to meet the same academic standards as their peers, and they are often enrolled in Honors and AP classes. Our EFS scholars are gifted, highly motivated and dedicated to becoming active members of the Notre Dame community.

## Tri-School Program

Notre Dame High School, Belmont, Mercy High School, and Junipero Serra High School participate in a Tri-School program that provides co-educational experiences in the areas of academics, performing arts and student activities.

## Tri-School Productions Program

Tri-School Productions, the production company of Notre Dame Belmont, Mercy Burlingame, and Junipero Serra High Schools, is dedicated to providing varied performance and technical opportunities in the largest co-ed program our schools have to offer. Each year, nearly 200 students take part in our two annual productions, a play in the fall and a full-length Broadway musical in the spring. They can audition to perform onstage as an actor, singer and dancer, play an instrument in our orchestra pit, or work with our award winning designers on our stage crew. Staying true to the collaborative nature of theater and our mission to use the art and disciplines of theater to complement the education of the whole person our students find in the classroom, students take on the roles of stage managers and lead what becomes a fully student-run production come opening night. Graduates of our program have appeared on Broadway, have studied at prestigious theater programs at NYU's Tisch School of the Arts, UCLA's School of Theater, Film, and Television, The Manhattan School of Music, and many more. Students who participate in Tri-School Productions gain not only a tremendous foundation and training in the performing arts, but also life skills that will translate to success in any field.

# CURRICULUM

## Honors and Advanced Placement Courses

Students must meet faculty recommendation and course prerequisite grades to be eligible for taking honors and AP classes. It is recommended that students take no more than three APs in one year unless the student has shown by grades and teacher recommendation that they are capable. This is considered on a case-by-case basis. The small size of NDB, combined with its block schedule and double-block AP science classes, sometimes result in scheduling conflicts, preventing a student from enrolling in all desired AP courses for which they are qualified. Additionally, select courses may not be offered every year depending on demand.

### Advanced Placement Courses (19)

Art History (Not offered in 2025-26)  
Biology  
Calculus AB  
Calculus BC  
Chemistry  
Chinese Language and Culture (Tri-school)  
Computer Science Principles  
English Language and Composition  
English Literature and Composition  
French Language and Culture  
Human Geography  
Physics I  
Psychology  
Spanish Language and Culture  
(not offered in 2025-26)  
Spanish Literature and Culture  
Statistics  
Studio Art: 2-D, 3-D, & Drawing  
United States Government/Politics  
United States History

### Honors Courses (19)

Advanced Solutions for the Global  
Good (Tri-school)  
Algebra I  
Algebra II  
American Sign Language III (Not  
offered 22-23 yr)  
American Sign Language IV  
Anatomy & Physiology (Tri-school)  
Biology  
Chemistry  
English I  
English II  
English IV  
French III  
Geometry  
Journalism IV  
Modern World History  
Photography III  
Pre-calculus  
Sculpture III  
Spanish III

### Graduation Requirements

The minimum course load for a student is 30 credits per semester for all grade levels. Most students take 35 credits per semester. 240 credits with the following distribution are required for graduation:

**English** 40 credits  
**Mathematics** 30 credits  
**Physical Education** 10 credits  
**Spiritual Life** 35 credits  
**Science** 30 credits  
**Social Studies** 30 credits  
**Visual/Performing Arts** 10 credits  
**World Languages** 20 credits  
**Becoming Notre Dame** 5 credits  
**Electives** 30 credits  
**Plus 80 hours of community service**

## GRADING AND CLASS RANK

The calculation of a student's academic standing is based on a weighted GPA, in which Honors and AP classes are weighted 1.0. Grade reporting occurs two times per year. NDB does not report class rank.

A+ = 98-100  
A = 93-97  
A- = 90-92  
B+ = 88-89  
B = 83-87  
B- = 80-82  
C+ = 78-79  
C = 73-77  
C- = 70-72  
D+ = 68-69  
D = 63-67  
D- = 60-62  
F = 59 and below

### 2025 Grade Distribution

Representing the Class of 2026  
104 students on a 5.0 scale  
AP and Honors classes weighted +1.0

GPA	Percentile
4.67	100th %
4.28	75th %
4.02	50th %
3.59	25th %

### Advanced Placement (AP) Examinations (Class of 2025 and 2026)

In May of 2025, 212 students took 439 examinations in 21 subject areas. From this total, 71% earned a score of 3 or higher.

### National Merit Scholarships

PSAT/NMSQT exams are offered to 10th and 11th grade students at NDB every October.

**Class of 2020:** 2 Finalists, 2 Commended Students  
**Class of 2021:** 2 Commended Students  
**Class of 2022:** 4 Commended Students  
**Class of 2023:** 3 Commended Students  
**Class of 2024:** 1 Finalist, 2 Commended Students  
**Class of 2025:** 4 Commended Students  
**Class of 2026:** 1 Finalist, 1 Commended Student

## 2024 AP School Honor Roll: Platinum Designation

NDB has been named to the 2024 AP School Honor Roll with Platinum Designation, which recognizes schools whose AP programs are delivering results for students while broadening access. Schools can earn this recognition annually based on criteria that reflect a commitment to increasing college-going culture, providing opportunities for students to earn college credit and maximizing college readiness. The AP School Honor Roll offers four levels of distinction: Platinum, Gold, Silver and Bronze. For 2024, NDB has been designated as Platinum. Awards for 2025 have not been announced at the time of this School Profile update.

## Recent University Acceptances

American University  
Auburn University  
Bates College  
Baylor University  
Boston College  
Boston University  
Bucknell University  
Cal Poly SLO  
Chapman University  
Clemson University  
Colgate University  
College of the Holy Cross  
Cornell University  
Dartmouth College  
Denison University  
Emerson College  
Fairfield University  
Fordham University  
Georgetown University  
George Washington University  
Gonzaga University  
Indiana University Bloomington  
Kenyan College  
Loyola Marymount University  
Loyola University - Chicago

Macalaster College  
Michigan State University  
Middlebury College  
New York University  
Northeastern University  
Occidental College  
Parsons School of Design  
Pennsylvania State University  
Pepperdine University  
Pitzer College  
Pomona College  
Purdue University  
San Diego State University  
Santa Clara University  
Skidmore College  
Smith College  
Southern Methodist University  
Stanford University  
Syracuse University  
Texas A&M University  
Texas Christian University  
The New School  
Tulane University  
University of California, Berkeley  
University of California, Davis

University of California, Irvine  
University of California, Los Angeles  
University of California, Riverside  
University of California, San Diego  
University of California, Santa Barbara  
University of California, Santa Cruz  
University of Colorado Boulder  
University of Georgia  
University of Miami  
University of Michigan  
University of Oregon  
University of Pennsylvania  
University of San Diego  
University of San Francisco  
University of Southern California  
University of Tennessee  
University of Texas, Austin  
University of Utah  
University of Washington  
University of Wisconsin  
Vanderbilt University  
Villanova University  
Wake Forest University  
Washington University St. Louis  
Worcester Poly Tech

