

# Newton North High School

## 2025-2026 School Profile



*“Learning sustains the human spirit.”*

457 Walnut Street  
Newtonville, Massachusetts 02460

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

Counseling Office Phone: 617-559-6230  
Counseling Office Fax: 617-559-6249

Anna P. Nolin, Ed.D.  
*Superintendent of Schools*

Henry Turner, Ed.D.  
*Principal*

Beth Swederskas 6230  
*Counseling Department Chair*

Lila Reid 6230  
*Counseling Administrative Asst.*

<b>College Counselors</b>	<b>Extension</b>
Jillian Hall	6349
Jennifer Moeller	6348
Valerie Young	6347

<b>School Counselors</b>	
Brendan Amedio	6242
Nancy Decoteau	6275
Matthew Ford	6234
Jane Gladstone	6236
Belma Johnson	6232
Sarah Juarez	6235
Patrick Manning	6231
Sara Polstein	6248
Christine Potter	6241
Michael Lancaster	6245
Kyra Slawski	6233
Beth Swederskas	6230
Jessica Volmer	6251

Matthew Kelly 6237  
*Prevention/Intervention Counselor*

Blayne Lopes 6262  
*METCO Engagement Specialist*

Andrea Koenig 978-632-2208  
*Program for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing* ex 252

Tricia Stamper 6247  
*Registrar*

Records Office 6257  
Main Office Fax 6204

**Phone:** 617-559 - (four digits listed above)  
**Email:** lastnamefirstinitial@newton.k12.ma.us  
**For example:** swederskasb@newton.k12.ma.us

### Grading Policies and GPA:

#### 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 2026 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.

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

#### 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.

#### Credit System:

Most courses meet three blocks per week. Full year courses receive twelve credits, semester courses receive six credits, and both PEHW and non-PEHW quarter courses receive three credits.

Courses that meet fewer than three blocks per week will be awarded credit according to seat time based on the fact that one block per week for one quarter earns one credit.

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.

#### 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: 2,051  
Class of 2026 enrollment: 532  
Total faculty: 201  
Student : Faculty ratio: 10.8 : 1  
Average class size: 22.0

## Student Demographic Profile

African American or Black: 5.0%  
Asian: 17.5%  
Hispanic or Latino: 11.9%  
Multi-race, Non-Hispanic: 7.6%  
White: 57.8%  
Economically Disadvantaged: 15.8%

## Graduating Class of 2025

Enrollment: 503 students  
Total to post-secondary education: 93%  
Attending four-year colleges: 87.9%  
Attending two-year colleges: 3.4%  
Gap year before entering college: 4.4%  
Other, including employment and military: 2.6%

## 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

## 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. Math I Honors is the only honors level course offered to ninth grade students. Most AP courses are only open to twelfth grade students.

- Advanced Placement (AP)
- 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 student requests and address equity concerns. Students should sign up for courses and levels that meet their need for support and challenge.

## 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.

**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.

**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.

## Class of 2025 College Admission Test Scores

### **SAT Scores**

**Mean:** Evidence Based Reading and Writing: 647 Math: 659  
Number of seniors taking SAT reasoning test: 382

### **ACT Scores**

Number of students taking ACT: 167

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Mean</b>
English	28.4
Mathematics	26.8
Reading	29.7
Science	27.5
Composite	28.2
STEM	27.4

## Spring 2025 Advanced Placement Tests

699 students sat for 1,671 exams in 31 subjects.  
93.9% of exam scores were 3 or better.

<b>AP Test</b>	<b># Taking Test</b>	<b>% with 3+</b>
African American Studies	13	100
Art History	44	82
Biology	102	97
Calculus AB	95	67
Calculus BC	151	80
Chemistry	84	93
Chinese Lang & Culture	21	100
Comparative Gov't & Politics	20	90
Computer Science A	5	100
Computer Science Principles	57	96
Drawing	1	100
Environmental Science	1	100
English Lang & Comp	166	96
English Lit & Comp	79	97
European History	19	100
French Lang & Culture	33	94
German Lang & Culture	3	100
Human Geography	73	88
Italian Lang & Culture	8	100
Latin	1	100
Macroeconomics	5	60
Microeconomics	9	89
Music Theory	15	87
Physics	92	82
Psychology	139	96
Spanish Language & Culture	49	98
Statistics	222	83
US Gov't & Politics	1	100
US History	161	97
World History	1	100

## City of Newton

Newton, a suburb of Boston, is a small city with a population of approximately 90,000. 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 100 foreign countries and speak more than 40 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 2025 National Merit Scholarships

**Scholarships: 3**  
**Semi-Finalists: 8**  
**Letters of Commendation: 26**

## What Makes Newton North Unique

- Truly comprehensive high school
- Rigorous honors and advanced placement courses
- Newton offers seven state-approved career and technical (CTE) programs Automotive Technology, Carpentry, Culinary Arts, Drafting, Early Education and Care, Graphic Communications, and TV Media Arts, each aligned with industry standards and post-secondary expectations.
- Students apply for acceptance into a CTE Major after completing an Exploratory program. Admitted students commit to a rigorous, state-regulated 900-hour program in addition to fulfilling Newton's academic graduation requirements.
- Students balance their CTE coursework with a full academic schedule, demonstrating strong time management, responsibility, and commitment to both college preparation and career readiness.
- CTE programs incorporate cooperative education placements, workplace learning, and school-based enterprises where students may earn both compensation and/or credit for their time and professional contributions.
- Each CTE program provides unique services to the school and community, such as operating a student-run Bistro, producing professional-quality communications, and broadcasting a community news program.
- A specialized counselor supports CTE students from exploration through graduation, guiding career research and finishing with post-secondary planning.
- College and Career Center staffed by specialized college counselors
- Nationally-ranked science, math, robotics, and mock trial teams
- Over 100 clubs and organizations including model UN, improv and sketch comedy groups, and one of the first Gay/Straight Alliance groups in the country.
- Impressive Theater Department provides study opportunities in acting, directing, costuming, Hair and Makeup, props, student producing, stage crew and technical theatre design in lighting, sound, and sets. The department produces 12-14 shows annually (many led by student directors), including plays, musicals, multiple comedy shows, a dance production, and a Playwright's Festival featuring original student works.
- The Music Department offers courses in music theory, film scoring, music history and improvisation. The ten performing ensembles participate in 20+ concerts annually - some being recognized with both statewide and national awards.
- The Visual Arts Department offers a wide range of course offerings and skill levels in 2D studio art, ceramics, photography, sculpture, animation, and AP art history.
- 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. Newton North has been 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, Boys Soccer and Finals appearances in Boys Basketball. Newton North is also New England Champions in Gymnastics.
- 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 2020-2024**

<b>Program</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>
Automotive	100%	100%	100%	100%	80%
Carpentry	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Culinary Arts	100%	100%	80%	90.91%	100%
Drafting	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Early Education & Care	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Graphic Communications	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Radio & Television Broadcasting	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 (2023, 2024, 2025)

American University	James Madison University	The University of Tampa
Amherst College	Johns Hopkins University	The University of Texas at Austin
Arizona State University (Tempe)	Johnson & Wales University (Providence)	Trinity College Dublin
Assumption University	Kenyon College	Tufts University
Babson College	Lasell University	Tulane University of Louisiana
Bard College	Lesley University	Union College
Barnard College	Loyola Marymount University	University College Dublin
Bates College	Loyola University New Orleans	University of Arizona
Bentley University	Macalester College	University of British Columbia
Berklee College of Music	Massachusetts College of Art and Design	University of California (Los Angeles)
Boston College	Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences	University of California (San Diego)
Boston University	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	University of California (Santa Barbara)
Bowdoin College	MassBay Community College	University of Chicago
Brandeis University	McGill University	University of Cincinnati (Main Campus)
Bridgewater State University	Merrimack College	University of Colorado Boulder
Brown University	Michigan State University	University of Connecticut
Bryant University	Middlebury College	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Bunker Hill Community College	New England College	University of Maine
Carleton College	New York University	University of Maryland (College Park)
Carnegie Mellon University	Nichols College	University of Massachusetts (Amherst)
Case Western Reserve University	Northeastern University	University of Massachusetts (Boston)
Chapman University	Northwestern University	University of Massachusetts (Dartmouth)
Clark University	Oberlin College	University of Massachusetts (Lowell)
Clemson University	Occidental College	University of Miami
Colby College	Parsons School of Design at The New School	University of Michigan
Colgate University	Penn State University (University Park)	University of Mississippi
College of Charleston	Plymouth State University	University of New Hampshire (Main Campus)
College of the Holy Cross	Pomona College	University of Oregon
Colorado College	Pratt Institute	University of Pennsylvania
Colorado State University (Fort Collins)	Princeton University	University of Pittsburgh (Pittsburgh)
Connecticut College	Providence College	University of Rhode Island
Cornell University	Purdue University (Main Campus)	University of Richmond
Curry College	Quinnipiac University	University of Rochester
Dartmouth College	Reed College	University of South Carolina
Davidson College	Regis College	University of Southern California
Deree College, The American College of Greece	Reichman University (IDC Herzliya)	University of Toronto
Drexel University	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	University of Vermont
Duke University	Rhode Island College	University of Virginia (Main Campus)
Durham University	Rhode Island School of Design	University of Wisconsin (Madison)
Elon University	Rochester Institute of Technology	Vanderbilt University
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (Daytona Beach)	Roger Williams University	Vassar College
Emerson College	Rollins College	Villanova University
Emmanuel College	Rutgers University (New Brunswick)	Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
Emory University	Sacred Heart University	Wake Forest University
Fairfield University	Salem State University	Washington University in St. Louis
Fashion Institute of Technology	Salve Regina University	Wellesley College
Fitchburg State University	San Diego State University	Wentworth Institute of Technology
Fordham University	Santa Clara University	Wesleyan University
Framingham State University	Savannah College of Art and Design	Wheaton College - MA
George Washington University	School of the Art Institute of Chicago	William & Mary
Georgia Institute of Technology	Simmons University	Williams College
Hampshire College	Skidmore College	Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Harvard University	St. Lawrence University	Yale University
Haverford College	Stonehill College	
Hofstra University	Suffolk University	
Indiana University (Bloomington)	Syracuse University	
Ithaca College	The Ohio State University	