JEFFERSON

High School

Middle College for Advanced Studies
5210 N. Kerby St. | Portland, OR 97217
(503) 916-5180 | www.pps.net/schools/jefferson



Jefferson High School is a city-wide Middle College focus-option high school. Jefferson offers traditional academic and elective courses as well as dual-credit courses. Students can earn college credit from Portland Community College, Portland State University, and Oregon Institute of Technology in Art, English, Math, Science, and Social Studies.

Jefferson students enhance their high school schedule with Portland Community College, Cascade Campus courses. Jefferson students can earn a year or more of transferable college credit all while earning their high school diploma. Students can enroll in PCC classes beginning the summer after their sophomore year and take up to five credit hours per term. During the 2024-25 school year, Jefferson students earned over 1200 credits from PCC , saving over $165,000 in tuition costs.

Jefferson students consistently graduate at higher rates than across the state and the district. 87% of the Jefferson Class of 2024 graduated in four years. They also demonstrated higher rates of college readiness than the district overall, with 78% completing three or more advanced courses during their high school careers. These efforts put students on the path of post secondary success with 60% of Jefferson graduates continuing on to college, a rate that is higher than the state (taken from the state report card). We are proudly growing academic champions every day.

Mission Statement

The mission of Jefferson High School is to create an inclusive and collaborative student-centered academic environment that promotes racial equity and social justice. Jefferson students will graduate as critical problem-solvers, resilient, lifelong learners, and informed global stewards.

School Facts

Nickname:
Demos

Known as:
“School of Champions”

Motto:
Become legendary

School Colors:
Blue and Gold



Jefferson Highlights





Health Science/Biotechnology

The Health Sciences/Biotechnology Program (Biotech) features acomprehensive academic offering in the core subjects of science and mathrounded out by career and mentoring experiences provided by the On TrackOHSU! Program. The primary goal of Biotech is to prepare students forsuccessful transition into post-secondary education, training, and futurecareers in sciences, health care, and biotechnology. Students completingBiotech's rigorous program of study finish high school with four credits inmath through Precalculus or Calculus and five credits in science including Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Anatomy & Physiology, and a capstone class insenior year which will include taking courses at PCC. The Biotech Programcourse completion not only meets but exceeds the state's graduationrequirements in math and science as well as the requirements to beconsidered a CTE pathway completer. For athletes, the Biotech curriculummeets the NCAA eligibility requirements.

Career Technical Education:

- Carpentry/Construction: Jefferson students build a Tiny House
- Art
- Design
- Digital Media

World Languages:

- Japanese
- Mandarin/Chinese Immersion
- Spanish

Athletics, Activities, and Clubs

Athletics, Jefferson's rich athletic history led to it being referred to as the School of Champions. Most recently teams have placed in state competitions in Cross Country, Boys and Girls Basketball, Wrestling, and Track. Jefferson athletes compete at the 6A level in baseball, basketball, cross-country, football, soccer, softball, swimming, track and field, volleyball and wrestling.

Activities and Clubs: Jefferson officers a variety of extracurricular activities including Mock Trial, National Honors Society, and Robotics as well as affinity groups such as Black Student Union, MECha, Indigenous People, and Queer/Straight Alliance.

Performing and Visual Arts

Dance: Jefferson has a world renowned dance program which includes two performance companies, the Jefferson Dancers and the JD II. Professionals with national and international experience teach dance classes at Jefferson. The dance program offers master classes taught by guest dancers and choreographers that expose students to the rigors and excitement of the professional dance world. Dance classes include African, ballet, hip-hop, jazz, modern, and tap. Additionally, all students have an opportunity to audition for the Jefferson Dancers, a pre-professional dance company that performs locally, nationally, and internationally.

Art: Ceramics, design foundations, graphic design, darkroom and digital photography, and printmaking.

Theater: Jefferson has a burgeoning theater program showcasing multiple productions a year.

Music: Concert Band, Choir, Beginning Guitar, Beginning Piano, Percussion Ensemble and Drum Line.

Student Support

Support for high school and college success begins in ninth grade with Freshman Academy. Students take four of their eight courses with a class-sized cohort of peers sharing experiences in 9th-grade Success, English, Modern World History, and Physics.

Jefferson utilizes Student Success Teams to increase on-track student graduation rates by analyzing and discussing data and sharing effective strategies to best support learners.

Jefferson has a dedicated team that includes guidance counselors, a social worker, a college coordinator, and a career coordinator to support students' academic and social-emotional needs.

Jefferson offers the college-preparatory program, AVID which prepares students for high school and college success. Additionally, Jefferson has culturally specific support from partner agencies such as SEI (Self-Enhancement, Inc.) and Latino Network.