

NEW VISTA

HIGH SCHOOL

New Vista High School was created in 1992 and approved by the Boulder Valley Board of Education to "break the mold" of conventional secondary school practice and to offer students another option for the high school experience.

 **Boulder Valley School District**
Excellence and Equity



Learn *with Purpose*

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Why New Vista?

New Vista High School was created in 1992 and approved by the Boulder Valley Board of Education to “break the mold” of conventional secondary school practice and to offer students another option for the high school experience. New Vista serves a broad spectrum of students with the intent of helping them develop their unique talents and interests and prepare them to become fully engaged citizens within our complex and demanding society. We are structured to work with students who are ready

to take more responsibility for their own learning. Students at New Vista choose their classes and the order in which they will meet Common Learning and Individual Path requirements. They choose projects within each class that match their interests to the subject matter at hand. They also choose learning experiences in the community which allow them to explore current interests and future options. As juniors at New Vista, students formally select a post-graduation path for which they prepare themselves during the last part of their

high school career. In the case of college-bound students, Individual Path is usually connected to meeting college entrance requirements. Finally, each student designs and produces a rigorous Culminating Project which builds a bridge between high school studies and the student’s chosen future. Students work with an advisor throughout this process to develop an understanding of how their choices shape their learning experiences and their future opportunities.

Where our students are going--

College & University Acceptances

Adams State, Adelphi, American Academy of Dramatic Arts, American University, Antioch, Arizona State, Art Institute of Boston at Lesley, Art Institute of Chicago, Bard, Barnard, Bates, Bay State, Beloit, Bennington, Berklee College of Music, Boston University, Bowdoin, Brandeis, Brown, Bryn Mawr, Bucknell, California Institute of the Arts, Cal Poly at Pomona, California State-Chico, Humboldt, Carleton, Carnegie-Mellon, Casper College, Clark University, Coe College, Colby, College of the Atlantic, College of St. Catherine, College of Santa Fe, Colorado College, Colorado Mountain College, Colorado School of Mines, Colorado State University, Columbia College Chicago, Columbia University, Connecticut College, Cornell College, Cornell University, Cornish, Dartmouth, De Pauw, Drake, Drexel, Earlham, Eckerd College, Emerson College, Eugene Lang, Evergreen State, Fort Lewis, Franklin, Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering, Front Range Community College, George Washington, Gonzaga, Goucher, Grand Canyon University, Grinnell, Guilford, Hamilton, Hampshire, Hastings, Haverford, Hofstra University, Indiana University of PA, Ithaca, Juniata, Kalamazoo, Kansas City Art Institute, Kenyon, Knox, Laguna College of Art and Design, Lewis and Clark, Loyola University New Orleans, MIT, Marbella Design Academy Spain, Macalaster, Marlboro, Maryland Institute College of Art, Mesa State, Metropolitan State University of Denver, McGill, Miami of Ohio, Middlebury, Mills, Minneapolis College of Art and Design, Montana State, Moore College of Art and Design, Mount Holyoke, Muhlenberg College, Naropa University, New Mexico Highlands University, New Mexico State, New York University, NYU-Gallatin and Tisch, NorthEastern Junior College, Northeastern University, Northern Arizona University, Ouachita Baptist, Oberlin, Occidental, Ohio State University, Oregon State, Oregon College of Arts and Crafts, Otis College of Art & Design, Pacific Lutheran, Pacific Northwest College of Art, Pacific University, Parsons School of Design, Pikes Peak CC, Pitzer, Pomona, Portland State University, Pratt Institute, Prescott, Purdue University, Redlands, Reed College, Regis University, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Queens College, Quest University Canada, Rhode Island School of Design, Rocky Mountain College of Art & Design, Roger Williams University, Rutgers, St. Olaf, San Francisco Art Institute, Santa Barbara City College, Sarah Lawrence, Savannah College of Art & Design, Scripps, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Seattle University, Simon Fraser, Skidmore, Smith, Soka University of America, Southern Oregon University, Spelman, Stanford, State University of New York at Purchase, Sterling, Stevens, Stevens Institute of Technology, Syracuse, The New School, Temple University Japan, Tiffin, Trinity Western, Tufts, U.C. Berkeley, U.C. Davis, U.C. Santa Cruz, University of Arizona, University of Brighton England, University of Colorado at Boulder, Denver, and Colorado Springs, University of Denver, University of Hawaii Manoa, University of Illinois (Champaign-Urbana and Chicago), University of Iowa, University of Nebraska at Lincoln, University of Mass. (Amherst), University of North Carolina-Asheville and Greensboro, University of North Carolina School of the Arts, University of Northern Arizona, University of Northern Colorado, University of Oregon, University of Puget Sound, University of San Francisco, University of Southern Maine, University of Southern Oregon, University of Texas at Austin, University of Utah, University of Vermont, University of Victoria, University of Washington, University of Wisconsin, University of Wyoming, Vassar, Wagner College, Warren Wilson, Wellesley, Wesleyan, Western Washington University, Wheaton, Whitman, Whittier, Whitworth University, William and Mary, Williams, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, York University

How It Works

Calendar/Schedule: New Vista operates on a quarter system and uses block classes. The year-long schedule includes a week of community service activities each year.

Advisory: Every student at New Vista is in a multi-age advisory led by a staff member. Advisory serves as the primary source of guidance and support for each student from the time he/she enters the school until graduation, as well as where we explicitly teach cultural competency skills.

Grading and Class Rank at New Vista: Course work only counts toward the school’s Common Learning requirements when students earn a grade of A or B. A limited number of C grades can be applied to the student’s Individual Path. Work of lower quality is not given any credit. Student’s Grade Point Average calculated on both an unweighted (4.0) and a weighted scale (5.0)

Community Experience: Community Experience is a four-hour block of time built into the weekly schedule. Students are expected to find a placement in the community that allows them to explore out-of-school learning experiences which are of interest to them. Community Experience can take on many forms: service, shadowing, internship, class work in another institution, independent study, and apprenticeship.

Independent Study Contracts: New Vista students can earn credit for off-campus learning experiences outside the school day and year that are supervised and evaluated by qualified community experts. Examples include team sports, fitness programs, language study, music or other private lessons, etc. A staff person works with each student to identify learning goals, devise assessments, and insure follow-through on commitments.

Course Choice and Relevancy: New Vista students have a voice in class choice and are able to select new and fresh courses every year. Our teachers create high interest courses that are relevant to our current world. Examples include: Social Justice in Lit., World History: Modern Global Issues and more.



Enrollment and Demographics

Student body..... 330
Students of color..... 23%

Average class size: 25

Teachers
Licensed Faculty.....22
Adjunct Faculty..... 5

Accreditation: State of Colorado

SAT Mean Scale Score: 2025: 1047

New Vista Meets all State Expectations for Academic Achievement and Meets State Standards for Post Secondary and Workforce Readiness

Credits Required for Graduation:

Common Learnings.....28
Individual Path.....20

Applied Technology.....2
Arts.....2
World Language.....2
Interpersonal Skills.....3
Intrapersonal Skills.....3
Language Arts.....4
Mathematics.....4
Science.....4
Social Studies.....4
Culminating Project.....2
TOTAL.....50

1 credit= .5 Carnegie Units