



The Frederick Gunn School

SCHOOL PROFILE 2025-2026

THE SCHOOL

The Frederick Gunn School, founded in 1850, is a co-ed boarding and day school for 330 students in grades 9-12 as well as a post-graduate year located in Washington, Connecticut. Frederick Gunn was a pioneering educator, courageous abolitionist, and rugged outdoorsman. Inspired by the educational principles of our founder, Gunn students are curious and thoughtful, are encouraged to be active members of their communities, and to stand up for what they believe. Gunn students are principled, lifelong learners and active listeners that are prepared to be entrepreneurial forces for good in the world.

STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

330
STUDENTS

48%
GIRLS

79%
BOARDING

24
STATES

88
IN THE CLASS
OF 2026

51%
BOYS

21%
DAY

19
COUNTRIES

42%
OF STUDENTS
RECEIVE AID

1%
NON-BINARY

19%
DOMESTIC
STUDENTS OF
COLOR

20%
INTERNATIONAL
STUDENTS

ACADEMIC OVERVIEW

5:1
STUDENT
FACULTY
RATIO

The 2025-26 academic year consists of three terms (fall, winter, and spring).

12
AVERAGE
CLASS SIZE

Our seven-block schedule includes half-day classes on Wednesdays, allowing for athletic and co-curricular programs every afternoon, optional arts blocks, and mandatory study hall each evening.

Classes meet three times per week/five days per week, for 65 minutes. There is a minimum of 180 class days.

CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS

18 CREDITS ARE REQUIRED FOR A DIPLOMA.

4 ENGLISH
Required every year

3 MATHEMATICS
Through Algebra II

1 VISUAL AND/OR PERFORMING ART
Three single-term courses or one full-year course

3 HISTORY
Including U.S. History

3 LAB SCIENCE

3 WORLD LANGUAGES
Through Level III

CONTACT INFORMATION

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HEAD OF SCHOOL

Emily Raudenbush Gum

COLLEGE COUNSELING OFFICE

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SCHOOL CODE

070825

ACCREDITATION

The Frederick Gunn School is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC).

DISCIPLINE REPORTING POLICY

Gunn does not report disciplinary infractions. We expect our students to respond honestly to all discipline-related application questions.

COLLEGE MATRICULATION

[List for the classes of 2023-2025](#)



ADVANCED PLACEMENT

The Frederick Gunn School offers 18 AP classes. Our AP courses are college level and typically require successful completion of pre-requisite classes. Students must receive departmental approval to enroll in AP courses. Some students taking Advanced or Honors courses may also sit for corresponding AP exams. In May of 2025, 147 students sat for 348 AP exams in 20 subjects.

* Students must secure permission to take more than three AP courses within one academic year.

- AP 2-D Art and Design
- AP 3-D Art and Design
- AP Biology
- AP Calculus AB
- AP Calculus BC
- AP Chemistry
- AP English Literature and Composition
- AP Environmental Science
- AP European History
- AP French Language and Culture
- AP Macroeconomics
- AP Microeconomics
- AP Music Theory
- AP Physics 1
- AP Physics 2
- AP Spanish Language and Culture
- AP Statistics
- AP United States History

ADVANCED AND HONORS COURSES

In addition to AP courses, Gunn offers rigorous honors-level courses that do not follow an AP curriculum. These courses include:

- English II Honors
- Honors English: Sociocritical Essay
- Honors Literary Criticism and Craft
- Honors English: Reading and Rhetoric
- French II Honors
- French III Honors
- Spanish II Honors
- Spanish III Honors
- Algebra II Honors and Trigonometry
- Advanced Computer Science
- Advanced Mathematics
- Advanced Engineering
- Biology Honors
- Chemistry Honors
- Modern World History Honors
- Honors Philosophy Seminar
- Honors Race in America: A Historical Timeline
- Honors Race in America: White Boundaries and Social Policy
- Honors Race in America: Identity Formation

CENTER FOR CITIZENSHIP AND JUST DEMOCRACY (CJD)

The Center for Citizenship and Just Democracy (CJD) curriculum is a mandatory, four-year graduation requirement. It encourages students to develop self-awareness and a commitment to active citizenship from the moment they arrive.

Pathways - 1 term - 9th grade class

Develop self-awareness, learn executive functioning skills, and commit to always learning.

Citizen Gunn - 1 term - 10th grade class

Establish the skills to become an active citizen with exceptional interpersonal skills.

The Declaration 1 term - 11th grade class

Study the art of rhetoric, persuasion and listening - culminating in a speech to the entire community.

Civic Changemakers Project - 30 hour service commitment in 12th grade

Act on personal convictions by designing civic initiatives that create meaningful community change.

GRADING SYSTEM

Gunn does not rank nor provide GPA

CUM LAUDE SOCIETY

10% of the class is awarded this honor; 2-3% are inducted at the end of junior year, the remaining students just before graduation

HONOR ROLL

There are three levels of Honor Roll students may achieve:

DEAN'S LIST:

All grades at or above 90

HIGH HONOR ROLL:

All grades at or above 85

HONOR ROLL: All grades at or above 80

CURRICULAR HIGHLIGHTS

THE CENTER FOR CITIZENSHIP AND JUST DEMOCRACY (CJD):

This four-year curriculum is based on the mission of the School. Through this program all students develop the learning and leadership skills needed to be active and responsible citizens, both locally and globally. We encourage students at every level to engage in topics and projects of interest that foster self-awareness and responsibility. The curriculum progresses each year, but has been developed to facilitate integration for students new to the School, and aims to teach character, stewardship, and civic engagement.

HIGHLANDER TERM:

Highlander Term provides students with the opportunity to step away from traditional classwork for approximately ten days and embrace a curriculum committed to intensive student learning. Each course is intentionally focused on one big question or idea.

GUNN SCHOLAR

Gunn Scholar is an endowed program that offers selected students opportunities to pursue a topic of their choosing in the Paula and George Krimsky Archives and Special Collections as part of a yearlong research project in their senior year. Scholars finalize the scope of their thesis, develop a written proposal, and work diligently within the school's archives, exploring the mission and vision of Frederick W. Gunn through primary-source research and place-based learning. Less than 7% of the senior class are selected as Gunn Scholars each year.

CLASS OF 2026 JUNIOR YEAR GRADE DISTRIBUTION

GRADE	100-95	94-90	89-85	84-80	79-75
% of students	13%	48%	29%	9%	1%