

2026-2027 Upper School Profile

CEEB Code: 181-443

SAYRE
SCHOOL
MAKE·YOUR·MARK

OUR MISSION

Sayre School provides an innovative and inclusive learning environment that empowers students to achieve academic excellence, embrace challenge, and cultivate integrity in order to lead purposeful lives in an ever-changing world.

SAYRE SCHOOL CONTACTS

Laura Bonzo Sims

Director of College Counseling
lbonzo@sayreschool.org
(859) 244-2673

Cathy Bilberry

Assistant College Counselor
cbilberry@sayreschool.org
(859) 244-2674

Stephen Manella

Head of School

Don Paige

Associate Head of School for
Academic and Student Affairs

Clint Calzini

Head of Upper School

Marti Quintero

Dean of Students

CORE VALUES

Sayre School values students as individuals and works to foster their understanding of themselves and their roles in the larger community. Our core values of wisdom, integrity, respect, and compassion are woven throughout the school.

THE SCHOOL

Sayre School, founded in 1854, is downtown Lexington's only independent coeducational college preparatory school, serving students age two through grade twelve. The school has a 50-acre athletic complex that includes an indoor training facility, four fields for football, soccer and lacrosse, baseball field, ten tennis courts, and a cross country course. The school is governed by a twenty-one-member Board of Trustees.

ACCREDITATION

- Independent Schools Association of the Central States (ISACS)
- Kentucky Non-Public School Commission (KyNPSC)
- National Council for Private School Accreditation (NCPSA)

STUDENTS AND FACULTY

254 | students in grades 9-12

64 | students in the
Class of 2027

84 | percent of Upper School faculty
holding advanced degrees

14 | average class size
(8:1 student-to-teacher ratio)

COLLEGE COUNSELING PHILOSOPHY

Sayre School's college counseling process understands that colleges and universities have individual personalities, just as each of our students has a unique and distinctive character. We aim to identify for each student the right "type" of school using factors such as size, cost, distance from home, region of the country, quality of specific academic programs, social climate, and community settings, and to help students gain admittance to colleges where they will grow and thrive.

ACADEMIC PROGRAM SPECIFICS

- Sayre School does not provide class rank due to small class sizes
- GPA is weighted +.05 for Honors and +1.0 AP courses (all other courses are considered college preparatory)
- AP classes have selective enrollment based on criteria determined by each department
- Logistical constraints of the schedule may limit opportunities for some AP and Honors classes in the junior and senior years
- Students are expected to carry 6 classes per year; Seniors enrolled in 3 or more APs take 5 classes
- Most APs are not open to students until their junior and senior years
- Students enrolled in an AP course must sit for the exam
- 6 Honors, 21 APs, 1 Post AP offered
- 24 Carnegie credits required to graduate

EACH DIPLOMA OPTION BEGINS WITH THE FOLLOWING 24 CREDITS

English: four years; **History:** four years; **Mathematics:** three years; **Science:** three years; **World Languages:** three years of same language in grades 9-12; **Public Speaking:** one semester; **Writing:** one semester; **Visual and Performing Arts:** two years; **Health:** one semester; **Physical Education:** one semester; **Electives:** three self-selected semester-long courses.

GRADING SCALE
A = 90-100
B = 80-89
C = 70-79
D = 60-69
F = >60

CLASSES OF 2024-2026 QUINTILE GPA AVG	
1st	4.25
2nd	4.08
3rd	3.88
4th	3.61
5th	3.09

GPA represents grades earned only at Sayre School through junior year.

CLASS RANKING

Sayre School does not provide student rankings due to small class sizes.

DISTINCTION REQUIREMENTS: To earn a distinction, a student must complete a discipline-specific series of classes, activities, and immersion experiences. In addition, the student must have a culminating project or experience during their senior year that they design, implement, and present to faculty, constituents, and peers.

CLASSES OF 2024-2026 DISTINCTIONS EARNED AVERAGE	
Distinction in Creative Arts: 4	Distinction in Sustainability: 1
Distinction in Global Studies: 4	Distinction in Engineering: 6
Distinction in Service Learning : 4	*Distinction in Entrepreneurship added 2026-2027

CLASSES OF 2023-2025 GRADUATION DIPLOMAS AVERAGE

DIPLOMAS	ACADEMIC REQS	SERVICE REQS	AVERAGE
SAYRE	24 credits	54 hours minimum	31%
HONORS	24 credits, must include minimum 3 APs, 4 maths	69 hours minimum	46%
HIGH HONORS	24 credits, must include minimum 5 APs, 4 years same World Language, 4 sciences, 4 maths	84 hours minimum	23%

UPPER SCHOOL CURRICULUM 2026-2027

ENGLISH

- English 9, Finding Your Voice
- English 10
- English 11
- English 12
- **AP English Language & Composition**
- **AP English Literature & Composition**
- Women's Literature*
- Literature and the Environment: Nature Studies*+

MATHEMATICS

- Algebra I
- Geometry
- Algebra II
- Honors Algebra II
- Financial Algebra
- Precalculus
- Honors Precalculus
- Calculus
- **AP Statistics**
- **AP Calculus AB**
- **AP Calculus BC**
- **AP Computer Science Principles**
- **AP Computer Science A**

WORLD LANGUAGES

- French I+, II, III, IV, V
- Honors French IV, V
- **AP French Language & Culture**
- Pre-Spanish I
- Spanish I, II, III, IV
- Honors Spanish IV
- Spanish V: Politics & Society in Hispanic Film
- **AP Spanish Language & Culture**

SCIENCE

- (All sciences are lab-based)
- Environmental Science
 - **AP Environmental Science**
 - Biology I, II
 - **AP Biology**
 - Principles of Chemistry
 - Chemistry
 - **AP Chemistry**
 - Physics
 - **AP Physics 1 & 2**
 - **AP Physics C**
 - Physics C: Mechanics
 - Advanced Research Design*
 - Nutritional Chemistry*
 - Health Education*
 - Lab Technician*

HISTORY

- History 9: Early World History To 1450 CE
- History 10: Modern World History from 1450 CE
- History 11: United States History
- History 12: United States Civics
- **AP Microeconomics***
- **AP Macroeconomics***
- **AP Psychology**
- **AP United States Government & Politics**
- **AP United States History**
- World-Wide-Women*
- Global Studies and International Relations*+
- Advanced Entrepreneurial Studies*+
- Post-AP Entrepreneurial Studies*+
- Global Studies: Focus on Africa*+
- Film Studies: American Films*+

VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS

- Studio Art I & II
- Honors 2D Art
- **AP Drawing**
- 2D Drawing*
- 2D Painting*
- Publications
- Theatre I & II*
- Playwriting*
- Improvisation*
- Acting Studio I & II*
- Directing I*
- Production Design*
- Piano Class
- Sayre Singers: treble voice chorus
- Spartones: tenor/bass voice chorus
- Honors Music Theory
- **AP Music Theory**
- Independent Study in Music
- Intro to Media: the Art of the Short Documentary*+

WELLNESS

- Physical Education*

ADDITIONAL COURSES

- Public Speaking*
- Independent Study*
- Service to Society*
- Don Jacobs Sr. Personal Financial, Legal, & Civic Responsibilities Seminars: Senior Requirement

*Semester Course
+New Course

INDEPENDENT STUDY

Students seeking enrichment may create and organize an independent course of study or research project in collaboration with a faculty member.

LOCAL UNIVERSITY AND ONLINE COURSE OFFERINGS

Students may take online courses for credit through Brigham Young University or in person through Transylvania University and the University of Kentucky. While students are given credit for successfully-completed courses, grades they earn are not included on their Sayre School transcript nor calculated into their GPA.

9

members of the Class of 2026 are participating in intercollegiate athletics

61

graduates enrolled in 32 different colleges in 17 different states and Australia

57

percent of graduates are attending out-of-state colleges

72

percent of graduates received \$15.8M in college-sponsored, four-year scholarships

2026 AP TESTS TAKEN IN THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS

Biology	English Lit/Comp	Precalculus
Calculus AB	Environmental Science	Spanish Lang/Culture
Calculus BC	French Lang/Culture	Statistics
Chemistry	Music Theory	U.S. History
Computer Science Principles	Physics 1 and Physics 2	U.S. Government & Politics
Computer Science A	Physics C: Mechanics	
English Lang/Comp	Psychology	

69%

students scoring a 4 or 5

80%

pass rate (3 or higher, average score 3.50)

8%

AP Scholars with Honor

85%

class of 2026 pass rate

17%

AP Scholars (average score 4.03)

21%

AP Scholars with Distinction

CLASS OF 2026 ACT AVGS

English	26
Reading	27
Math	25
Science	26
Composite	26
Mid 50% Composite	22-30



SAYRE SCHOOL 2023-2026 COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES, MATRICULATIONS (in bold)
Class of 2026 pictured above

American Musical and Dramatic Academy

American University

Anderson University

Appalachian State University

Arizona State University

Asbury University

Auburn University

Augusta University

Austin Peay State University

Baldwin Wallace University

Ball State University

Baylor University

Bellarmine University

Belmont University

Bentley University

Berry College

Bluegrass Community and Technical College

Boston University

Brandeis University

Bristol, University of the West of England

Brown University

Bucknell University

Butler University

Carnegie Mellon University

Carthage College

Case Western Reserve University

Central Methodist University

Centre College

Chapman University

Claremont McKenna College

Clark University

Clemson University

Coastal Carolina University

Colby College

College of Charleston

College of William and Mary

College of Wooster

Colorado State University

Columbia College of Chicago

Columbia University

Connecticut College

Coppin State University

Cornell College

Dartmouth College

Davidson College

Dean College

Deerfield Academy

Denison University

DePaul University

DePauw University

Dickinson College

Drexel University

Duke University

Earlham College

East Tennessee State University

Eastern Florida State College

Eastern Kentucky University

Eckerd College

Elmhurst University

Elon University

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

Emerson College

Emory University

Ferrum College

Florida Atlantic University

Fontbonne University

Fordham University

Franklin College

Furman University

George Washington University

Georgetown College

Georgia Institute of Technology (Georgia Tech)

Grove City College

Hamilton College

Hampden-Sydney College

Hampton University

Hanover College

High Point University

Hiram College

Hollins University

Howard University

Huntington College

Illinois Institute of Technology

Indiana Tech

Indiana University

Indiana University East

Indiana University -Purdue University- Indianapolis

Indiana Wesleyan University

Iowa State University

James Madison University

Kalamazoo College

Kent State University
Kentucky State University
Kenyon College
Lake Forest College
Lehigh University
Lincoln Trail College
Lipscomb University
Louisiana State University
Loyola University Chicago
Luther College
Marshall University
Marymount Manhattan College
Miami University (Oxford)
Michigan State University
Midway University
Mississippi State University
Morehead State University
Morgan State University
Mount Allison University (Canada)
Mount Holyoke College
Muhlenberg College
New York University
New York University-Shanghai (China)
North Carolina State University
North Park University
Northeastern University
Northern Kentucky University
Northwestern University
Oberlin College
Ohio Christian University
Ohio Dominican University
Ohio University
Ohio Wesleyan University
Oklahoma State University
Oregon State University
Oxford Brookes University
Oxford College of Emory University
Pace University
Pennsylvania State University
Pepperdine University
Pomona College
Purdue University
Reed College
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rhodes College
Roanoke College
Robert Morris University
Rochester Institute of Technology
Rollins College
Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
Royal Holloway, University of London

Samford University
Santa Clara University
Savannah College of Art and Design
Schoolcraft College
School of the Art Institute of Chicago
Scripps College
Seton Hall University
Smith College
Southern Methodist University
Spalding University
St. Ambrose University
St. Andrews University
Stephens College
Stetson University
Stony Brook University
Susquehanna University
Syracuse University
Temple University
Texas A & M University
Texas Christian University
The American University of Paris
The Ohio State University
Thomas More University
Towson University
Transylvania University
Trinity College
Tulane University
University at Buffalo
University College Dublin
University of Alabama
University of Alabama in Huntsville
University of Arizona
University of Arkansas
University of California-Irvine
University of California-Los Angeles
University of California-San Diego
University of California-Santa Barbara
University of California-Santa Cruz
University of Cincinnati
University of Colorado-Boulder
University of Colorado-Colorado Springs
University of Colorado Denver
University of Connecticut
University of Dayton
University of Delaware
University of Denver
University of Florida
University of Georgia
University of Illinois Chicago
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
University of Iowa

University of Kansas
University of Kentucky
University of Liverpool
University of Louisville
University of Maine
University of Mary Washington
University of Maryland
University of Massachusetts
University of Miami (FL)
University of Michigan
University of Minnesota
University of Mississippi
University of Missouri
University of New Hampshire
University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill
University of North Florida
University of Oklahoma
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pittsburgh
University of Richmond
University of Rochester
University of South Carolina
University of Southern California
University of Southern Indiana
University of Sydney (AUS)
University of Tampa
University of Tennessee
University of Texas-Austin
University of Texas-Dallas
University of the South-Sewanee
University of Utah
University of Vermont
University of Virginia
University of Washington
University of Winchester
University of Wisconsin
Vanderbilt University
Vassar College
Villanova University
Virginia Commonwealth University
Virginia Polytechnic Institute (Virginia Tech)
Wabash College
Wake Forest University
Washington and Lee University
Wesleyan University
Western Kentucky University
Wheaton College (MA)
Wilmington College
Wofford College
Xavier University