



Saddle River Day School

School Profile 2026 - 2027

QUICK FACTS

- **Enrollment**
Lower School – 155
Middle School – 150
Upper School – 305
Class of 2027 – 69 seniors
- **Families from 100 communities in Bergen, Essex and Passaic counties in New Jersey and Manhattan, Orange, Rockland and Westchester counties in New York**
- **7:1 student-to-teacher ratio**
- **85 percent of faculty hold advanced degrees**
- **36 percent of our students identify as non-Caucasian**

ADMINISTRATION

Jalaj Desai	Head of School
Geoffrey Bowman	Director of Admissions
Deirdre Angrick	Academic Dean
Shai Zacaraev	Head of Upper School
Anastasia Kelly	Head of Middle School
Dana Stern	Head of Lower School
PJ Petrow	Athletic Director
Christine Lebovits	Director of Student Experiences
Joe McMenamin	Dean of Faculty
Karen Ferretti	Director of College Counseling
Gretchen Lee	Director of Communications
Lynn McCormack	Director of Development
Christopher Mathisen	Director of Finance
Tim Gerty	Facilities/Security Manager

Pre-K to Grade 12

147 Chestnut Ridge Road • Saddle River, NJ 07458

SaddleRiverDay.org • 201.327.4050

COMMUNITY

Saddle River Day School, located in the hills of Saddle River, New Jersey, was founded in 1957 as an independent, coeducational, college preparatory day school and resides thirty miles northwest of New York City. Our student body of 540 students is drawn from 100 communities in Bergen, Essex and Passaic Counties in New Jersey and Rockland County in New York. Saddle River Day School is composed of three divisions: the Lower Division (Grades Pre K-4), the Middle Division (Grades 5-8) and the Upper Division (Grades 9-12).

Saddle River Day School is accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools and the New Jersey Association of Independent Schools (NJ AIS), and is a member of the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS).

MISSION AND PHILOSOPHY

We inspire each child to achieve personal and academic excellence and to become a caring and ethical contributor to society. Our students, faculty and staff live by our three core values.

- **Everyone Counts** – At Saddle River Day School, all children and adults matter; their talents and contributions are prized.
- **Love of Learning** – We engender a lifelong love of learning in our students with a caring and committed faculty, staff and administration.
- **Intellectual Risk Taking** – Intellectual risk taking is encouraged and celebrated through a nurturing, intimate environment that ensures the physical and emotional security of each child.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Beginning with the 2022-2023 academic year, Saddle River Day School moved from a trimester calendar to a semester calendar. As a mission-centered institution, it is our priority to encourage intellectual risk taking and instill a love of learning. By moving to a semester system, we are able to offer a wider array of coursework in each discipline as well as encourage students to challenge themselves in new areas of study. First-semester grades will be considered mid-year grades, and third-quarter grades will be furnished upon request to college admissions representatives.

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GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

To graduate, a student must have completed a minimum of: four years of English, three years of mathematics, three years of laboratory science, three years of history/social science, level three in a world language, and one year of visual and/or performing arts.

Advanced Placement courses are offered according to demand in major disciplines and may not be offered every year.

English	Required grades 9 – 12
Mathematics	Three-year requirement (Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II required)
World Languages	Level III requirement in the same language
Science	Three-year lab science requirement (Biology & Chemistry must be two of the three)
Social Science	Required grades 9 – 11
Arts	Three credits
Physical Education	Required grade 9 plus 2 semesters grades 10-12
Health	Required grades 9 & 10
College Counseling	Required grades 10, 11 & 12
Workshop	

ADVANCED PLACEMENT

In May of 2026, 179 students in grades 9-12 took a total of 374 Advanced Placement Exams in 25 subject areas. Students must have departmental approval and fulfill the course prerequisites in order to be placed in an AP course. Over the past five years, we have routinely offered AP study in: Art History, Biology, Calculus AB, Calculus BC, Chemistry, Comparative Government, Computer Science A, Computer Science Principles, English Language, English Literature, Environmental Science, European History, French Language, Government and Politics, Human Geography, Macroeconomics, Microeconomics, Music Theory, Precalculus, Physics C: E & M, Physics C: M, Physics 1, Psychology, Spanish Language, Spanish Literature, Statistics, U.S. History and World History.

GATEWAY HONORS DIPLOMA

The Gateway Honors Diploma Program at Saddle River Day School is an opportunity for students to dive deeply into their academic interests by connecting together fieldwork outside of school with a rigorous sequence of courses at SRDS. Students who enroll in this program work with professionals in their chosen field during the summer after sophomore and junior years to complete a self-designed project answering an essential question. This could be a research paper, an app they've coded and developed, a piece of art they created, or any other of a myriad of options – because it's based on their own interests, the possibilities are limitless. By their senior year they will have completed this project, which represents a culmination of their summer work, and showcase it to parents, teachers, other students, and members of the community at large during a school-sponsored defense night, in which a panel will ask questions regarding their research.

Along with taking rigorous classes beyond our standard graduation requirements (including many AP level courses), Gateway candidates complete summer fieldwork, write a summative research paper, develop a portfolio of their work in the Gateway Program and join specific SRDS sponsored clubs relevant to their interest.

Students who complete all requirements earn an Honors Diploma at graduation. To tailor the coursework and club requirements to individual student interests, we offer three different diploma tracks, each of which are further broken into three individualized pathways. These tracks are: Arts Emphasis (which includes pathways for music, theater, or visual arts), Humanities and International Engagement (which includes pathways for Humanities, Civic Engagement, or Global Citizenship), and Innovation and Entrepreneurship (which includes pathways for STEAM, Medical, and Entrepreneurship).



GPA AND CLASS RANK AND ADMISSIONS INFORMATION

As a small high school with 100 percent of our graduates attending four-year colleges, Saddle River Day School does not compute a class rank nor grade-point-average. Students are awarded grades A+ through F with a final grade for year-long courses and a semester grade for semester-long courses. Students are limited to 15 colleges to which they can apply and usually average 11 applications per senior.

Our grading scale is:

A+ (97-100), A (93-96), A- (90-92),
B+ (87-89), B (83-86), B- (80-82),
C+ (77-79), C (73-76), C- (70-72),
D (65-69), F (below 65).

	COLLEGE PREP	HONORS	AP	POST AP
ENGLISH	English 9, 10, 11,12 Research & Writing	English 9, 10, 11,12	English Language & Composition English Literature	
MATHEMATICS	Algebra 1 Geometry Algebra 2 PreCalculus Statistics College Algebra	Algebra 1 Geometry Algebra 2 PreCalculus Calculus Statistics	PreCalculus Calculus AB Calculus BC Statistics	Multivariable Calculus Differential Equations Linear Algebra Real Analysis
SCIENCE All courses include a lab	Biology Chemistry Physics Forensics Applied Physics & Engineering Bioethics	Biology Chemistry Physics Forensics Applied Physics & Engineering Anatomy & Physiology Bioethics	Biology Chemistry Physics 1 Physics C: Mechanics Physics C: Electricity & Magnetism Environmental Science	Advanced Topics in Chemistry Independent Research with Drosophila Melanogaster
HISTORY	Early World History Modern World History US History Psychology History 12	Early World History Modern World History US History History 12	Human Geography World History European History US History Psychology Macroeconomics Microeconomics US Government & Politics Comparative Government	
WORLD LANGUAGE	Spanish I, II, III, IV French I, II, III, IV Latin I, II, III Advanced Arabic World Languages & Culture Across the Curriculum	Spanish I, II, III, IV French I, II, III, IV Latin III, IV	Spanish Language Spanish Literature French Language & Culture Latin	Spanish Seminar French Seminar
COMPUTER SCIENCE	Computer Science I Computer Science II		Computer Science Principles Computer Science A	Data Science Natural Language Processing Artificial Intelligence
PERFORMING ARTS	Music Theory US Band US Jazz Ensemble US String Ensemble Acting Concert Choir Vocal Master Class		Music Theory	
VISUAL ARTS	Studio Art Art Major Design Foundations Product & Brand Studio Publication & Interactive Studio Digital Photography Videography	Portfolio Advanced Design Studio Advanced Photography Advanced Videography Advanced Video Practicum		
BUSINESS	Closing Bell (11/12 only)	Business Law (11/12 only) Marketing Product Development	Business with Personal Finance	

MATRICULATION FOR SRDS CLASSES OF 2021-2026

Agnes Scott College
Alvernia University
Auburn University
Babson College
Barnard College (4)
Bates College
Berklee College of Music
Binghamton University Honors (2)
Boston College
Boston University (10)
Bowdoin College
Brandeis University
Brigham Young University
Brown University
Bryn Mawr College (2)
Bucknell University (2)
Central Connecticut State University
Clemson University
Colby College
Colgate University (2)
College of Charleston
Colorado College
Colorado State University
Columbia University
Connecticut College
Cornell University (4)
Denison University
Dickinson College
Drew University (2)
Drexel University (2)
Duke University (2)
Elon University (2)
Embry-Riddle University
Emerson College
Emory University
Fairfield University (5)
Fordham University (5)
George Washington University (5)
Georgetown University (3)
Georgia Tech
Gettysburg College (2)
Hamilton College
High Point University

Hobart & William Smith Colleges
Howard University (3)
Indiana University – Bloomington (7)
Johns Hopkins University
Lafayette College (3)
Lehigh University (3)
Manhattan School of Music
Manhattan University
Marist College (5)
Middlebury College
Montclair State University (2)
Muhlenberg College
New York University (21)
Northeastern University (6)
Northwestern University (3)
Pace University (4)
Parsons College of Design
Pennsylvania State University (5)
Princeton University
Purdue University
Quinnipiac University (3)
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (3)
Rochester Institute of Technology (4)
Roger Williams University
Rollins College
Rutgers University (10)
Sacred Heart University (2)
Salve Regina University
San Diego State University
Savannah College of Art and Design (2)
Seton Hall University
Siena University
Southern Methodist University
Stevens Institute of Technology (7)
Stony Brook University Honors
Syracuse University (3)
The College of New Jersey
The Ohio State University
Tufts University (7)
Tulane University
Union College

United States Merchant Marine Academy
United States Military Academy at West Point
United States Naval Academy
University of California – Irvine (2)
University of California – San Diego (2)
University of California – Santa Barbara
University of Colorado - Boulder
University of Connecticut (2)
University of Delaware (3)
University of Denver
University of Florida (2)
University of Georgia
University of Illinois at Urbana – Champaign (2)
University of Louisville
University of Maryland (2)
University of Miami (4)
University of Michigan
University of Mississippi
University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill (2)
University of Oregon
University of Ottawa
University of Pennsylvania (2)
University of Pittsburgh (2)
University of Rochester (2)
University of San Diego
University of Scranton
University of Southern California (4)
University of Tampa (3)
University of Toronto
University of Virginia – Jefferson Scholar
University of Wisconsin - Madison (2)
Vanderbilt University (2)
Vassar College (3)
Villanova University (5)
Wake Forest University (4)
Washington University in St. Louis (2)
Wesleyan University
Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) (2)

