

CHARLES E. SMITH JEWISH DAY SCHOOL

2026-2027

Annette M. & Theodore N. Lerner
Family Upper School Campus

11710 Hunters Lane
Rockville, Maryland 20852

PHONE: 301.692.4930

SCHOOL CODE: 210383

Dr. Jonathan Levy
Head of School

Aileen Goldstein
Interim High School Principal

Victoria Garner
Director of College Counseling
vgarner@cesjds.org
301.692.4955

Rachel Jacobs
Associate Director of College Counseling
rjacobs@cesjds.org
301.692.4944

Josh Rauguth
Assistant Director of College Counseling
jrauguth@cesjds.org
301.692.4995

Staci Koester
Registrar & College Counseling Associate
skoester@cesjds.org
301.692.4930

MEMBER:
NACAC • PCACAC
ACCIS • NAIS • AIMS • AISGW

STATISTICS FOR THE CLASS OF 2026

Grade Point Average for Middle 50%	SAT Evidence Based Reading Middle 50%
3.91 - 4.67	660-750

SAT Math Middle 50%	ACT Middle 50%
680-740	30-34

**12 National Merit
Commended Students**

\$6.82 million in merit
scholarships was offered to the
Class of 2026

SCHOOL OVERVIEW

With approximately 850 students, the Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School (CESJDS), founded in 1965, is one of the largest and most prestigious JK-12 Jewish day schools in the United States. Our pluralistic Jewish day school provides an environment in which students flourish academically and are prepared for leadership and active engagement in American society and the Jewish community.

CESJDS AT A GLANCE

300 students in the high school

70 twelfth graders in the class of 2027

80% of faculty hold a master's degree or higher

19 Varsity Sports and 36
extracurricular clubs and organizations

28.5 credits required for graduation (14.5 in General Studies, 10 in Jewish Studies (including Hebrew), 1 in P.E., 3 in Electives); 10 Arts points required; 80 hours of Community Service required

Approved by the State of Maryland Department of Education

Accredited by the Association of Independent Maryland Schools

INNOVATIVE CURRICULUM

CESJDS offers an innovative 3.5 year high school curriculum and is at the forefront of preparing students by blending knowledge and skills necessary for success. The rigorous integrated curriculum includes a balance of general and Jewish studies, alongside a carefully designed advisory program and robust co-curricular programming and opportunities. In addition to traditional core courses and electives taught at the level expected of an outstanding college preparatory school, students are required to take courses in Jewish Studies, including Hebrew Language, Jewish History, and Jewish Text.

Our faculty offer exceptional instruction and facilitate student-centered learning that promotes critical thinking, analysis, problem-solving, independence, resilience, compassion, and collaboration, as well as discipline-specific skills. Students have many opportunities to self-direct their learning, including course choice and determination of levels most appropriate to their learning. **Students are enrolled in eight or nine courses during an extended academic day; engage in club, athletic, and arts opportunities both during and outside the school day; and grow as individuals within our vibrant, caring, and committed community.**

IRENE AND DANIEL SIMPKINS SENIOR CAPSTONE ISRAEL TRIP: EXPLORING JEWISH HISTORY AND CULTURE

CESJDS seniors graduate in February and most elect to participate in the 13 week, school-sponsored trip to Israel and Europe. Led by a team of certified professional teachers, students travel the length and breadth of Israel, exploring the country's history and culture through a program of study, volunteer work, and outdoor activities. This semester-long program provides an invaluable opportunity for independent living, social and emotional maturation, and experiential education. During their experience abroad they also travel to Poland and Germany on a nine-day journey, exploring the history of European Jewry, the Holocaust, and the rejuvenation of the Jewish community in Europe.

CURRICULUM LEVELS

The academic program in high school is designed to enable students to learn at levels which provide appropriate challenge and support for each student. While both College Prep and Honors courses address similar content, they are distinguished by the level of independence, complexity, and knowledge application.

College Prep (no designation on transcript): Students thrive in classes where they are provided frequent milestones, templates, and guided inquiry as they master a high volume of foundational skills.

Honors (HON designation on transcript): Students thrive in classes where they are offered a high level of independence, managing ambiguity, open-ended problems, and abstract theory.

In keeping with the school's tradition of emphasizing personal academic discovery, creativity, and a deep exploration of course material, CESJDS does not offer Advanced Placement (AP) courses.

HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM

ENGLISH

4 credits required

English 9, 10, 11 (CP, HON)
English 12: Comp. (1/2 credit, CP, HON)
English 12: Contemporary Voices (1/2 credit, CP, HON)

MATHEMATICS

3.5 credits required

Geometry (CP, HON)
Algebra II (CP, HON)
Pre-Calculus (CP, HON)
Data Analysis & Statistics (CP)
Principles of Calculus (CP, HON)
Calculus I (HON)
Multivariable Calculus (HON)
Statistics (HON)

SCIENCE

3.5 credits required

Biology I (CP, HON)
Chemistry (CP, HON), Chemistry II (HON)
Physics I (CP, HON), Physics II (HON),
Physics III (HON)
Genetics/Biotechnology I and II (CP, HON)
Bioengineering (HON)
Anatomy & Physiology (CP)

HISTORY & SOCIAL SCIENCE

3.5 credits required

World History I (CP, HON)
World History II (CP, HON)
United States History (CP, HON)
21st Century American Identity (CP, HON)

JEWISH HISTORY

2 credits required; 5 credits available

Ancient/Medieval Jewish History (CP, HON)
Modern Jewish History (CP, HON)
Modern Israel (CP, HON)
Jewish History Distributions (CP, HON)

JEWISH TEXT

2.5 credits required; 5.5 credits available

Courses offered in English (CP, HON) &
Hebrew text (HON):
Ancient Hebrew Literature, Biblical Interpretation
Ethics, Jewish Law, Philosophy, Talmud Study
Theology

HEBREW LANGUAGE

2 credits required, 3.5 available

Hebrew Level 101-104 CP; 105-106 HON
Hebrew Level 203-204 CP; 205-206 HON
Hebrew Level 303-304 CP; 305-306 HON
Hebrew Level 403-404 CP; 405-406 HON
Hebrew Heritage Learners (CP, HON)

ELECTIVES

3 elective credits required from either World Language, Fine Arts, or other subjects

Spanish I, II (CP), Spanish III, IV, V (CP, HON)
Spanish VI (HON)
Arabic I (CP)
Art/Graphic Design/Ceramics/Ensemble
Music Composition I, II, III (HON)
Open Studio (HON), Portfolio (HON)
Journalism/Yearbook/Photography/Movie
Making/Film Studies
Emergency Care & Sport Safety
Economics (HON)
Computer Programming I, II, III, IV (HON)
Engineering I, II (HON)
3D Printing I, II (HON)
Robotics (HON)
Creative Writing (CP, HON)
Psychology (CP, HON)
Kinesiology & Athletic Training
History of Indigenous Americans (CP, HON)

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

1 credit required; students participating on
an athletic team may earn up to 1 credit in
Physical Education

CP=College Prep HON=Honors (highest level)

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES & MATRICULATION

94% of our students attend a four-year college or university. The classes of 2023-2026 were accepted by the following colleges and universities. (* = matriculation)

Adelphi University
Alfred University
American University (4)*
Appalachian State University
Arizona State University-Tempe (2)*
Auburn University*
Bard College
Bates College
Berklee College of Music*
Binghamton University (8)*
Boston University*
Brandeis University (6)*
Brown University (2)*
Bryant University
Bryn Mawr College*
Bucknell University
Butler University*
California State University-Fresno
California State University-Northridge
Carnegie Mellon University*
Case Western Reserve University*
Champlain College*
Chapman University
Clark University*
Clarkson University
Clemson University
Colby College
College of Charleston (2)*
Colorado College*
Colorado School of Mines
Colorado State University-Fort Collins
Columbia University (3)*
Connecticut College*
Cornell University (3)*
Curry College*
Dartmouth College*
Dean College
Denison University
DePaul University
Dickinson College
Drake University
Drexel University (3)*
Duke University*
East Carolina University
Eckerd College
Elmira College
Elon University (5)*
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical
University-Daytona Beach

Emerson College
Emmanuel College
Emory University*
Fairleigh Dickinson University-
Metropolitan Campus
Florida Atlantic University
Florida Institute of Technology
Florida State University
Franklin and Marshall College (2)*
Furman University
George Mason University
George Washington University (2)*
Georgetown University (3)*
Georgia Institute of Technology
Goldsmiths University of London
Goucher College*
Grinnell College*
Guilford College
Hampshire College*
Harvard University (2)*
High Point University
Hofstra University (3)*
Hood College
Indiana State University
Indiana University-Bloomington (3)*
Ithaca College*
James Madison University (2)*
Johns Hopkins University (2)*
Juniata College
Kalamazoo College
Kent State University
Kenyon College
Kingston University
Lehigh University (5)*
List College-JTS/Columbia (2)*
Louisiana State University
Lynn University
Macalester College
Marshall University
Maryland Institute College of Art
McDaniel College*
McGill University*
McPherson College
Miami University-Oxford
Michigan State University (2)*
Middlebury College*
Montgomery College (11)*
Mount Holyoke College
Muhlenberg College (4)*

New York University (2)*
Norfolk State University
Northeastern University (4)*
Northwestern University (3)*
Nova Southeastern University
Oberlin College*
Ohio State University-
Main Campus (4)*
Ohio Wesleyan University
Old Dominion University
Pace University, Westchester Campus
Pennsylvania State University-
Abington*
Pennsylvania State University-
Main Campus (3)*
Pittsburgh Institute of Aeronautics
Pratt Institute
Princeton University (2)*
Purdue University-Main Campus
Queen's University
Quinnipiac University
Radford University
Randolph-Macon College*
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute*
Rhodes College
Rice University*
Rider University
Roanoke College
Rochester Institute of Technology*
Rollins College*
Rutgers University-
New Brunswick (3)*
Rutgers University-Newark
Salisbury University
Santa Clara University
Savannah College of Art
and Design (2)*
Seattle University
Smith College
St. John's University-New York
St. Mary's College of Maryland
Stevens Institute of Technology
Stevenson University
Stony Brook University*
SUNY at Purchase College
SUNY Buffalo State
Susquehanna University*
Swarthmore College
Syracuse University (9)*

Technion Institute of Technology
Tel Aviv Univ/ Columbia Univ
Dual Degree Program (2)*
Temple University
Texas A&M University
The College of New Jersey
The New School
Towson University (6)*
Trinity University*
Tufts University (2)*
Tulane University of Louisiana (3)*
Union College (NY)
University at Albany, SUNY
University at Buffalo
University of Alabama
University of Arizona
University of Arkansas
University of California-Davis
University of California-Los Angeles*
University of California-San Diego
University of California-Santa Barbara
University of Chicago (5)*
University of Cincinnati*
University of Colorado Boulder*
University of Colorado Denver
University of Connecticut
University of Delaware (2)*
University of Denver
University of Florida*
University of Georgia
University of Greenwich*
University of Hartford*
University of Illinois at
Urbana-Champaign (2)*
University of Kansas
University of Kentucky
University of Louisville
University of Lynchburg
University of Mary Washington*
University of Maryland-
Baltimore County (2)*
University of Maryland-
College Park (56)*
University of Massachusetts-
Amherst (2)*
University of Miami*
University of Michigan-
Ann Arbor (10)*
University of Michigan-Flint

University of Minnesota-Twin Cities*
University of North Carolina-
Charlotte*
University of North Carolina-
Wilmington*
University of Pennsylvania (5)*
University of Pittsburgh*
University of Rhode Island
University of Richmond*
University of Rochester*
University of Scranton
University of South Carolina-
Columbia
University of South Florida-
Main Campus
University of Southern California (2)*
University of Tampa
University of Tennessee-Knoxville*
University of Texas at Austin*
University of the South
University of Toronto
University of Utah
University of Vermont (2)*
University of Virginia (6)*
University of Waterloo
University of Westminster
University of Wisconsin-Madison*
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Ursinus College
Vassar College*
Virginia Commonwealth University*
Virginia Tech (5)*
Wake Forest University*
Washington & Jefferson College
Washington College (2)*
Washington University in
St. Louis (14)*
Wellesley College*
Wentworth Institute of Technology
West Virginia University
Wheaton College-Massachusetts
Widener University
William & Mary (4)*
Worcester Polytechnic Institute (2)*
Yale University*
Yeshiva University-Stern College
for Women*
Yeshiva University (Yeshiva College)*
York College of Pennsylvania