



CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS

A Marist Brothers High School 1958



2026-27 SCHOOL PROFILE

ADMINISTRATION

MR. THOMAS KRUCZEK

President

MR. DAVID PUGH

Principal

DR. JUAN VILA '97

Academic Dean

MR. PEDRO GARCIA-CASALS

Dean of Curriculum & Professional Development

MRS. CHRISTINA INSUA

Dean of Faculty

MRS. MERCY AYCART

Dean of Data Analytics

MR. ROBERT LINFORS '85

MR. CHRISTOPHER MCKEON

MR. ALEX TRUJILLO '96

Deans of Students

PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Marist Brothers:	10
Laypersons:	200
20+ years' Experience:	50
Advanced Degrees:	55%
Columbus Alumni:	45%

CALENDAR

Christopher Columbus High School operates on a semester academic calendar with a modified block schedule. Each school day consists of three 85-minute block periods, one 45-minute traditional period, and a 15-minute homeroom.

OUR MISSION

Brotherhood, Faith, and Scholarship define the Marist Brothers Catholic education at Christopher Columbus High School. By making Jesus Christ known and loved and creating an inspiring academic and extracurricular environment, we prepare young men for higher learning and a life-long commitment to leadership and service through Gospel and Marist values.

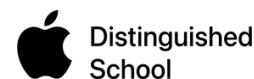
THE COLUMBUS COMMUNITY

As Marist educators, we foster three distinct traditions: the pursuit of academic excellence, the heritage of Catholic education and the unique spirit and mission of the Marist Brothers, which aims to nurture the growth of the whole student in heart, mind, and body.

As a progressive college preparatory high school, we offer curriculum pathways in Artistic Design & Production, Biomedical Science, Business & Entrepreneurship, Computer Science, Engineering, Law & Civic Engagement, Multimedia Journalism and Sports Management. A Columbus education comes with the seamless integration of cutting-edge technology in the learning process. This includes a two-to-one student Macbook and iPad program, virtual reality, interactive classroom displays, and other state of the art technology. Our facilities include state-of-the-art labs and studios for robotics & engineering, science, art, music recording & production, band rehearsal, and broadcast journalism. A digital-based library, tiered lecture hall, media center and various outdoor plazas are also found on our sprawling campus.

A member of the Florida High School Athletic Association and the Greater Miami Athletic Conference, Columbus is the only private school in the state of Florida to compete at the highest level, which means that our Explorers play in the most competitive districts and have the greatest amount of exposure to college coaches. Our outstanding athletic facilities include a fully equipped wellness and fitness center, a football/soccer field, a baseball complex, gymnasium, and state-of-the-art athletic training and conditioning areas.

ACCREDITATION & AFFILIATIONS



DISCIPLINARY REPORTING POLICY

All students are expected to answer truthfully questions regarding disciplinary violations. When requested, Christopher Columbus will report to colleges any incidents in grades 9-12 that result in probation, suspension, or expulsion.

FACTS & FIGURES

Total School Enrollment: 1,740

U.S. Citizens: 98%

Non-U.S. Citizens: 2%

Racial Composition:

- 91% White
- 8% African American/Black
- 1% Asian, Native Hawaiian, or Pacific Islander

Ethnicity:

- 85% Hispanic/Latino
- 15% Non-Hispanic/Latino

20% of students receive financial aid and/or qualify for free or reduced lunch.

Student-to-faculty ratio: 16:1

Average class size: 23

110 Active Clubs & 17 Honor Societies

PROGRAMS OF DISTINCTION

Miami Herald/el Nuevo Herald Silver Knight Awards: 24 Silver Knight Award winners and 36 honorable mentions over the past 13 years.

CCNN Live: Winner of the **Student Television Network National Championship** for four consecutive years—the only high school to ever achieve this distinction. In 2026, the program earned one **NATAS National Emmy** (for a total of 19) and 14 **NATAS Regional Emmys** (for a total of 123). It was also named the **Sunshine State Standout Program of the State of Florida** for the eighth consecutive year.

Jazz Band: 2025 **WorldStrides National Music Festival** First Place Winner; 2026 Second Place Winner.

Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA): Columbus students continue to excel in **business, leadership** and **competitive events** at the state level. In 2026, six Columbus FBLA members earned state championships, demonstrating excellence across the organization's competitive programs.

Robotics Team: Ranked among the Top 12 teams in Florida and competed at the **VEX World Championships**.

Athletics: Columbus is recognized as one of the premier high school athletic programs in Florida and the nation. The Explorers have won the FHSAA Floyd E. Lay Sunshine Cup All-Sports Award, recognizing the top boys' athletic program in the state, nine times: 2009, 2010, 2012, 2018, 2021, 2022, 2024, 2025 and 2026. Columbus has also earned the **Miami Herald Boys' Major Sports Award**, recognizing the top boys' athletic program in Miami-Dade County, in 2008, 2009, 2011, 2013, 2015, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025 and 2026, including the last nine consecutive years. The **Basketball, Soccer** and **Volleyball** teams are current state champions, and Columbus was recently ranked No. 3 in the nation for athletes by **USA TODAY High School Sports**.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Students must complete a minimum of 100 hours of community service during their four years of high school and earn **28.5** credits while maintaining at least a **2.0** unweighted grade point average (GPA) on a **4.0** scale.

GRADING SYSTEM & CLASS RANK

The courses taught at Christopher Columbus are weighted to reflect the difficulty of the course content. **Christopher Columbus High School does not rank for purposes of college admission.**

Range	Letter Grade	College Prep	Honors/Dual Enrollment	Advanced Placement	Florida*
97-100	A+	4.33	5.33	6.33	4
90-96	A	4	5	6	4
87-89	B+	3.33	4.33	5.33	3
80-86	B	3	4	5	3
77-79	C+	2.33	3.33	4.33	2
70-76	C	2	3	3	2
60-69	D	1	1	1	1
Less than 60	F	0	0	0	0

*The Florida GPA is used for reporting to the State of Florida in reference to graduation and Florida Bright Futures requirements.

ACADEMIC RECOGNITION

End of quarter academic honors fall into the following categories:

- **Principal's List:**
 - A+, A in every subject
- **First Honors:**
 - minimum GPA of 3.66 and no grade below a B+
- **Honors:**
 - minimum GPA between of 3.33 and no grade below a B

Graduation Requirements	
Subject Area	Credits
English	4
Math (including Algebra 1)	4
Science (minimum of 2 lab courses)	3
Social Studies	3
Theology	4
World Languages	2
Personal Fitness & Physical Education	1
Communications	1
Fine & Performing Arts	0.5
Personal & Family Finance	0.5
Critical Thinking & Study Skills	0.5
Electives	5
TOTAL CREDITS	28.5

CURRICULUM

Our school curriculum is designed to meet the needs, interests, and career goals of all our students. Indicating the rigor and pace of the course, all courses are designated as: **College Preparatory, Accelerated College Prep, Honors, and Advanced Placement**. We also offer **Dual Enrollment (DE)** courses through our partnership with **Barry University, Florida International University, Marymount University, Doral College, and Miami-Dade College**. A student must maintain at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA and obtain teacher or departmental approval to enroll in an Honors, AP or DE course.

Course Type	Total Offered
Honors	141
Dual Enrollment	44
Advanced Placement	32

Our course curriculum framework is aligned with standards and guidelines set forth by the **Florida Department of Education**, the **Archdiocese of Miami**, the **Marist Brothers**, the national councils for each subject area, the **College Board's AP Audit**, and the respective universities awarding the **DE** credits.

Please consult the [Explorers Course Guide](#) for the complete listing of all our courses.

SPECIAL CURRICULAR FEATURES

Mas Family Program

The Mas Family Program is one of Florida's most prestigious and intellectually enriching academic programs, inviting highly motivated and academically gifted students based on GPA, class rigor, conduct, and teacher recommendations.

This dynamic program offers two distinct tracks: **Mas Scholars** and **Mas Honors**. **Mas Scholars** embark on the **AP Capstone** curriculum in 10th grade, while **Mas Honors** students follow a specialized path designed to meet their academic aspirations.

Beyond the classroom, Mas Family Program students engage in a range of enriching activities, including business etiquette seminars, externships, and community service initiatives that are student-created and led.

Celebrating 20 years of excellence, the program also offers top-tier tutoring, nationwide college tours, and comprehensive guidance and counseling throughout all four years of high school. With its nationally recognized reputation, the Mas Family Program continues to challenge students to reach their full potential both academically and personally.

Externship Program

At Columbus, we complement future career paths with Externships for current students. Similar to internships, but generally shorter, Externships are experiential learning opportunities provided through school partnerships that give students hands-on experience in their field of study or area of interest. The **Externship Program** works hand in hand with our curriculum pathways, enriching and extending the student's learning beyond the classroom.

Desmond Family Success Center

Guided by the Marist Brothers of the School, the **Desmond Family Success Center** serves as a cross-area initiative that meets the ever-growing needs of our diverse student body. Our mission is to cater to the whole student through all-inclusive wraparound services, which equip our students with the necessary skills, resources, and support to become young men of character in the classroom and the community.

CLASS OF 2026 DATA

481

Class Size

\$25M+

in Scholarships

81,535

Total Service
Hours Completed

GPA	Middle 50%
Unweighted	3.10 - 3.63
Weighted	3.60 - 4.71

In compliance with the Principles of Good Practice of the National Association of College Admissions Counseling, mean scores are not reported.

AWARDS & TESTING

College Board National Recognition Programs (Class of 2021-26)

50

Commended
Students

15

National Merit
Finalists

2,230

Exams

756

Test
Takers

93%

Pass
Rate

SAT	Middle 50%
Total	1090 - 1360
EBRW	550 - 670
Math	520 - 690

ACT	Middle 50%
Composite	19 - 28
English	18 - 28
Reading	19 - 30
Math	18 - 27
Science	20 - 27

The test ranges for middle 50% of the Class of 2026 for whom scores were reported.

2026 Advanced Placement Scores Summary

2,230

Exams

756

Test
Takers

93%

Pass
Rate



The Pat Call & Irene Culmo

**CENTER for COLLEGE
and CAREER GUIDANCE**

Mrs. Iris Martinez, Director
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Mrs. Colleen Anderson, Director of Externships & Internships
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THE DESMOND FAMILY
Success Center

Ms. Beatriz Vinson, Director/Learning Specialist
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Ms. Stephanie Fernandez, Learning Specialist
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Ms. Denise Ramirez, Accommodations Coordinator
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Mrs. Sylvie Galvez-Cuesta, Mas Family Program Director
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Mr. Oliver Echevarria '21, Mas Family Program Counselor
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Mrs. Arlene Clute, Administrative Assistant
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SCHOOL COUNSELING

Mrs. Iris Martinez, Director of Counseling Services
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Mr. Daniel Areces '16, Senior School Counselor A-Z
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Mr. Jason Hill '03, Sophomore School Counselor, A-K
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Mr. Jacob Grant, Freshman School Counselor, L-Z
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ACADEMIC PROGRAMS & SERVICE LEADERSHIP

Ms. Lourdes Rayneri, Test Coordinator
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Br. Albert Rivera, Director of Service Learning
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COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES

Allegheny College
American University - District of Columbia
Anderson University - South Carolina
Appalachian State University
Arizona State University
Auburn University
Augustana College
Aurora University
Ave Maria University
Avila University
Babson College
Barry University
Baylor University
Belmont Abbey College
Belmont University
Beloit College
Benedict College
Bentley University
Bethune-Cookman University
Boston College - Massachusetts
Boston University
Brevard College
Broward College - Florida
Bryant University
Case Western Reserve University
Chicago State University
Clark Atlanta University
Clayton State University
Clemson University
College of Central Florida
College of Charleston
College of Staten Island CUNY
Colorado State University
Converse University
Cornell University
CUNY New York City College of Technology
Dartmouth College
Dean College
Delaware State University
Dominican University New York
Drexel University
Duquesne University
East Tennessee State University
Eastern University - Pennsylvania
Eckerd College
EHL
Elmhurst University
Elon University
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University-Daytona Beach
Emmanuel College - Massachusetts
Emory University
Erskine College
Fairfield University
Ferris State University
Fisher College
Flagler College
Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University
Florida Atlantic University
Florida Gulf Coast University
Florida Institute of Technology
Florida International University
Florida Memorial University
Florida Polytechnic University
Florida Southern College
Florida State Fire College
Florida State University
Fordham University
Franklin and Marshall College
Franklin College
George Washington University
Georgetown College
Georgia Institute of Technology-Main Campus
Georgia Southern University
Georgia State University
Hamline University

Hampton University
Hastings College
Hawaii Pacific University
Heidelberg University - Ohio
High Point University
Hobart William Smith Colleges
Hofstra University
Howard University
Husson University
IE University - Madrid Campus
Indiana University-Bloomington
Iowa State University
Ithaca College
Jacksonville University
James Madison University
Johnson & Wales University-Providence
Keiser University-Ft Lauderdale
Kenyon College
Lake Forest College
Lander University
Lindenwood University
Louisiana State University
Louisiana State University-Shreveport
Loyola Marymount University
Loyola University Chicago
Loyola University Maryland
Loyola University New Orleans
Lynn University
Macalester College
Manhattan University
Marist University
Marquette University
Marymount University
Mercer University
Miami Dade College
Michigan State University
Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College
Mississippi State University
Morehouse College
New College of Florida
New Mexico Highlands University
New Mexico Military Institute
New York University
Nichols College
North Carolina A & T State University
North Carolina Central University
North Carolina State University at Raleigh
North Central College
Northeastern University
Nova Southeastern University
Ohio State University-Main Campus
Ohio Wesleyan University
Ouachita Baptist University
Pace University
Palm Beach Atlantic University
Palm Beach State College
Pennsylvania College of Technology
Pennsylvania State University-Penn State Beaver
Pepperdine University
Piedmont University
Presbyterian College
Providence College
Purdue University Fort Wayne
Purdue University-Main Campus
Reed College
Regis College
Regis University
Rice University
Rollins College
Rutgers University-New Brunswick
Saint Anselm College
Saint Joseph's University
Saint Louis University
Saint Mary's College of California
Santa Fe College

Savannah College of Art and Design
Seton Hall University
Snow College
Southern Methodist University
Southern Virginia University
Southern Wesleyan University
Spring Hill College
St. John's College
St. John's University-New York
St. Thomas University
Stetson University
Stony Brook University
Suffolk University
Syracuse University
Tallahassee State College
Tecnológico de Monterrey
Temple University
Texas A & M University-College Station
The Catholic University of America
The College of Wooster
The Honors College | Miami Dade College
The New School
The Pennsylvania State University-Main Campus
The University of Alabama
The University of Tampa
The University of Tennessee-Knoxville
The University of Texas at Austin
Thiel College
Tiffin University
Tri-County Technical College
Trinity College
Tulane University of Louisiana
Tuskegee University
United States Military Academy
United States Naval Academy
Universal Technical Institute-Auto Motorcycle & Marine Mechanics Institute Division-Orlando
Universidad Catolica de Murcia
Universidad Iberoamericana
University of Arizona
University of California-Berkeley
University of California-Davis
University of California-Irvine
University of California-Los Angeles
University of Central Florida
University of Chicago
University of Cincinnati-Main Campus
University of Colorado Boulder
University of Connecticut
University of Dallas

CLASS OF 2026