

# Mercer Island High School School Profile 2026-2027



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## Our Mission

Our purpose is to provide students with challenging educational activities and experiences that encourage them to reach their individual potential.

## Our Community

Mercer Island, an island community located in the south end of Lake Washington, is linked to Seattle, a metropolitan city of approximately 785,000, by a floating bridge (I-90). The city of Mercer Island is primarily a residential area for approximately 25,000 people, most of whom are employed in professional and managerial positions in business and industry in Seattle and the surrounding areas. Mercer Island School District (MISD) is a single-high school district.

## Academic Day

The school day is from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM and includes seven class periods of 50 minutes. Classes meet four times a week, one time as a 90 minute block. All students have a weekly ungraded advisory class called "Islander Hour."



## Wellness and Safety

Two Mercer Island Youth and Family Services (MIYFS) counselors are based full-time at the high school. MIYFS is a community-funded human services program. These counselors provide information, crisis intervention, counseling, group support and referral to other services. MIHS is also home to two therapy dogs, Finley and Guinness.

## Our Counseling Team

**Susie Brown, A-D Counselor**  
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**Maddie LaPorte, E-J Counselor**  
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**Laura Karson, K-M Counselor**  
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**Molly Preston, N-Si Counselor**  
[molly.preston@mercerislandschools.org](mailto:molly.preston@mercerislandschools.org)

**Katy Johnson, Sj-Z Counselor**  
[katy.johnson@mercerislandschools.org](mailto:katy.johnson@mercerislandschools.org)

**Christine Kenyon, College & Career**  
[christine.kenyon@mercerislandschools.org](mailto:christine.kenyon@mercerislandschools.org)

**Robin Moore, Counseling Secretary**  
[robin.moore@mercerislandschools.org](mailto:robin.moore@mercerislandschools.org)

## Our High School

Mercer Island High School (MIHS) is a comprehensive four-year public high school and includes Crest Learning Center – an alternative high school program. Local private and parochial school students also matriculate at MIHS. There are approximately 1,434 students attending the high school. There are 356 seniors in the Class of 2027. The high school staff totals 120. Academic Counselors have an average caseload of 300 students in grades 9-12. On time graduation rate is 95.9%. The reported ethnic breakdown of the student population is 0.1% American Indian or Alaska Native, 29.6% Asian, 1.2% African American, 47.2% Caucasian, 7.8% Hispanic/Latino, 0.1% Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, and 14% Multiracial. Mercer Island High School is "Phone-free" from 8:00 am-3:00 pm daily.



## Crest Learning Center

Crest Learning Center, the high school's alternative program, focuses on project-based learning to help students earn credit in core subjects. Students engage academically while upholding the Crest Essentials: Community, Healthy Relationships, Work Ethic, and Fun. Students plan events and activities and lead two parent conferences per year.

## ABE and the 4 B's

The staff at MIHS is committed to providing ABE- Agape, Belonging and Emotional Safety to every student. Agape is selfless love which seeks to see, value and believe in every student. Belonging strategies put into action our beliefs to confirm our commitment, leading to an Emotionally Safe experience for all of our students during their time in our school. This supports the district values of the 4 B's- Belonging, Believing, Removing Barriers, and Broadcasting Student Voices.



# School Honors, Awards & Programs



## 01 2026 College Prep

In 2026, Niche.com ranked MIHS #5 of 328 public high schools in Washington State for “Best College Prep.”

## 02 2024 College Success Award

Mercer Island High School is one of 48 public high schools in Washington State to be honored with this award.

## 03 College Board

MIHS was recognized by College Board in its AP District Honor Roll.

| 2025-26 College Entrance Testing |                   |                 |                      |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| Test                             | Subject           | Students Tested | Mean Score/Composite |
| SAT                              | Reading & Writing | 690             | 654                  |
| SAT                              | Math              | 690             | 672                  |
| ACT                              |                   | 76              | 29.4                 |

| 2026 AP Test Results              |             |                       |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| Students Tested                   | Tests Taken | AP Scores 3 and Above |
| 546                               | 1564        | 93%                   |
| AP Scholars: 126                  |             |                       |
| AP Scholars with Honor: 78        |             |                       |
| AP Scholars with Distinction: 162 |             |                       |
| International Diploma Received: 2 |             |                       |

| Class of 2027 National Merit Scholars |                    |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Semi Finalists                        | Commended Students |
| 7                                     | 43                 |

Islander Athletics had an outstanding 2025-26 school year. 967 students took to the field, court, course, and pool, joined by three seasons of Unified Sports athletes competing side by side. MIHS brought home state titles in Girls and Boys Cross Country; Girls Swimming & Diving, Tennis, and Track & Field; Boys Soccer; and Drill — and capped it off by placing 3rd overall and 1st among public schools in the 2025-26 WIAA Scholastic Cup. Off the field, 24 Islander scholar-athletes from the Class of 2026 signed on to compete at the collegiate level. Our students also kept exploring their passions in over 70 student-led clubs, from HOSA and Best Buddies to Fiber Arts and Mock Trial. They are also encouraged to start their own special interest clubs.

## MIHS Athletics & Clubs 04

## Student Media @ MIHS 05

There are four co-curricular student media outlets at MIHS. In 2025, **KMIH 88.9 The Bridge** was named “Best High School Radio Station” in the country. Student broadcasters create shows that educate, entertain and connect with the community. In its first three years, **MIHS.TV** staff won 11 Telly and other national broadcasting awards. Students work as a team to develop their communication, videography, editing, storytelling and computer skills for a variety of audiences and purposes. **The MIHS Islander** is a print and online newspaper which aims to provide news coverage that is meaningful to the MIHS community with accuracy, timeliness and fairness. **Pegasus** is the student-led creative arts magazine, which received a First Class rating from the Ntl. Scholastic Press Assn, is also a 2 Time Gold Medalist from Columbia Scholastic Press and all Honors for Visual (2026).

## MIHS Performing & Visual Arts 06

**Orchestra** at MIHS is recognized across the state as a model of excellence in string performance. Consisting of three ensembles and over 130 musicians, students participate in WMEA State Solo and Ensemble Contest as well as All-State and All-Northwest performing ensembles, consistently earning superior ratings. In spring 2025, the MIHS Orchestra performed at Carnegie Hall as a part of the National Band and Orchestra Festival.

**MIHS Marching Band** is “The Pride of the Island, ” one of Washington’s largest and most acclaimed band programs. Its 225 student musicians have earned international recognition with performances at the National Concert Band Festival, Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade, Tournament of Roses, London New Year’s Day Parade, and Australian National Band Championships. Honors include Grammy Signature School status, the Tournament of Roses Michael D. Sewell “Service Through Music” Award, and recognition by the U.S. Congress. In 2023, MISD was named one of the “Best Communities for Music Education” by the National Association of Music Merchants. Students consistently earn All State and All Northwest honors, win solo and ensemble titles, and receive Superior ratings at festivals.

**Drama** is an award-winning program recognized by the 5th Avenue Theatre, Washington State Thespians, International Thespian Festival, and local and national Shakespeare competitions. Students prepare and present musicals, dramas, comedies and improv shows in addition to engaging in hands-on experiences with Seattle theater artists.

**Choir** sends students to All-State, All-Northwest, and All-National honor choirs each year. The MIHS choir participates in regional and national festivals, earning Superior Ratings.

**Visual Arts** offerings at MIHS range from Metal Jewelry Design to Photography. Students can grow their talents through multiple beginner to AP pathways. All visual art students take part in the districtwide Fine Arts Showcase each spring, and ceramics students contribute to the annual Empty Bowls Fundraiser.

# Curriculum Features, Graduation Reqs & Grading



## Curriculum Features

### AP Courses

- Biology
- Calculus AB
- Calculus BC
- Chemistry
- Chinese Language and Culture
- Comparative Government & Politics
- Computer Science
- Cybersecurity
- English Language & Composition
- English Literature & Composition
- Environmental Science
- French Language and Culture
- Macroeconomics
- Microeconomics
- Physics 2
- Physics C/Mechanics
- Psychology
- Spanish Language and Culture
- Statistics
- Studio Art 2D Art and Design
- Studio Art 3D Art and Design
- Studio Art Drawing
- United States History

*Students may register for AP courses in their junior and senior years. MIHS does not limit the number of AP courses students may take.*

### Honors

- Algebra 2
- Chemistry 1
- Chemistry 2
- English 9
- English 10
- Geometry
- Human Geography and Climate Change
- Modern World History
- Physics 1
- Physics 2
- Precalculus

### International Entrepreneurship

- Entry into this course is by application and interview. It is the capstone course in the Business and Marketing CTE Pathway.



### Pacific Northwest College Credit & Running Start

- Students in specific Career Tech Ed (CTE) courses are able to earn college credit from local community and technical colleges.
- A Washington State dual-enrollment program is offered to eligible juniors and seniors. A 5-credit community college course is equal to 1.0 high school credit.

### WANIC

- MIHS is a consortium member of WaNIC, a regional skill center in Northeast King County.
- WaNIC provides advanced-level Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs based on rigorous academic and industry standards preparing students for career and college readiness.

### Grading

In accordance with District Policy, marks indicating achievement which meet standards for receiving credit will be: A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D+, D, & F. Using the State 11-point Grade Table, GPAs will be calculated on the following basis: A = 4.0, A- = 3.7, B+ = 3.3, B = 3.0, B- = 2.7, C+ = 2.3, C = 2.0, C- = 1.7, D+ = 1.3, D = 1.0, F = 0.0

### 2027 Graduation Requirements

#### Courses and Credits

- English: 4.0
- Fine Arts: 2.0
- Science: 3.0
- Social Studies: 3.0
- Mathematics: 3.0
- P.E./Health: 2.0
- Foreign Language: 2.0
- College and Career Readiness: 1.0

#### Totals:

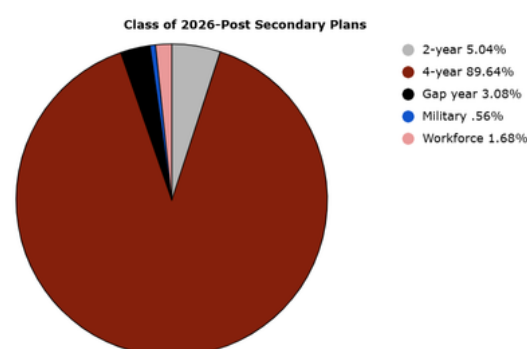
- Specific Content: 20.0
- Additional electives: 4.0
- Total required: 24.0

Students must earn a total of 24 credits to graduate. One-half credit is earned for each semester class completed with a grade of D or higher.

**Rank Policy:** As of August 2020, MIHS no longer ranks students.



### Class of 2026 Post Secondary Plans



[View the Full List of Colleges Attended by the Class of 2026](#)

### Transcript Markings

|      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| TR   | <b>TRANSFER:</b> Course taken at another accredited high school prior to student's MIHS Enrollment                                                                                                                       |
| IND  | <b>Independent study</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| WEB  | <b>Online Course</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| CR   | <b>Credit Only:</b> Course taken at another accredited institution during student's MIHS enrollment. It is the student's responsibility to send an official transcript from the credit-granting institution to colleges. |
| P/NP | <b>Pass/No Pass</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                      |