Winchester Thurston School

School Profile 2026-2027

Credo: "Think also of the comfort and the rights of others."

1887	686	301	77	99%	393970
FOUNDED	TOTAL ENROLLMENT	GRADES 9-12	CLASS OF 2027	TO 4-YEAR COLLEGES	CEEB CODE

45%+	39.3%	$5.68M	65%	69	39
STUDENTS OF COLOR	RECEIVE FINANCIAL AID	ANNUAL FINANCIAL AID	FACULTY ADV. DEGREES	ZIP CODES	SCHOOL DISTRICTS

SCHOOL OVERVIEW

Established 1887; Jr. Pre-K-12 independent, coeducational, college preparatory day school in Pittsburgh, PA. **99% of graduates attend four-year colleges/universities** in the United States and abroad.

CAMPUS AND ENROLLMENT

Lower, Middle, and Upper Schools in the Shadyside neighborhood of Pittsburgh, near Carnegie Mellon and the University of Pittsburgh. **686 students (Jr. Pre-K-12), 301 in grades 9-12.**

DISTINGUISHED CURRICULUM

Real-World Connections and Innovation: Winchester Thurston's curriculum emphasizes educational innovation, rigorous academics, and real-world connections. Students engage in community-oriented learning while developing college-level skills, with a focus on complex problem-solving, critical analysis and communication, creative thinking, and independent research.

MISSION STATEMENT

Winchester Thurston School actively engages each student in a challenging and inspiring learning process that develops the mind, motivates the passion to achieve, and cultivates the character to serve.

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CEEB: 393970

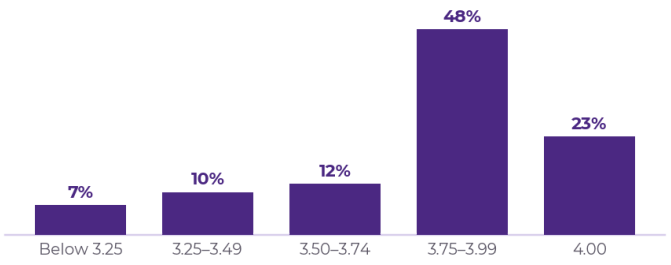
Head of School
Scott D. Fech, Ph.D.

Director of Upper School
Richard Tony

Director of College Counseling
David Weisbord · weisbordd@winchesterthurston.org

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CLASS OF 2027 GPA DISTRIBUTION



77 students, unweighted, end of junior year · Average **3.76** · Middle 50% **3.70–3.98** · **58%** at 3.85+ · No class rank

RIGOR OF STUDENT'S ACADEMIC PROGRAM

To contextualize the depth and challenge of a student's coursework for colleges, Winchester Thurston School categorizes each student's academic rigor on the Secondary School Report as: **College Preparatory, Demanding, Very Demanding, or Most Demanding.** The Class of 2027 breaks down as:



DISCIPLINE REPORTING POLICY

Students must truthfully disclose disciplinary violations on college applications. Upon request from colleges, WT reports incidents from grades 9-12 resulting in probation, suspension, or expulsion.

CLASS OF 2027 SAT & ACT (as of September 2026)

SAT (67 test-takers)

	EBRW	Math	Total
25th	620	610	1240
75th	740	750	1470
Avg	672	661	1333

ACT (14 test-takers)

	Composite
25th	25
75th	33
Avg	29

Test-optional reporting; figures reflect submitting students and update through the fall.

CLASS OF 2027 & GRADING SYSTEM

- **77 students**
- Grades A through F (including + and -, except A+)
- Unweighted 4.0 GPA scale · No class rank reported
- Only WT courses included in transcript and GPA

A	93-100	**C**	73-76
A-	90-92	**C-**	70-72
B+	87-89	**D+**	67-69
B	83-86	**D**	63-66
B-	80-82	**D-**	60-62
C+	77-79	**F**	0-59

SCHOOL CALENDAR & CREDIT STRUCTURE

Semester system on a 5-day, A & B week block schedule. **140 credits required to graduate.**

Credits: Full Year 6 · Semester 3 · Seminar & Ensembles 2.

MEMBERSHIPS & ACCREDITATIONS

Malone Scholars School · Two-time E.E. Ford Educational Leadership Grant recipient · Member, ACCIS · Member, NACAC · Member, NAIS · Accredited by the Pennsylvania Association of Independent Schools (PAIS)

FEATURED PROGRAM — ACCESS:INNOVATION

The program that earned WT its second E.E. Ford Educational Leadership Grant, making WT one of only two schools in the nation to receive the honor twice. This multi-week, project-based summer experience—rooted in City as Our Campus—pairs WT students with Pittsburgh Public School peers to design assistive technology, using 3D modeling to solve real challenges for people with disabilities, culminating in a community impact showcase.

ACADEMIC PROGRAM NOTES • CLASS OF 2027

*For detailed course descriptions, see the **2026-2027 WT Curriculum Guide**.*

Winchester Thurston's rigorous, college-preparatory curriculum encourages juniors and seniors to pursue their interests through diverse topics-based and project-based courses. WT's evolving academic offerings foster an equitable and inclusive learning environment that develops individuals of strong character prepared for the demands of a changing world.

Graduation Requirements

- At least 5 core courses annually (maximum 6); most exceed this baseline
- **140 credits** required to graduate
- Students may double up in one discipline after completing requirements in another

Academic Schedule

- Block Schedule: 5-day, A & B week, 80-minute classes on alternating days
- Semester system

Grade Reporting

- Q1: Mid-November (upon request)
- Mid-year: Late Jan / Early Feb
- Final: Mid-June

Additional Opportunities

- **Independent Projects:** Seniors design semester-long, credit-bearing projects with faculty mentors
- **MSON:** Malone Schools Online Network courses for 11th-12th graders, graded and transcripted

AP Course Phase-Out

From 2022 to 2025, Winchester Thurston replaced AP courses with imaginative, advanced, mission-aligned courses; the phase-out was completed in 2024-25. These capstone courses maintain AP-level rigor while allowing greater depth of exploration and expanded opportunities for interdisciplinary and project-based experiences. Colleges and universities across the nation recognize the rigor and sophistication of WT's advanced curriculum.

UNDERSTANDING COURSE LEVELS

Advanced Topics (AT) and Upper Level (UL) courses are open to juniors and seniors (grades 11–12); students in grades 9–10 follow the core sequence.

Advanced Topics (AT)

Maximum rigor and independence

- Deep understanding & transferable knowledge
- Student investment, independence, agency
- Expert thinking across disciplines
- Experiential learning & independent research
- City as Our Campus real-world connections

Upper Level (UL)

Rigorous with guided scaffolding

- Echo AT courses in significant ways
- Interdisciplinary & experiential approaches
- Student voice centered
- Measured, guided pacing with scaffolding
- Most 11th & 12th graders take a balanced mix of AT and UL courses

Advanced Course Offerings by Subject (Grades 11-12) • 2026-2027

Subject & Requirements	Advanced Topics (AT) & Upper Level (UL) Offerings
English 4 years required	**AT:** Rhetoric, Composition & the Art of Persuasion · Critical Approaches to Literature & Power **UL:** Comedies & Tragedies · Creative Writing Intensive: Crafting for Publication · Song, Stage & Screen · Speculative Fiction: Understanding the Unreal
History & Social Sciences 3 years required · US History: 10th gr	**AT:** American Politics & Constitutional Law · Environmental History, Environmental Justice · Global Power & Politics · Genocide: Global Perspectives on Crimes Against Humanity · Urban Research & Design · Machine Learning & the Social Implications of AI* **UL:** Economic Thought & Policy · Death, Divinity & Devotion · Europe: The Age of Revolution & Reform · Europe: The Turbulent 20th Century · Sports & Society · Power & Protest: Social Reform Movements
Mathematics 3 years · Algebra 2 required	**AT:** Advanced Statistics & Data Science · Calculus 1 · Calculus 2 · Linear Algebra · Multivariable Calculus **UL:** Precalculus · Statistics · The Mathematics of Decision-Making in Science, Finance & Politics
Science 3 years lab-based · Physics(9)→Chem(10)→Bio(11)	**AT:** Advanced Chemistry · Advanced Physics · Advanced Cell Biology & Human Disease · Biotechnology **UL:** Altruistic Engineering & Design · Psychology
World Languages 2 years & through Level 3 · Chinese, French, Latin, Spanish	**AT:** Advanced Seminars in Chinese, French, Latin & Spanish (rotating topics) **UL:** Level 4 language courses
Computer Science 1 year (2 semesters) required	**AT:** Algorithm Design · Machine Learning & the Social Implications of AI* **UL:** Programming Languages & Structures · Interactive Storytelling & Video Game Design · Robotics & Engineering: Prototype to Performance · Automation *May count as CS or History credit
Arts 1 year (2 semesters) required	Wide variety of performing & visual arts courses · Performance Ensembles (pass/fail; do not fulfill requirements)
Grade Level Seminar 4 years required (pass/fail)	Academic skills, social-emotional learning, physical health & wellness · Transitions to College Counseling focus in December of junior year

MATHEMATICS PREREQUISITE PATHWAYS

Algebra 1 → **Geometry** → **Algebra 2** → **Precalculus (UL)** → **Calculus 1 / Calc A (AT)** → **Calculus 2 (AT)** → **Post-Calculus (AT)**

Electives from Algebra 2: Statistics (UL) · The Mathematics of Decision-Making (UL). **After Precalculus:** Advanced Statistics & Data Science (AT). **Post-Calculus (all AT):** Linear Algebra · Multivariable Calculus · Differential Equations · Discrete Mathematics.

CITY AS OUR CAMPUS

City as Our Campus extends WT's core curriculum with real-world experiences across 125+ community partners in Pittsburgh. Faculty design projects and courses that turn organizations, institutions, and businesses into co-educators—so students don't just study the region's most pressing issues, they work to solve them.

WT COLLEGE COUNSELING PHILOSOPHY

Our goal is for students to take advantage of the many opportunities at WT to grow, stretch, and learn about themselves—making for a healthy, fulfilling college process.

We are here to support ALL of our students and families throughout ALL phases of the college search process.

COLLEGE MATRICULATIONS • CLASSES OF 2023-2026

Graduates of the Classes of 2023-2026 enrolled at **110 different colleges & universities** (266 total enrollments). Institutions with four or more WT enrollees are shown in **bold**.

MOST FREQUENTLY ATTENDED (FOUR OR MORE ENROLLEES)

University of Pittsburgh (28) · Carnegie Mellon University (15) · Case Western Reserve University (10) · Duquesne University (7) · Oberlin College (7) · Temple University (7) · Boston University (6) · Northeastern University (6) · Penn State University (6) · University of Michigan (6) · American University (5) · Cornell University (5) · University of Southern California (5) · Brown University (4) · The George Washington University (4) · Princeton University (4) · Rochester Institute of Technology (4) · Syracuse University (4) · Tufts University (4)

ALL MATRICULATIONS, ALPHABETICALLY

Adrian College
Allegheny College
American University (5)
Amherst College
Babson College (2)
Boston College
Boston University (6)
Bowdoin College (3)
Brown University (4)
Bucknell University
California Institute of Technology
Carleton College
Carnegie Mellon University (15)
Case Western Reserve University (10)
Chatham University
Claflin University
Claremont McKenna College
Cleveland Institute of Art
Colby College (2)
College of Charleston
The College of Wooster (2)
Colorado College
Community College of Allegheny County
Cornell University (5)
Dartmouth College
Delaware State University
Denison University (3)
DePaul University
Dickinson College
Duke University
Duquesne University (7)
Elon University (2)
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (Daytona Beach)
Emerson College (2)
Emory University (3)
Fisk University
Flagler College
Fordham University (2)
Franklin and Marshall College
The George Washington University (4)
Georgetown University (2)
Grinnell College
Harvard University
Harvey Mudd College
Haverford College
Hobart and William Smith Colleges (2)
Howard University
International University of Monaco
Kent State University
La Roche University
Lehigh University (2)
Lincoln University (Pennsylvania)
McGill University (2)
Michigan State University
Morgan State University
New York University (3)
North Carolina A&T State University
Northeastern University (6)
Northwestern University (2)
Oberlin College (7)
Penn State University (6)
PennWest California
Pitzer College (2)
Princeton University (4)
Purdue University
Rochester Institute of Technology (4)
Rollins College
Slippery Rock University
Southern Methodist University
Stanford University (3)
Swarthmore College
Syracuse University (4)
Temple University (7)
Trinity College Dublin
Tufts University (4)
Tulane University (3)
University of California (Los Angeles)
University of California (San Diego) (2)
University of Chicago
University of Colorado (Boulder) (2)
University of Delaware (2)
University of Denver (2)
University of Limerick
University of Maryland
University of Massachusetts (Amherst)
University of Michigan (6)
University of Notre Dame
University of Pennsylvania (2)
University of Pittsburgh (28)
University of Rochester (3)
University of Rostock
University of San Diego
University of South Florida (2)
University of Southern California (5)
University of St Andrews
University of Vermont (3)
University of Virginia
Villanova University (3)
Wake Forest University
Washington & Jefferson College (2)
Washington State University
Washington University in St. Louis (2)
Wentworth Institute of Technology
Wesleyan University
West Virginia University
Westmoreland County Community College
William & Mary
Williams College
Xavier University
Yale University

In the Class of 2026, 72 students were offered admission at 176 and enrolled at 44 different colleges & universities.