



City on a Hill Charter Public School Circuit Street

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School Facts:

Enrollment for 2016-2017:
283 Students, Grades 9-12

Class of 2018 Demographics:

- 100%** are students of color
- 59%** are female, **41%** are male
- 83%** qualify for free or reduced lunch
- 39%** speak a language at home other than English
- 82%** of the class of 2017 matriculated to a 2- or 4- year college

Our Mission: City on a Hill, a public high school serving grades 9-12 in urban Boston, emphasizes academic achievement, citizenship, teacher leadership, and public accountability. We seek to graduate responsible, resourceful, and respectful democratic citizens prepared to advance community, culture and commerce, and to compete in the 21st century.

Our History: We were and are a forerunner in the charter school movement. City on a Hill recently celebrated its 20th anniversary, approaching our 4th charter renewal by the Massachusetts Department of Education and a 2012 U.S. Department of Education Blue Ribbon School recognition. Our continued support from the Department Of Education and our accreditation by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges confirms the quality of our academic programs and the success of our graduates.

Our School: As a charter public school, students are admitted to City on a Hill through a lottery system. They do not need to pass any exams or meet any qualifications beyond Boston residency; by state law we cannot practice selective admission. This gives students of varied backgrounds and academic achievement the chance to compete and succeed in a challenging scholastic environment. City on a Hill does not sort its students into ability-leveled classes. We believe that all students can learn given the opportunity to meet universally-applied, high academic standards.

Grading Policies

Proficiencies: Students are given cumulative exams in all subjects at mid-year and at the end of the 4th quarter. Students must earn a 70% or above in order to earn credit for the course. Proficiencies count for 20% of student’s final grade.

Juries: The final week of school is devoted to testing students’ ability to demonstrate their knowledge of front of a panel of teachers, peers, and community member. Each student gives a presentation illustrating their grasp of core knowledge in the subject contact as their field questions from the jurors. Jurors then evaluate the student’s oral performance.

“Not Yet Proficient” (NYP): City on a Hill students are held to a higher academic standard than their colleagues in urban public schools. All work completed must earn a 70% or higher in order for the student to receive credit. Essays, tests, quizzes, juries, and proficiencies are all measured by this standard. If a student earns an NYP for a quarter, they do not receive any grade points towards their average. If a student averages an NYP for the school year, they are required to attend summer school.

ABS: In order to hold students accountable for being present and on time, students who miss more than three classes receive an absent code of ABS instead of the letter grade they earned. Students who are tardy receive 1/3 of an absence. The student can earn back the letter grade by making up the time with the teacher.

Percent Earned	Letter Grade	Grade Points
97% or above	A+	4.3
93% - 97%	A	4.0
90% - 92%	A-	3.7
87% - 89%	B+	3.3
83% - 86%	B	3.0
80% - 82%	B-	2.7
77% - 79%	C+	2.3
73% - 76%	C	2.0
70% - 72%	C-	1.7
69% or below	NYP	0

Academic Program

Inclusion: City on a Hill believes that all students are capable of achieving regardless of their learning profile when they enter high school. Students whose learning needs necessitate modifications to the general education curriculum are taught in general education college prep classes when deemed appropriate by their teachers and family in order to provide the least restrictive learning environment possible.

Foundations: Foundations classes are support classes that are coupled with students' English, Writing or Math class. Students receive additional, small group practice and instruction with the general education class material. The class meets as many times per week as necessitated by the student's learning goals.

AP Classes: Students choosing to take AP classes at City on a Hill typically do so in their senior year with approval of the department. Students are encouraged to take no more than two AP classes in a year, with exceptions made for highly skilled students on a case by case basis. AP U.S. History and AP Biology are new course offerings for the 2017-2018 school year.

Dual Enrollment: City on a Hill has partnered with Ben Franklin Institute of Technology, Roxbury Community College, and the University of Massachusetts - Boston to offer dual enrollment options. Students must pass an AccuPlacer to take the courses and can opt to take them both during the school year or over the summer.

English Language Development (ELD): Students are placed into ELD classes - formerly known as English as a Second Language (ESL) or English Language Learner (ELL) classes - when the primary language spoken at home is a language other than English. Once a student achieves the passing mark on the state ACCESS test, they are removed from ELD. City on a Hill gives credit to students enrolled in ELD in place of the two-year Spanish language requirement. ELD classes are full year, college prep classes that meet the same amount of time as other core classes. All classes at City on a Hill (with the exception of Spanish) are instructed in English, regardless of the students' primary language.

City Project: All seniors are required to complete their studies by passing City on a Hill's capstone history course. In this course, students research current events in society and government, identify a problem in the community, and complete 100 volunteer internship hours at a community organization related to their topic. At the end of the year, students must present their sociological research and experience to a panel of jurors.

Seminar: All juniors and seniors participate in college prep seminars designed to help students navigate the college process and transition to post-secondary life.

Key

AP = Advanced Placement **CP** = College Preparatory

DE = Dual Enrollment **AC** = Accelerated Class (Open Accelerated Program)

English 4 Years	English I/Fundamentals of English I English II English III English IV/Fundamentals of English IV AP English Literature & Composition	Science 3 Years	Unified Science with Lab Biology with Lab/Fundamentals of Biology Chemistry with Lab Physics with Lab Contemporary Science Applications AP Biology
Math 4 Years	Pre-Algebra Algebra / Fundamentals of Algebra Geometry Advanced Algebra Pre-Calculus Statistics AP Calculus AB	Foreign Language 2 Years	Spanish I Spanish II Spanish III Spanish Language & Culture AP Spanish Language & Composition English Language Development
History 3 Years	Civics / Fundamentals of Civics World History AP U.S. History / U.S. History AP Government & Politics Constitutional Law City Project	Other/ Electives	Junior Seminar Senior Seminar Theater Arts (Half Year) Technology (Half Year)

Grade Distribution	
A+	0
A	8
A-	23
B+	0
B	32
B-	20
C+	18
C	18
C-	39
NYP	15

GPA Distribution	
3.75-4.00	1
3.50-3.74	3
3.25-3.49	5
3.00-3.24	7
2.75-2.99	5
2.50-2.74	5
2.25-2.49	6
2.00-2.24	6
1.75-1.99	4
1.50-1.74	1
1.00-1.49	3

Grade Distribution by Class in the 2017 School Year

	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	NYP
AP Spanish Lang		3		3			1		1
Chemistry	4	2		4	6	7	4	7	1
English 3		6		5	2	3	4	12	1
U.S. History		3		2	5	3	1	8	5
Advanced Algebra	1	2		6	4	1	3	7	2
Pre-Calculus	3	1		5		2	2	3	2
Spanish 2		5		5	3	2	1	2	2
Spanish Language & Culture		1		2			2		1

Rank: Due to the small size of our school, City on a Hill does not rank its students.

GPA Weighting: All GPAs are City on a Hill are un-weighted with the exception of AP, OAP, and Dual Enrollment classes. Students receive a .4 addition to the grade points earn for that particular AP, OAP, or Dual Enrollment course.

Open Accelerated Program (OAP): The Open Accelerated Program is a new initiative to challenge high performing student within the general education classroom. Students are invited to apply to the program after earning an 85% or higher at the end of the first quarter. They are required to complete additional assessments as deemed appropriate by the department to earn the "Accelerated" designation. This program is offered in Civics, World History, Geometry, Algebra II and Spanish III for the 2017-2018 school year.

Colleges Acceptances for the Classes of 2010-2017

Adelphi University	Fairfield University	Mass College of Liberal Arts	Saint Augustine's University
Albertus Magnus College	Fayetteville State University	MCPHS University	Saint Michael's College
American International College	Fisher College	University of Mass, Amherst	College of Saint Rose
Anna Maria College	Fitchburg State University	University of Mass, Boston	Salem State University
Assumption College	Framingham State University	University of Mass, Dartmouth	Salve Regina University
Ben Franklin Institute of Tech.	Franklin and Marshall College	University of Mass, Lowell	Sarah Lawrence College
Bennington College	Franklin Pierce University	Merrimack College	University of Scranton
Bentley University	The George Washington University	Mills College	Simmons College
Bloomfield College	Georgia Perimeter College	Mitchell College	Smith College
Boston College	University of Georgia	Morgan State University	South Carolina State University
Boston University	Green Mountain College	Mount Holyoke College	Southern Conn. State University
Brandeis University	Hamilton College	Mount Ida College	University of Southern Maine
Central Conn. State University	Hampshire College	New England College	So. New Hampshire University
Centre College	Hampton University	University of New Hampshire	Spelman College
Champlain College	University of Hartford	University of New Haven	Springfield College
Clark Atlanta University	Hartwick College	College of New Rochelle	St. John's University
Clark University	Hobart & William Smith Colleges	N. Carolina A&T University	Stonehill College
Clarkson University	College of the Holy Cross	Northeastern University	Suffolk College
Colby-Sawyer College	Howard University	Occidental College	Syracuse University
University of Connecticut	Ithaca College	Pace University	Thomas College
Connecticut College	Johnson & Wales University	Pine Manor College	Tougaloo College
Curry College	Kalamazoo College	Providence College	Tuskegee University
Eastern Conn. State University	Keene State College	Quinnipiac University	Union College
Eckerd College	La Salle University	Regis College	Utica College
Elmira College	Lasell College	Rhode Island College	Wellesley College
Elms College	Lawrence University	University of Rhode Island	Wentworth Institute of Tech.
Elon University	Lehigh University	University of Rochester	Western New England University
Emerson College	Lemoyne College	Roger Williams University	Westfield State University
Emmanuel College	Lesley University	Sacred Heart University	Wheelock College
Endicott College	University of Maine	Saint Anselm College	Worcester Polytechnic Institute