



# SCHOOL PROFILE 2023-2024

CEEB Code: 340-601

## Quick Facts

Founded: 1996

Enrollment: Grades 6-12

Upper School Size: 490

Senior Class Size: 119

Percent College Bound: 99%

Percent Students of Color: 59%

### Dr. Michael Ehrhardt

Head of School

### Robin N. Follet

Head of Upper School

### Leya Tseng Jones

Co-Director of College Counseling

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### Brandon Carter

Co-Director of College Counseling

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### Becca Haque

Associate Director of College

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Assistant to the Counselors

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Accredited by the Southern Association of  
Independent Schools (SAIS) and AdvancED.

## Mission

We are a learning community dedicated to discovery, innovation, collaboration, and excellence. We are committed to creating personalized learning opportunities that are flexible and relevant in an environment that supports student wellbeing. We aim to cultivate self-directed and bold lifelong learners who make meaningful contributions to the world.

## Experiential and Flexible Learning Opportunities

**Center for Community Engagement (CCE):** As part of our strategic plan, we established the CCE in 2019, built on four pillars: Diversity & Inclusion, Entrepreneurship, Experiential Learning, and Service Learning.

**X Day:** Two Wednesdays each semester are designated as X Days – days wholly dedicated to experiential learning opportunities, designed and led by students and faculty, for the purpose of pursuing academic questions more deeply, engaging in service learning, and building student leadership.

**Discovery Term:** Our students participate in two-week Discovery Terms at the end of the year. They investigate areas outside the regular curriculum through seminars or, for juniors, a Work Experience program.

**World Language Exchange Program:** Our World Language Department coordinates an exchange program for all sophomores each spring. The program is based upon reciprocal partnerships with schools in Argentina, China, France, and Germany. Students spend approximately two weeks abroad – living with a host family, experiencing school and daily life. In return, our families receive students from our partner schools for a similar program. After a three-year hiatus due to COVID-19, we were able to restart our exchange program in Spring 2023, albeit with two modifications. Because of travel restrictions in China and group size limitations in Argentina, we built two trips without homestays into our program, one to Taiwan and one to Ecuador.

**Away Programs & Online Courses:** Our students engage in programs such as High Mountain Institute, Maine Coast Semester, and the School for Ethics & Global Leadership. They also may pursue online coursework through approved vendors such as Virtual High School and Global Online Academy.

## School Discipline Reporting Policy

The school reports suspensions and provides a written explanation; we expect students to do the same.

## COVID Impact on Instruction

We ran a hybrid schedule in 2020-2021; most students attended class half-time in person and half-time virtually. Grading remained unchanged. In 2021-2022, we returned to a fully in-person schedule.

## Academic Policies

### Graduation Requirements

Students must take a minimum of 5 full credits each year and a minimum of 21 total credits including 4 credits in English; 3 credits each in Mathematics (with a minimum of Algebra II), History, Science (biology, chemistry and physics), and World Language. In addition, students must take 2 credits in Fine Arts, as well as Health I and II.

### No Rank/No GPA Policy

Because our graduating classes are small, our programs highly rigorous, and our range of grades narrow, it is our policy to neither rank our students nor compute GPA. Instead, we provide a junior year grade distribution.

## Curriculum Information

### Advanced (ADV) Course Information

We offer Advanced (ADV) courses in lieu of Advanced Placement (AP) courses. These courses, our highest level, are taught with the rigor and expectations of AP courses but allow teachers to emphasize areas of study not prescribed in the AP syllabus. Typically, ADV courses are open only to juniors and seniors.

In **2023-2024**, the school offers 17 year-long and 24 semester-long Advanced (ADV) courses. Juniors are limited to a maximum of FOUR (4) credits of ADV courses. Seniors may take a maximum of FOUR (4) credits of ADV courses if carrying a load of six academic courses; they may take a maximum of FIVE (5) credits of ADV courses if carrying a load of five.

### Curriculum notes:

**English:** All semester electives for juniors and seniors are offered at both the regular and ADV level.

**Math:** ADV Calculus I & II is by invitation only. ADV Calculus III & Differential Equations is our highest level math course.

**Science:** ADV Biology, ADV Chemistry and ADV Physics-Mechanics meet additional periods each week with no additional credit awarded.

**World Language:** All semester electives for juniors and seniors are offered at both the regular and ADV level. ADV Studies-Spanish Literature is a year-long course.

Full course listings and descriptions are available at

<https://CourseCatalog.CaryAcademy>

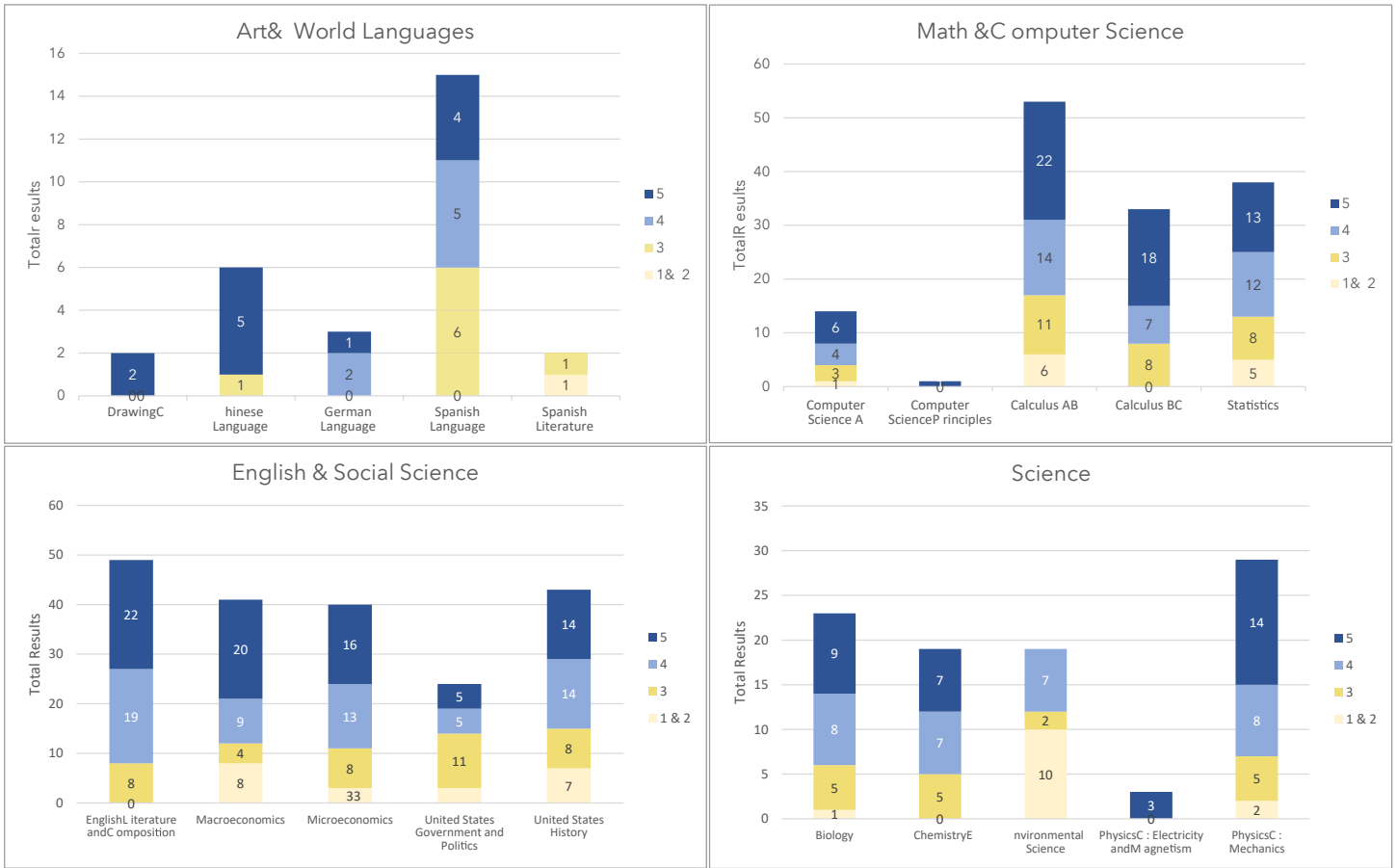
## Grade Distribution

| English                           | A+ | A   | A- | B+ | B  | B- | C+ | C | C-/D/F |
|-----------------------------------|----|-----|----|----|----|----|----|---|--------|
| English Electives (11s & 12s)     | 19 | 43  | 51 | 21 | 28 | 4  | 4  | 8 | 2      |
| English Electives ADV (11s & 12s) | 13 | 127 | 93 | 21 | 5  | 1  | 0  | 0 | 0      |
| Math & Computer Science           | A+ | A   | A- | B+ | B  | B- | C+ | C | C-/D/F |
| Algebra II & Precalculus          | 4  | 13  | 13 | 5  | 11 | 3  | 4  | 0 | 4      |
| Analytics & Statistics (ADV)      | 12 | 31  | 14 | 8  | 0  | 0  | 1  | 1 | 0      |
| Calculus (ADV - all levels)       | 28 | 42  | 14 | 8  | 11 | 2  | 3  | 1 | 0      |
| Computer Science (ADV)            | 5  | 11  | 1  | 1  | 1  | 0  | 0  | 0 | 0      |
| Precalculus (H)                   | 2  | 8   | 12 | 5  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0 | 0      |
| Social Sciences                   | A+ | A   | A- | B+ | B  | B- | C+ | C | C-/D/F |
| Social Sciences                   | 2  | 14  | 11 | 6  | 3  | 1  | 1  | 0 | 0      |
| Social Sciences (ADV)             | 38 | 73  | 65 | 26 | 20 | 4  | 2  | 2 | 2      |
| Science                           | A+ | A   | A- | B+ | B  | B- | C+ | C | C-/D/F |
| Biology, Chemistry, Physics (ADV) | 9  | 31  | 28 | 18 | 8  | 2  | 0  | 0 | 0      |
| Other Science (ADV)               | 2  | 40  | 7  | 1  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0 | 0      |
| Science                           | 13 | 32  | 25 | 8  | 10 | 6  | 0  | 0 | 0      |
| World Languages                   | A+ | A   | A- | B+ | B  | B- | C+ | C | C-/D/F |
| Chinese                           | 1  | 1   | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0 | 0      |
| Chinese (ADV)                     | 2  | 4   | 1  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0 | 0      |
| French                            | 3  | 18  | 7  | 2  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0 | 0      |
| French (ADV)                      | 1  | 9   | 5  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0 | 0      |
| German                            | 2  | 0   | 0  | 2  | 0  | 1  | 0  | 0 | 0      |
| German (ADV)                      | 0  | 15  | 2  | 2  | 1  | 0  | 0  | 0 | 0      |
| Spanish                           | 14 | 28  | 17 | 8  | 3  | 0  | 0  | 0 | 0      |
| Spanish (ADV)                     | 24 | 40  | 12 | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0 | 0      |

Grades for the 2022-2023 year for courses in which primarily juniors and seniors were enrolled.

# Testing Information

In May 2023, 208 students took 515 AP Exams; 86.4% of the scores were a 3, 4, or 5. Following is a breakdown of those results::



## Class of 2023 Testing Profile

**ACT Composite  
Middle 50% Range**

27 - 33

**SAT  
Middle 50% Range**

ERBW: 630-760  
Math: 620-730

**National Merit  
Recognition**

15 Finalists; 20 Commended  
  
2 African American  
Recognition Program Scholars  
  
2 Hispanic Recognition  
Program Scholars

## College Matriculation

In the spirit of Cary Academy’s mission to create bold, self-directed, and lifelong learners who will make meaningful contributions to the world, we share our [3-year College Matriculation list](#) to celebrate the excellence of every college our students chose to attend. Cary Academy recognizes that the decision of where to enroll is a personal one made for any number of reasons by each student and family, and that where a student enrolls is far less important than how they engage with their college experience.

The 112 members of the Class of 2023 chose to attend 54 different colleges in 23 states and the District of Columbia, France, and Japan.