



Carnegie Vanguard High School

for the Gifted and Talented

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A Top 10 High School in the US

CARNEGIE VANGUARD AND MISSION

Carnegie Vanguard High School was established in the fall of 2002 as the successor to the highly successful school-within-a-school Vanguard program at Jesse H. Jones Senior High which was created in 1977. Today Carnegie is the only Vanguard high school in the Houston Independent School District (HISD) with 100% of the students identified as gifted and talented in academics. The mission of Carnegie Vanguard High School is to provide a unique and challenging learning environment to prepare the diverse gifted and talented students of HISD for leadership in a global society.

STUDENT BODY

Carnegie Vanguard's students seek academic excellence in a community that values diversity, acceptance, and close relationships with faculty. Our 643 current students come from every area of the Houston Independent School District. Carnegie Vanguard's overall demographic breakdown is as follows:

- African American 9.2%
- Asian 25.2%
- Caucasian 29.4%
- Latino and Hispanic 33.1%
- Other 3.1%

31% of students at Carnegie Vanguard are eligible for free/reduced lunch programs.

COLLEGE PLACEMENT CLASS 2016

- 95% matriculated at 4-year colleges or universities
- 5% matriculated at 2-year colleges (honors programs)
- 39% matriculated at out-of-state colleges

NATIONAL RANKINGS

- US News and World Report:** #6 in 2015, and #10 in 2016
- Newsweek:** #143 in 2015, and #184 in 2016
- Washington Post:** #9 in 2015, and #11 in 2016

GRADING SYSTEM*

A student's grade point average is computed on a 4.0 weighted scale. The theoretical maximum GPA is above 4.9 on a 4.0 weighted scale, reflecting the number of required unweighted regular courses as well as Pre-AP, AP, and honors courses, which carry an additional grade point. The cumulative GPA includes all courses except high school courses taken in middle school.

Grade-Point Assignment

Letter Grade	Grading Scale	Pre-AP, AP, Honors Courses	Regular Courses
A	90 – 100	5	4
B	80 – 89	4	3
C	75 – 79	3	2
D	70 – 74	2	1
F	Below 70	0	0

GPA Distribution of Top 20% of Class 2017 (Junior Year)

Class Ranking	Top 5%	Top 10%	Top 15%	Top 20%	Top 25%
GPA Range	4.80 to 4.91	4.61 to 4.91	4.50 to 4.91	4.34 to 4.91	4.18 to 4.91

CURRICULUM

Carnegie Vanguard offers only Pre-Advanced Placement (Pre-AP) and Advanced Placement (AP) courses in English, Math, Science, and Social Studies as well as Honors elective courses in core subject areas. The curriculum for every course is above and beyond state and district standards. Each Carnegie Vanguard student generally takes at least 10 AP courses before graduation including the following: AP English Language and Composition, AP English Literature, AP Capstone (Seminar and Research), AP Physics 1, AP Human Geography, AP World History, AP US History, AP Economics, and AP US Government and Politics, and others.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

A minimum of 26 credits are required for graduation. The required credits include:

- 4 years of English that include AP English Language and AP English Literature
- 4 years of Social Studies that include 5 AP courses
- 4 years of Science that include Biology, Chemistry, and AP Physics 1
- 4 years of Mathematics that include Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2
- 1 to 2 years of Research-based courses
- 2 years or more of one Foreign Language
- 1 year of Fine Arts
- 1 year of Physical Education
- 4 years or more of Electives

* A Carnegie student who ranks in the bottom quintile at school would rank in the top quintile nationally. A top quintile ranking at Carnegie is equivalent to a top 2% national ranking; a top 16% ranking at Carnegie would translate to a top 1% national ranking. An average Carnegie student who ranks right in the middle (50%) would rank around the top 8% nationally.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT DATA (2015 - 2016 academic year)

Students at Carnegie Vanguard take the following courses and tests:

- Freshmen take AP Human Geography
- Sophomores take AP World History
- Juniors take AP English Language, AP US History, and AP Physics 1
- Seniors take AP English Language, AP US Government, AP Micro-economics, and any others they elect to take

The information in the following table is for the entire school, NOT just juniors and seniors.

Subject	Total Exams	% of 3, 4, 5
Art History	13	92%
Biology	23	91%
Calculus AB	61	95%
Calculus BC	27	100%
Chemistry	47	74%
Chinese Language	1	100%
Comparative Government	6	100%
Computer Science A	20	75%
English Language	131 (juniors)	93%
English Literature	145 (seniors)	81%
Environmental Science	40	65%
European History	7	100%
French Language	12	92%
Human Geography	170 (freshmen)	71%
Latin	5	100%
Macroeconomics	115 (seniors)	28%
Microeconomics	9	89%
Physics 1	131 (juniors)	24%
Physics 2	14	36%
Physics C: Electricity & Mag.	18	72%
Physics C: Mechanics	21	95%
Psychology	35	83%
Research	35	66%
Seminar	152	69%
Spanish Language	39	100%
Spanish Literature	21	100%
Statistics	119	76%
Studio Art: 2D Design	2	100%
Studio Art: Drawing Portfolio	1	100%
US Government	142 (seniors)	70%
US History	130 (juniors)	84%
World History	153 (sophomores)	78%
All Subjects	1,845	72%

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARS - CLASS 2017 (N = 131)

National Merit Scholars	Number of Students	Percent of Class
National Merit Semifinalists	9	7%
Commended Scholars	18	14%
Hispanic Scholars	15	11%

SAT REASONING TEST RESULTS - CLASS 2016 (N = 152 tests)

SAT Reasoning Test Scores	Middle 50%	Carnegie Mean	National Mean
Critical Reading	580 – 700	644	490
Math	590 – 710	653	500
Writing	570 – 700	633	480
Total Score	1740 – 2110	1930	1470

ACT TEST RESULTS - CLASS 2016 (N = 130 tests)

ACT Summary	Middle 50%	Carnegie Mean	National Mean
English	25 – 34	29.0	20.1
Math	26 – 32	29.0	20.6
Reading	27 – 33	29.7	21.3
Science	24 – 33	27.9	20.8
Composite	26 – 33	29.1	20.8

CONVERSION OF CARNEGIE'S CLASS RANK TO NATIONAL RANK BASED ON CLASS 2016 ACT SCORES

88% of Carnegie's 148 students in Class 2016 took ACT test (N = 130)

ACT Score	# of Carnegie Students	Percent Rank at Carnegie
36	3	2.3%
35	20	15.4%
34	12	9.2%
33	10	7.7%
32	4	3.1%
31	5	3.8%
30	5	3.8%
29	11	8.5%
28	12	9.2%
27	5	3.8%
26	6	4.6%
25	9	6.9%

ATHLETIC PROGRAMS

Because of our constrained urban location, budget limit, newness of the school, and small size, Carnegie is able to offer only limited athletic opportunities to our students. Current athletic offerings include UIL baseball, cross country, tennis, and girls' volleyball. Lack of athletic resources puts a constraint on our students' athletic pursuits, and our students have to work much harder than their peers at other high schools to pursue their athletic passions.

COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY MATRICULATION 2013 – 2016

16% of Class 2016 (N = 148) matriculated at the most selective colleges with acceptance rate below 25%.

Colleges in Texas

Abilene Christian University
Austin College
Baylor University
Blinn College
Houston Baptist University
Houston Community College Honors
Lamar University
LeTourneau University
Lone Star College
Rice University
St. Edward's University
St. Mary's University

Sam Houston State University
San Jacinto College
Schreiner University
Southwestern University
Stephen F. Austin University
Texas A&M University
Texas A&M University, Corpus Christi
Texas A&M University, Galveston
Texas Lutheran University
Texas Southern University
Texas State University
Texas Tech University

Texas Women's University
Trinity University
University of Alabama in Huntsville
University of Houston
University of Houston-Downtown
University of North Texas
University of St. Thomas
University of Texas in Austin
University of Texas in Dallas
University of Texas in San Antonio
University of Texas in Tyler

Out-of-State Colleges

Agnes Scott College
American University
Amherst College
Arizona State University
Babson College
Beloit College
Bennington College
Binghamton University
Boston University
Bowdoin College
Brandeis University
Binghamton University
Bryn Mawr College
California Institute of Technology
California Polytechnic State University
Carleton College
Claremont McKenna College
Coe College
Colby College
Colorado College
Colorado School of Mines
Colorado State University
Columbia University
Cornell College
Dartmouth College
Duke University
Earlham College
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
Emerson College
Emory University
Fordham University
Franklin Olin College of Engineering
Franklin & Marshall College
George Washington University
Grinnell College
Harvard University

Harvey Mudd College
Hendrix College
Hofstra University
Howard University
Johns Hopkins University
Kenyon College
Lafayette College
Lake Forest College
Louisiana State University
Mary Baldwin College
McGill University
Middlebury College
Mount Holyoke College
New York University
North Carolina School of the Arts
Northeastern University
Occidental College
Oklahoma State University
Portland State University
Pratt Institute
Purdue University
Randolph-Macon College
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rhodes College
Rose - Hulman Institute of Technology
Savannah College of Art & Design
School of the Art Institute of Chicago
Seton Hall University
Smith College
Soka University of America
Southwestern University
Spelman College
St. John's College
St. John's University
Stanford University
Swarthmore College

Temple University
The New School
Trinity College
Tulane University
University of Alabama
University of British Columbia
University of California, Berkeley
University of Chicago
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
University of Indiana
University of Kansas
University of Michigan
University of Oklahoma
University of Pennsylvania
University of Portland
University of Puget Sound
University of Rochester
University of Southern California
University of Toronto
University of Tulsa
University of Virginia
University of Wisconsin, Madison
Vassar College
Villanova University
Virginia Military Institute
Virginia Tech
Vanderbilt University
Washington University in St. Louis
Wellesley College
Wesleyan University
Whitman College
Williams College
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Xavier University
Yale University