



Carnegie Vanguard High School

for Gifted and Talented Students

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A Top 30 High School in the U.S.

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 & 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, tolerance, and close relationships with faculty. Our 617 current students come from every area of the Houston Independent School District. 11% of students are African American, 19% are Asian, 40% are Caucasian, 27% are Latino and Hispanic, and 3% are other races. In 2014, 1410 students applied for admission for a freshmen class size of approximately 175, about seven applicants for every seat.

NATIONAL RANKINGS

Carnegie Vanguard's rigorous academics have been widely recognized in the country. For the past several years, Carnegie Vanguard has been consistently ranked as a top 30 public high school in the country by several major magazines and journals:

U.S. News & World Report, # 17 in 2013, #23 in 2014

Newsweek, #11 in 2011, # 13 in 2012, #28 in 2013,

Washington Post, # 10 in 2012, and # 13 in 2013, #11 in 2014

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 written to go above and beyond state and district standards. Carnegie Vanguard courses move at a quicker pace, cover more material, and are project-based. They rely heavily on discussion and seminar style delivery of course information and the use, interpretation, and delivery of research. Each Carnegie Vanguard student is required to take at least 8 AP courses before graduation: AP English Language and Composition, AP English Literature, AP Human Geography, AP World History, AP U.S. History, AP Economics, and AP U.S. Government and Politics.

SIGNATURE COURSE

TEXAS PERFORMANCE STANDARDS PROJECT is a required course that offers a non-traditional learning experience to Carnegie students to explore their gifts and talents. Through the course, students develop innovative products, compile portfolios, and conduct in-depth creative research. Each student is matched with a mentor from the academic or professional community, and prepares for a public presentation of her/his work or performance at the end of the school year to be evaluated by an audience that includes experts in the field.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Carnegie Vanguard students complete a rigorous program of study that requires a minimum of 26 credits for graduation. It includes 4 years of English (including AP English Language and AP English Literature), 4 years of social studies (5 AP courses), 3 years of science (one year each in biology, chemistry, and physics), 3 years of mathematics, 3 years of one foreign language in a sequence, one year of fine arts, one year of physical education, and 4 credits of electives.

GRADING SYSTEM

A student's grade point average is computed on a 4.0 weighted scale. The theoretical maximum GPA is 4.93 on a 4.0 scale, reflecting the number of required unweighted regular courses as well as pre-AP, AP, and honors courses, which carry additional grade point. All courses are included in the cumulative GPA.

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 2015 (Junior Year)

Class Ranking	Top 3%	Top 5%	Top 10%	Top 20%
GPA Range	4.84 - 4.93	4.81 - 4.839	4.68 - 4.809	4.53 - 4.679

INTERPRETING CLASS RANKING

Because admission to Carnegie Vanguard is very competitive and all students are identified as gifted and talented, class rank cannot be regarded as a valid indication of preparation for college for the students at Carnegie. Should rank be considered an important factor, Carnegie students should actually be measured against the totality of Houston ISD's senior class, approximately 11,000 students. There are seven applicants for each available seat at Carnegie Vanguard.

According to standardized test results of ACT and SAT, an average student at Carnegie Vanguard would rank between the top 8% to the top 12% in the nation.

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARS - CLASS 2015 (N = 141)

National Merit Scholars	Number of Students	Percent of Class
National Merit Semifinalists	13	9%
Commended Scholars	43	31%
Hispanic Scholars	5	4%

NATIONAL AP SCHOLARS - CLASS 2014

AP Scholars	Number of Students	Percent of Class
National AP Scholars	19	19%
Scholars w. Distinction	38	38%
Scholars w. Honors	8	8%
Total AP Scholars	65	65%

SAT REASONING TEST RESULTS - CLASS 2014 (N = 105 tests)

SAT Reasoning Test Scores	Middle 50%	Carnegie Mean	National Mean
Critical Reading	570 - 690	631	490
Math	580 - 710	648	510
Writing	550 - 670	616	480
Total Score	1700 - 2070	1895	1480

ACT TEST RESULTS - CLASS 2014 (N = 83 tests)

ACT Summary	Middle 50%	Carnegie Mean	National Mean
English	24 - 33	28.0	20.2
Math	26 - 32	28.6	20.9
Reading	24 - 33	28.7	21.1
Science	24 - 33	28.1	20.7
Composite	25 - 32	28.5	20.9

SAT SUBJECT TEST RESULTS - CLASS 2014 & 2015

Subject	Number of Students	Carnegie Mean	National Mean
Biology E	5	698	
Biology M	7	759	675
Chemistry	10	718	685
English Literature	7	694	580
U.S. History	14	675	599
Math, Level 2	24	734	648
Physics	9	639	655

ADVANCED PLACEMENT DATA (2013-2014)

Carnegie requires all freshmen to take AP Human Geography, sophomores take AP World History, juniors to take AP English Language and AP U.S. History, seniors to take AP English language and two other AP classes. The information below is for the whole school, NOT just juniors and seniors.

Subject	Total Exams	% of 3, 4, 5
Human Geography	173 (all freshmen)	71%
English Language	142 (all juniors)	89%
English Literature	102 (all seniors)	63%
World History	171 (all sophomores)	80%
U.S. History	142 (all juniors)	64%
Art History	27	89%
Biology	53	89%
Calculus AB	16	81%
Calculus BC	30	70%
Chemistry	40	100%
Chinese Language	1	100%
Macroeconomics	6	100%
Microeconomics	101	49%
Government	102	47%
Computer Science A	20	80%
Environmental Science	48	54%
European History	12	75%
French Language	8	100%
Latin	10	90%
Physics C – Electricity	25	44%
Physics C - Mechanics	25	88%
Physics B	27	63%
Spanish Language	40	98%
Spanish Literature	18	83%
Statistics	84	70%
Studio Art – 2D Design	3	100%
All Subjects	1426	82.6%

COLLEGE PLACEMENT CLASS 2014

98% matriculated at 4-year colleges or universities
 2% matriculated at 2-year colleges (honors programs)
 33% matriculated at out-of-state colleges

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 passion

CONVERSION OF CARNEGIE'S CLASS RANK TO NATIONAL RANK BASED ON CLASS 2014 ACT SCORES

81% of Carnegie's 102 students in Class 2014 took ACT test (N = 83)

ACT Score	35	34	33	32	31	30	29	28	27	26	25
# of Carnegie Students	3	5	10	8	6	8	8	4	2	5	4
Percent Rank at Carnegie	3%	5%	10%	8%	6%	8%	8%	4%	2%	5%	4%

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

English

English 1 – Pre AP (required)
 English 2 – Pre AP (required)
 AP English Language and Composition (required – juniors)
 AP English Literature and Composition (required – seniors)
 Literary Genres – Film Analysis
 Creative Writing – (Honors)

Mathematics

Algebra 1 – Pre AP (required)
 Geometry – Pre AP (required)
 Algebra 2 – Pre AP (required)
 Pre-Calculus – Pre AP
 AP Calculus AB/BC
 AP Statistics
 Computer Science-Pre AP
 AP Computer Science
 Independent Study Advanced Topics – (Honors)

Social Studies

AP Human Geography (required for freshmen)
 AP World History (required for sophomores)
 AP U.S. History (required for juniors)
 AP European History
 AP Microeconomics (required)
 AP Macroeconomics (micro or macro)
 AP U.S. Government and Politics (required)
 AP Comparative Government
 1968 History – (Honors)
 World Religions – (Honors)
 World Wars – (Honors)
 Sociology
 Psychology
 AP Psychology
 Philosophy 1 & 2 – (Honors)
 AP Research (Capstone)

Sciences

Biology - Pre AP (required)
 Chemistry – Pre AP (required)
 Physics – Pre AP (required)
 AP Biology
 AP Chemistry
 Organic Chemistry
 AP Physics 1
 AP Physics C
 AP Environmental Science
 Anatomy and Physiology

Foreign Languages

French 1
 French 2 & 3 – Pre AP
 French 4 – AP French Language and Culture
 Latin 1
 Latin 2 & 3 – Pre AP
 AP Latin Vergil
 Chinese 2 & 3 – Pre AP
 Spanish 1
 Spanish 2 & 3 – Pre AP
 Spanish 4 – AP Spanish Language
 Spanish 5 – AP Spanish Literature

Fine Arts

Art 1, 2, & 3 – Pre AP
 AP Studio Art – Drawing
 AP Art 2-D Design (Photography)
 AP Art History
 Theatre 1, 2 & 3
 Shakespeare - Theater

Other Courses

Debate 1 & 2
 Principle of Information Technology
 Digital Interactive Media
 Physical Education
 Health
 Communication Application
 Yearbook 1, 2, & 3
 Independent Studies
 Houston Chronicle Internship
 Texas Performance Standards Project – (Honors)

CARNEGIE HIGHLIGHTS 2013 – 2014

Carnegie Vanguard Theatre performers won the 2014 UIL State Championship for Best One Act Play! "When the Rain Stops Falling". Robotics Club competed at World Robotics Championship, and *CVHS 2013 Yearbook* was featured in the official Balfour *Best Yearbook of 2013*. One student holds the title of West National Diving Champion (Earning gold medal on 1m springboard and the bronze medal on 3m springboard) and qualifies for Junior Olympic National Diving Championships in both events. Another student won a gold medal at the Junior Olympics in Baltimore and won the World Championships for Fencing in Croatia as one of the top fencers in the world. One student won the Chevron Houston Marathon for ages 16-19 division and qualified for Boston Marathon. One student won a silver medal in the National Scholastic Art Contest, while four students won the gold key medals in regional Scholastic Writing and Art Contest. Four Carnegie students ranked top 10 in the nation for the National French Contest. One member of Carnegie's Junior State of America (JSA) was elected to the highest office, Governor of Texas JSA.

COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY MATRICULATION 2011 – 2014

Colleges in Texas

Abilene Christian University
Austin College
Baylor University
Blinn College
Houston Baptist University
Houston Community College Honors
Rice University
St. Edward's University
St. Mary's University
Sam Houston State University
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
Texas Women's University
Trinity University
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

Out-of-State Colleges

Agnes Scott College
American University
Amherst College

Bennington College
Boston University
Bowdoin College
Brandeis University
Bryn Mawr College
Carleton College
Carnegie Mellon University
Centre College
Claremont McKenna College
Clark University
Clemson University
Coe College
Colby College
Colorado College
Columbia University
Creighton University
Dartmouth College
DePaul University
Eckerd College
Emerson College
Emory 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
Louisiana State University
Loyola University, New Orleans
Macalester College
Marquette University
McGill University
Missouri U. of Science and Technology
Mount Holyoke College

New York University
Occidental College
Oklahoma State University
Pepperdine University
Purdue University
Reed College
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rochester Institute of Tech.
Rose-Hulman Institute of Tech.
Salem College
Savannah College of Art & Design
School of the Art Institute of Chicago
Seattle University
Smith College
Soka University of America
Spelman College
St. John's University
Stanford University
Swarthmore College
Sweet Briar College
Syracuse University
Temple University
Tulane University
Tufts University
Tuskegee University
University of Arizona
University of Chicago
University of Indiana
University of Oklahoma
University of Pennsylvania
University of Rochester
University of Southern California
Vassar College
Washington University in St. Louis
Wesleyan University
University of Wisconsin, Madison
Wellesley College
Whitman College
Whittier College
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Xavier University