



# WEST CHESTER HENDERSON HIGH SCHOOL

400 Montgomery Ave., West Chester, PA 19380 • Website: [schools.wcasd.net/Henderson/](http://schools.wcasd.net/Henderson/)  
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Superintendent: Dr. Alan G. Elko • Principal: Mr. Marc Bertrando

## Community Profile

The West Chester Area School District covers a 75-square-mile suburban area in central Chester County, Pennsylvania, approximately 25 miles southwest of Philadelphia and 12 miles north of Wilmington, Delaware. The district is comprised of the West Chester Borough and seven surrounding townships. The area is known for its many diverse businesses and beautiful historic countryside.

The student population of approximately 12,000 is served by three high schools, three middle schools, and ten elementary schools.

## School Profile

Henderson is a four-year comprehensive high school. The core curriculum of English, social studies, math and science is offered on four levels (academic, honors, seminar and AP) for college bound students. English Standards, Math Standards, and Math Principles courses are offered for less proficient students, as well as basic level courses in social studies and science. World language courses are offered through the AP level. A wide variety of elective courses is available.

## Accreditation and Recognition

Henderson High School is accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools and approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. Henderson has received a Blue Ribbon Award for Excellence from the U. S. Department of Education. This award was based on the overall school program and environment as well as student achievement and the quality of the staff.

## Enrollment

Total enrollment at Henderson High School for the 2007-08 school year is close to 1,260 students with a professional staff of 112. Enrollment for the Class of 2008 is approximately 315 students.

## Future Plans - Class of 2007

4-year college	72%
2-year college	15%
Technical school	3%
Armed Forces	1%
Employment/Other	9%

## Minimum Requirements

A total of 23.8 credits and a completed graduation project are required for graduation.

English	4 credits
Social studies	4 credits
Mathematics	3 credits
Science	3 credits
Arts/Humanities	2 credits
Electives	5 credits
Health/Phys Ed	2.8 credits

## Class Rank and Grading Scale

*The West Chester Area School District has reconfigured its grading policy with the new scale taking effect as of the 2005-06 school year. Please refer to the following TWO scales when reviewing our students' transcripts.*

Class rank is computed as recommended by the National Association of Secondary School Principals. All courses are included in computing GPA and class rank. Grades are weighted in honors, seminar and AP courses.

### Grading Scale through 2004-05 School Year

Grade	Academic	Honors	Sem./AP
A = 93-100	4.0	4.5	5.0
B = 85-92	3.0	3.5	4.0
C = 77-84	2.0	2.5	3.0
D = 70-76	1.0	1.5	2.0
E = 55-69 (Non-passing; eligible for summer school)			
F = below 55 (Not eligible for summer school)			

### Grading Scale as of 2005-06 School Year

Grade	Acad./Basic	Honors	Sem.	AP
A+ = 97-100	4.2	4.7	5.2	5.7
A = 93-96	4.0	4.5	5.0	5.5
A- = 90-92	3.8	4.3	4.8	5.3
B+ = 87-89	3.2	3.7	4.2	4.7
B = 83-86	3.0	3.5	4.0	4.5
B- = 80-82	2.8	3.3	3.8	4.3
C+ = 77-79	2.2	2.7	3.2	3.7
C = 73-76	2.0	2.5	3.0	3.5
C- = 70-72	1.8	2.3	2.8	3.3
E = 60-69 (Non-passing; eligible for summer school)				
F = below 60 (Not eligible for summer school)				

## Advanced Placement

Advanced Placement courses prepare students for AP tests, which may qualify them for college credit and/or exempt them from freshman-level college courses. Courses available are:

- English 11
- English 12
- American History
- American Government and Politics
- European History
- Calculus (AB)
- Calculus (BC)
- Statistics
- Chemistry 2
- Physics 2
- Biology 2
- Portfolio Development
- Computer Science (A)
- Computer Science (AB)
- French/German/Italian/Latin/Spanish Language

## The Seminar Program

The Seminar Program offers an extremely challenging curriculum in English, mathematics, science, and social studies. The curriculum includes everything covered at the lower levels plus details best explored by highly motivated students.

## Gifted Education

As defined by state mandates, gifted high school students may enroll in Advanced Placement courses as listed above. Gifted students may also participate in a career mentoring program and in a seminar class that follows the Paideia model of collaborative discussion through open-ended questions about selected texts. Multiple criteria are used to identify the gifted population.

## National Merit Recognition

<u>Class</u>	<u>Finalists</u>	<u>Semifinalists</u>	<u>Commended</u>
2005	4	4	6
2006	2	2	9
2007	5	5	8
2008	n/a	4	15

## Mean Test Scores – Class of 2007

SAT I Critical Reading	529
SAT I Math	540
SAT I Writing	520
ACT	23.7 (core)

## Student Assessments

The district administers the following assessments to aid teachers and counselors in diagnosing individual strengths and weaknesses in order to provide more effective instruction:

4Sight Benchmark - administered up to three times a year to students in ninth and tenth grade as an assessment of reading and math.

PSAT - administered to all tenth and eleventh graders in October.

PSSA (Pennsylvania System of School Assessment) - administered to all eleventh graders in reading and math. In 2007, 84% of Henderson students scored proficient or above in reading, and 77% were proficient or above in math.

## Awards and Rankings

2006	Boys' Soccer player	All American
	JV Academic Team	1st in county
	Mock Trial Team	1st in region
	Robotics Team	2nd in region
	Science Olympiad	State qualifier
	Mathematics Team	Contest champions
2007	Academic Team	3rd in county
	Mock Trial Team	District champion
	Robotics Team	2nd in region
	Science Olympiad	State qualifier
	Mathematics Team	Contest champions
	Boys' Soccer player	All American
	Music students (2)	PMEA All State
	Music students (6)	PMEA Regional
	Marching Band	Chapter 3 Champions

## Counselors

Elizabeth Bender, A-Cost  
Pamela Smith, Cosu-Ev  
Koreem Bell, Ew-Kai  
Deborah Robinson-Stokes, Kaj-Mot  
Kathleen Teague, Mou-Sel  
Andrew Gear, Sem-Z

