



# JEWISH COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL OF THE BAY

## School Profile 2021-2022

1835 Ellis Street, San Francisco, CA 94115 | 415.345.9777 | F:415.345.1888

Rabbi Howard Ruben, Head of School

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### THE SCHOOL

Jewish Community High School of the Bay (JCHS) is an independent, pluralistic, college preparatory high school committed to integrating deep learning, universal wisdom, and Jewish values. Located in the heart of San Francisco, our school welcomes economically, socially, and ethnically diverse Jewish students from San Francisco, the East Bay, Marin, and the Peninsula. Our 59 faculty members instruct students in a rotating block format of 70-minute periods. On average, 90% of graduates attend 4-year colleges and universities, 8% attend 2-year institutions, and 2% will join the IDF (Israeli Defense Forces). One quarter of each graduating class will also choose to pursue a gap year. JCHS is accredited by CAIS and WASC.

### STUDENT BODY

JCHS is open to all self-identifying Jewish students. Enrollment is 187, with 20% being students of color. The Class of 2022 totals 46 students, 13% of whom have dual citizenship with Canada, Brazil, Israel and Sweden.

### CURRICULUM

JCHS students participate in a rigorous college preparatory curriculum divided into three main components: math and science; humanities, the arts and world languages; and Jewish Studies. Students maintain a minimum course load of six or seven classes per year in grades 9 through 12.

### JEWISH STUDIES

The Jewish Studies curriculum focuses on four core subject areas within Jewish learning: Tanach (literacy and interpretation of the Hebrew Bible), Rabbinic Literature (Talmud, ethics and civil law), Jewish History, and Jewish Culture. All core courses and several electives are University of California A-G approved. These courses are rigorous in nature and place heavy emphasis on analysis, interpretation and writing on original Jewish texts. They ask students to grapple with moral and ethical dilemmas, consider multiple perspectives, and to develop thoughtful and persuasive arguments. Texts are often in original biblical Hebrew, Modern Hebrew and Aramaic. The curriculum culminates in a lengthy research paper on a topic of philosophy or Jewish Thought.

### GRADING AND CLASS RANK

Annual weighted grade point averages for courses taken at JCHS are reported on the transcript. Community outreach, PE, and Tefillah are not included. JCHS does not rank or award academic distinctions. Numerical equivalencies are:

A+ = 4.33	B+ = 3.33	C+ = 2.33	D+ = 1.33
A = 4.0	B = 3.0	C = 2.0	D = 1.0
A- = 3.67	B- = 2.67	C- = 1.67	D- = 0.67

### SENIOR KEYSTONE PROJECT

Keystone is a yearlong educational exercise that provides students with the opportunity to design and implement an independent research project on the topic of their choice. Seniors then presents their Keystone Projects in half hour public presentations before the school community.

### STUDENT AND JEWISH LIFE

JCHS' student life program encourages students to explore their passions, celebrate Jewish traditions, and participate in shaping our school community. Our student life program includes experiential education, community engagement, and Jewish Life initiatives.

**Community Engagement:** Community work is a graduation requirement and integral to a JCHS education - students are encouraged to investigate how they can be of service, stand up against injustice, and use their talents towards making the world a better place.

**Journeys:** Annual, grade-specific Journeys are the centerpiece of the JCHS experiential education program. They combine learning with trips designed to teach life lessons on the road. 9<sup>th</sup> graders build community at Brandeis Bardin in Los Angeles, 10<sup>th</sup> graders develop their authentic selves in Zion Canyon National Park, 11<sup>th</sup> graders travel to Israel as part of their Jew in the Modern World course, and 12<sup>th</sup> graders participate in community outreach in New Orleans.

**Student Activities:** JCHS provides many leadership opportunities and a rich program of extracurricular activities. Sample student activities include: BBQ Club, Book Club, Chess Club, GSA, JTv, Knesset, Literary Magazine, Math Club, The Observer, Russian Club, Student Alliance for Israel, Student Ambassadors, Women's Club, Yearbook, Young Activists, and Young Investors.

### ATHLETICS

JCHS offers athletic choices to student athletes of all abilities, including club, junior varsity, and varsity sports. Options include Baseball, Basketball, Cross-Country, Soccer, Swimming, Tennis and Volleyball.

### GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

English	4 yearlong courses
History	2 yearlong courses
Jewish Studies	6 yearlong courses
Laboratory Science	3 yearlong courses
Mathematics	3 yearlong courses
Visual/Performing Arts	1 yearlong course
World Languages	2 yearlong courses*
Electives	4 yearlong courses
Community Engagement	52 hours
Physical Education	1.5 yearlong courses
Senior Keystone Project	
Tefillah (reflection)	

\*2 courses through Level 3 required

### DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

JCHS will report disciplinary actions to colleges that require it. In the spirit of *teshuvah* (repentance), students have the option to petition to expunge their disciplinary history in the fall of senior year. Petitions are granted by the Head of School if the student has fulfilled the requirements of *teshuvah*, and demonstrated learning and growth over time.

## Academic Profile: Class of 2022

GPA (weighted)	Middle 50%	Average	AP Scores 3 or Above	78%
46 Seniors	3.61 - 4.12	3.79		

## 2021-2022 Course Offerings

### English

World Literature  
American Literature  
Writing and Rhetoric  
Senior Seminar: Literature & Culture  
AP Language & Composition  
AP Literature & Composition

Algebra II Advanced  
PreCalculus  
PreCalculus Honors  
Statistics  
AP Calculus AB  
AP Calculus BC

### Science

Conceptual Physics  
Chemistry  
Biology  
AP Biology  
AP Chemistry  
AP Physics C: Mechanics  
AP Computer Science Principles  
AP Computer Science A  
Environmental Science  
AP Environmental Science  
Foundations of Computer Science  
Human Anatomy & Physiology  
Robotics and Engineering

### History

The Past in the Present (World Civ)  
United States History  
AP United States History  
AP European History  
AP Art History  
Constitutional Politics

### Mathematics

Fundamentals of Algebra  
Algebra I  
Geometry  
Geometry Advanced  
Algebra II

### World Languages

Spanish I-IV  
AP Spanish Language and Culture  
Post-AP Spanish  
Hebrew Ulpan I-IV  
Hebrew I-VII

### Jewish Studies

**Required (4):**  
Individual & the Collective (English)  
Individual & the Collective (Dual)  
Individual & the Collective (Hebrew)  
Introduction to Rabbinic Literature  
Mishna & Gemara  
Jew in the Modern World  
Senior Seminar: Issues in Jewish Thought  
Senior Seminar: Issues in Jewish Thought Honors

### Electives (2):

Advanced Bible & Commentaries I

Advanced Bible & Commentaries II  
Advanced Talmud  
Comparative Religion  
Jewish Social Justice  
Jews and Modern Media  
Modern Jewish Ethics  
Mystery of Connection

### Visual and Performing Arts

Instrumental Ensemble  
Acting I-II  
Filmmaking  
Materials and Methods (Intro to Studio Art)  
Concepts and Processes (Intermediate Studio Art)  
Fundamentals of Photography  
Honors Photography  
AP Studio Art

## College Acceptances 2017-2021 (matriculation in bold)

Albright College  
American University  
**Arizona State University**  
**The University of Arizona**  
**Babson College**  
Bard College  
**Barnard College**  
Beloit College  
**Berklee College of Music**  
**Boston University**  
**Brandeis University**  
University of British Columbia  
Cal Maritime  
California Institute of the Arts  
California State University (campuses):  
**Chico**  
Humboldt  
Long Beach  
Los Angeles  
Monterey Bay  
Northridge  
Pomona  
**San Diego**  
**San Francisco**  
**San Jose**  
**San Luis Obispo**  
**Sonoma**  
University of California (campuses):  
**Berkeley**  
**Davis**  
Irvine  
**Los Angeles**  
Merced  
**Riverside**  
San Diego  
**Santa Barbara**  
**Santa Cruz**  
**Carleton College**  
**Case Western Reserve University**  
University of Central Florida  
**Chapman University**  
City University of London  
Claremont McKenna College  
Clark University  
Clemson University  
**University of Colorado at Boulder**  
**Colorado College**  
Colorado School of Mines  
**Colorado State U Ft. Collins**  
Columbia College Chicago  
**Columbia University**

Connecticut College  
**Cornell University**  
**Culinary Institute of America**  
**University of Delaware**  
University of Denver  
DePaul University  
**Dominican University**  
Drew University  
**Drexel University**  
Eckerd College  
The University of Edinburgh  
Elon University  
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical U  
Emerson College  
Emory University  
The Evergreen State College  
Fashion Institute of Technology  
Florida State University  
**Fordham University**  
Franklin & Marshall College  
Full Sail University  
George Mason University  
**George Washington University**  
Goucher College  
**Grinnell College**  
Hampshire College  
**Harvard University**  
**Harvey Mudd College**  
University of Hawaii at Manoa  
**Hebrew University of Jerusalem**  
**Hofstra University**  
Hope College  
Illinois Institute of Technology  
**Indiana University**  
Ithaca College  
**Jewish Theological Seminary**  
University of Kansas  
Kingston University London  
Knox College  
Lafayette College  
**Lehigh University**  
**Lewis & Clark College**  
Linfield College  
Los Angeles College of Music  
Louisiana State University  
Loyola University Chicago  
Loyola Marymount University  
Loyola University Maryland  
Macalester College  
University of Maine  
**U of Maryland College Park**  
Marymount Manhattan College

U of Massachusetts, Amherst  
McGill University  
Miami University  
University of Miami  
**University of Michigan**  
Middlebury College  
Mills College  
**Moravian College**  
**Mount Holyoke College**  
**Muhlenberg College**  
University of Illinois at Chicago  
University of Nebraska  
University of Nevada Reno  
University of New Hampshire  
University of New Mexico  
**University of Washington**  
The New School Eugene Lang  
**New York University**  
UNC School of the Arts  
**Northeastern University**  
**Northern Arizona University**  
Nova Southeastern University  
Oberlin College  
Occidental College  
Ohio State University  
Ohio Wesleyan University  
**Oregon State University**  
**University of Oregon**  
**Pace University, New York City**  
University of the Pacific  
Pennsylvania State University  
Pomona College  
University of Portland  
**University of Puget Sound**  
Purchase College, SUNY  
Purdue University  
Queen's University Belfast  
**Quest University, Canada**  
**University of Redlands**  
**Reed College**  
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute  
Rochester Institute of Technology  
University of Rochester  
**Royal Central School of Speech and Drama**  
**Rutgers University**  
**Saint Mary's College of California**  
University of San Diego  
**University of San Francisco**  
Ursinus College  
Santa Clara University  
**Sarah Lawrence College**

Savannah College of Art and Design  
School of the Art Institute of Chicago  
Scripps College  
**Seattle University**  
Simmons College  
Skidmore College  
**Smith College**  
**University of Southern California**  
Southern Methodist University  
Southern Oregon University  
**St. John's University – Queens**  
Stevens Institute of Technology  
Stony Brook University  
Suffolk University  
**SUNY at Binghamton**  
SUNY at Purchase  
**Syracuse University**  
The University of Tampa  
**The University of Tennessee**  
Technion Israel Institute of Tech  
**Temple University**  
**Texas A & M University**  
Trinity University  
**University of Toronto**  
**Tufts University**  
**Tulane University**  
Union College  
University College London  
University of Utah  
**Vassar College**  
University of Vermont  
**Victoria University of Wellington**  
Virginia Tech  
Wagner College  
Washington and Lee University  
**Washington U in St. Louis**  
**Wesleyan University**  
Western Washington University  
Whitman College  
**Whittier College**  
**Wilfrid Laurier University**  
**Willamette University**  
University of Wisconsin, Madison  
Worcester Polytechnic Institute  
Xavier University  
**Yale University**  
**Yeshiva University**  
York University

**Other Destinations:**  
Bay Area Community Colleges  
Israeli Defense Forces (IDF)



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## School Profile COVID-19 Addendum 2021-2022

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### 2019-20 History

JCHS proactively suspended in-person learning at the conclusion of classes on Friday, March 13, 2020, due to the COVID-19 outbreak. We concluded the 2019-20 academic year with an augmented weekly schedule mixing synchronous and asynchronous classes four days a week, with no more than four courses meeting per day. Fridays were reserved for community meetings, faculty office hours, and independent work. Students received yearlong letter grades at the conclusion of the year, consistent with past practice.

### 2020-21 Recap

Historically JCHS has offered eight yearlong class blocks with a recommended course load of seven academic classes per year and one study hall. Given the challenges presented by the pandemic, we made substantial schedule changes for the 2020-21 school year in anticipation of allowing the community to move from in-person to distance learning with the least disruption possible to the student experience. Unfortunately, we spent most of the year in distance learning, finally returning to the Ellis Street campus on March 15, 2021 – a full year after closure. Highlights of the augmented 2020-21 schedule include:

- **An Alternating Quarter System**, in which previously year-long courses were compressed into a single semester to enable students to pursue fewer courses at a time. This supported executive functioning, focus, depth of learning, and student well-being. Semesters were divided into alternating quarters with a course taking place during either Quarters 1 and 3, or Quarters 2 and 4. Over the course of the school year, students could pursue the same number of classes as in normal circumstances.
- **Four Day Weeks Plus Fridays**, in which we ran synchronous classes on a block schedule Monday through Thursday via Zoom, with Fridays reserved for community gatherings, additional AP course support, office hours, and faculty meetings.
- **JCHS grading remained consistent with past years**, with yearlong letter grades reported on student transcripts.

**Important Contextual Notice:** The Bay Area was under a shelter-in-place order fairly consistently for almost a year. This had a profound effect on our students, limiting everything from extracurricular involvement to standardized testing. Despite the Bay Area slowly reopening in March of 2021, testing cancellations have persisted well into the spring and summer.