THE SCHOOL
Jewish Community High School of the Bay (JCHS) is a pluralistic, college preparatory high school committed to integrating deep learning, universal wisdom, and Jewish values. Located in San Francisco, our school welcomes economically, socially, and ethnically diverse Jewish students from San Francisco, the East Bay, Marin, and the Peninsula. Our 40 faculty members instruct students in a rotating block format of 70-minute periods. On average, 95% of graduates attend 4-year colleges and universities, 4% attend 2-year institutions, and 1% 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 180, with 15% being students of color. The Class of 2024 totals 47 students, 32% of whom have dual citizenship with Austria, Canada, France, Germany, Israel, Luxembourg, Russia, Sweden, Switzerland, and/or the UK.

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 most 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. Service learning, PE, and Tefillah are not included. JCHS does not rank or award academic distinctions. Numerical equivalencies are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Numerical Equivalent</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>4.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>3.67</td>
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<td>B+</td>
<td>3.33</td>
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<td>B</td>
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<td>B-</td>
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<td>C+</td>
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<td>C</td>
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<td>C-</td>
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<td>D+</td>
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<td>D-</td>
<td>0.67</td>
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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, service learning, 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. 9th graders build community at Brandeis Bardin in Los Angeles, 10th graders develop their authentic selves in Zion Canyon National Park, 11th graders travel to Israel as part of their Jew in the Modern World course, and 12th 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 Book Club, Chess Club, Environmental Club, GSA, JTv, Knesset, Literary Magazine, Math Club, The Observer, Russian Club, Student Alliance for Israel, Student Ambassadors, Yearbook, and Young Activists.

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 and Volleyball.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Requirement</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>4 yearlong courses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>2 yearlong courses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jewish Studies</td>
<td>6 yearlong courses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Laboratory Science</td>
<td>3 yearlong courses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>3 yearlong courses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visual/Performing Arts</td>
<td>1 yearlong course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Languages</td>
<td>2 yearlong courses*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>4 yearlong courses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service Learning</td>
<td>52 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physical Education</td>
<td>1.5 yearlong courses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior Keystone Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tefillah (morning reflection)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*2 courses through Level 2 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.
2023-2024 Course Offerings

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

History
The Past in the Present (World Civ)
United States History
AP United States History
AP Comparative Government
AP Psychology

Mathematics
Fundamentals of Algebra
Algebra I
Geometry
Geometry Advanced
Algebra II

World Languages
Spanish I-IV
AP Spanish Language and Culture
Hebrew I-VII
Hebrew Literature & Language

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

College Acceptances 2019-2023

American University
University of Antwerp
Arizona State University
University of Arizona
Babson College
Bard College
Barnard College
Beloit College
Berkeley College of Music
Boston University
Brandeis University
Brown University
Bryn Mawr College
Bucknell University
University of British Columbia
California College of the Arts
California Institute of the Arts
California State University (campuses):
Chico
East Bay
Humboldt
Long Beach
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
University of Chicago
Claremont McKenna College
Clark University
Clemson University
University of Colorado at Boulder

University of Colorado at Denver
Colorado College
Colorado School of Mines
Colorado State U Ft. Collins
Columbia College Chicago
Columbia University
Connecticut College
Cornell University
CORNISH College of the Arts
Culinary Institute of America
University of Delaware
DePaul University
Dickinson College
Dominican University
Drexel University
Drew University
Eckerd College
The University of Edinburgh
Elon University
Emory-Riddle Aeronautical U
Emerson College
Emory University
The Evergreen State College
Fashion Institute of Technology
Florida State University
Fordham University
George Mason University
George Washington University
Georgia Institute of Technology
Gettysburg College
Gonzaga University
Government College
Grinnell College
Hamphire College
Harvey Mudd College
University of Hawaii at Manoa
Hofstra University
University of Illinois at Chicago
University of Illinois at UC
Indiana University
Ithaca College
Jewish Theological Seminary
Kenyon College
Kingston University London
Knox College
Lafayette College
Lehigh University

Lewis & Clark College
Linfield College
Loyola University Chicago
Loyola Marymount University
Macalester College
University of Maine
UM of Maryland College Park
Marymount Manhattan
U of Massachusetts, Amherst
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy
McGill University
Mendel College
Miami University
University of Miami
Miami University (Oxford)
University of Michigan
Mount Holyoke College
Muhlenberg College
University of Minnesota
University of Nevada (Reno)
University of New Hampshire
University of New Mexico
The New School Eugene Lang
New York University
UNC School of the Arts
Northeastern University
Northern Arizona University
Oberlin College
Occidental College
Ohio State University
University of Oklahoma
Oregon State University
University of Oregon
Otis College of Art & Design
Pace University, NYC &Westchester
University of the Pacific
University of Pittsburgh
Pitzer College
Pomona College
University of Portland
Portland State University
University of Puget Sound
Purdue University
Quest University, Canada
University of Redlands
Reed College
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rochester Institute of Technology
University of Rhode Island
University of Rochester

Advanced Talmud
Comparative Religion
Jewish Social Justice
L’Chaim: Jewish Celebrations and Consecrations
Modern Jewish Ethics

Visual and Performing Arts
Combined Music Ensemble
Acting
Filmmaking
Honors Filmmaking
Materials and Methods
(Intro to Studio Art)
Concepts and Processes
(Intermediate Studio Art)
Fundamentals of Photography
Honors Photography
AP Studio Art

Royal Central School of Speech and Drama
Rutgers University
Saint Mary’s College of California
University of San Diego
University of San Francisco
Santa Clara University
Sarah Lawrence College
School of the Art Institute of Chicago
Scripps College
Seattle University
Skidmore College
Smith College
University of Southern California
Southern Methodist University
Stanford University
Stevens Institute of Technology
Suffolk University
SUNY at Binghamton
SUNY at Purchase
Syracuse University
The University of Tennessee
Temple University
Texas A & M University
Texas Tech University
Trinity University
University of Toronto
Tufts University
Tulane University
Union College
Vassar College
University of Vermont
Victoria University of Wellington
Virginia Tech
University of Washington
Washington and Lee University
Washington State University
Washington U in St. Louis
Western Washington University
Whitman College
Whitier College
Williamette University
University of Wisconsin, Madison
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Xavier University
Yale University
Yeshiva University
York University

Other Destinations:
Bay Area Community Colleges
Israel Defense Forces (IDF)
2020-21 History
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 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 at 50% building capacity on March 15, 2021 – a full year after closure. Highlights of the augmented 2020-21 schedule included:

- **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.

2021-present
JCHS returned to fulltime in-person learning in the fall of 2021, restoring our classic schedule of eight yearlong class blocks with a recommended course load of seven academic classes per year and one study hall.

**Important Contextual Notice:** The Bay Area was under a shelter-in-place order for almost a year from March of 2020 to March of 2021. 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, limits on large group gatherings, travel, and service opportunities persisted well into 2022.