



JEWISH COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL of the BAY

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HEAD OF SCHOOL

Rabbi Howard Jacoby Ruben

DEAN OF COLLEGE & GAP-YEAR ADVISING

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ACCREDITATION

Western Association of Schools & Colleges (WASC)

California Association of Independent Schools (CAIS)

STUDENT BODY

180 students

20% students of color

Class of 2025: 48 students, 13% of whom have dual citizenship with England, Germany, Israel, and South Africa.

JCHS is open to all self-identifying Jewish students.

12

AVERAGE CLASS SIZE

5:1

Student/Teacher Ratio

2024-2025 Profile for Colleges

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). 20% of each graduating class will also choose to pursue a gap year. JCHS is accredited by CAIS and WASC.

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 courses are University of California A-G approved, 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. JCHS does not rank or award academic distinctions.

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 present their Keystone Projects in half hour public presentations before the school community.

Grading Scale

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

Academic Profile: Class of 2025

GPA (weighted)	Middle 50%	Mean	SAT Scores*	Middle 50%	Average
48 Seniors	3.48-4.06	3.61	EBRW	630-710	673
			Math	620-740	675
AP Scores 3 or Above	93%		ACT Scores*	31-34	32

*Test centers remain scarce in the Bay Area as of Fall 2024.

JCHS enthusiastically supports students who choose to opt out of ACT/SAT testing.

POINTS OF DISTINCTION

STUDENT AND JEWISH LIFE

JCHS' student life program encourages students to explore their passions, celebrate traditions, and participate in shaping our school community. Our 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 Camp Newman in Santa Rosa, 10th graders develop their authentic selves in Zion Canyon National Park, 11th graders travel to Israel as part of their Modern Jewish History course, and 12th graders participate in community engagement in New Orleans.

Student Activities: JCHS provides many leadership opportunities and a rich program of extracurricular activities.

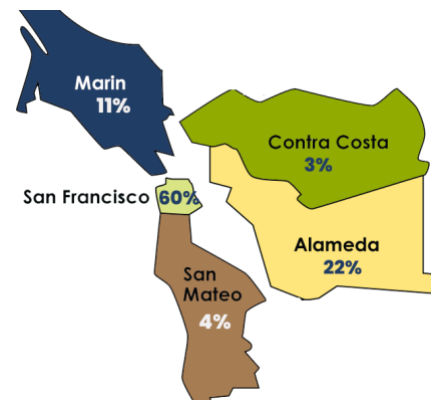
Sample student activities include Book Club, Chess Club, Debate Club, Environmental Club, GSA, JTv, Knesset, Literary Magazine, Math Club, The Observer, Pens and Biscuits, Russian Club, Student Ambassadors, Yearbook, and Young Activists.

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.

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.



JCHS students come from 26 zip codes in five Bay Area counties.

2024–2025 Course Offerings

Humanities

English: 4 year long courses
History: 1 year long course
Humanities elective: 1 year long course

English

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

History

United States History
 AP United States History
 The Past in the Present (World Civ)
 AP Comparative Government
 AP European History
 Israel: Conflict, Complexity & Hope

Mathematics

3 year long courses

Fundamentals of Algebra
 Algebra I
 Geometry
 Geometry Advanced
 Algebra II
 Algebra II Advanced

PreCalculus
 AP PreCalculus
 Statistics
 AP Calculus AB
 AP Calculus BC

Laboratory Science

3 year long courses

Conceptual Physics
 Chemistry
 Biology
 AP Biology
 AP Chemistry
 AP Physics C: Mechanics
 AP Computer Science Principles

Environmental Science
 AP Environmental Science
 Foundations of Computer Science
 Human Anatomy & Physiology
 Robotics and Engineering

World Languages

2 year long courses through Level 2

Spanish I-III, IV Honors
 AP Spanish Language and Culture
 Hebrew I-IV, V Honors, VI Honors
 Hebrew Literature and Culture

Jewish Studies

6 year long courses

4 Core Required

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

2 Electives Required

Advanced Bible & Commentaries I
 Advanced Rabbinic Literature
 Comparative Religion
 Israel: Conflict, Complexity & Hope
 Jewish Social Justice
 L'Chaim: Jewish Celebrations and Consecrations
 Modern Jewish Ethics
 Writing Jewish New York

Visual & Performing Arts

1 year long course

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

Require Seminars

FreshSem / Health & Wellness; Keystone: Senior Research Project

Additional Requirements

Service Learning (52 hours); Physical Education (1.5 credits); Tefillah (morning reflection)

College Acceptances 2020–2024 (matriculation in bold)

American University
 American University of Paris
University of Antwerp
Arizona State University
University of Arizona
 Babson College
 Bard College
Berklee 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:
 Channel Islands
 Chico
 East Bay
 Fullerton
 Humboldt
 Long Beach
 Maritime Academy
 Monterey Bay
 Northridge
 Pomona
San Diego
San Francisco
San Jose
San Luis Obispo
 Sonoma
 University of California:
 Berkeley
 Davis
 Irvine
 Los Angeles
 Merced
 Riverside
 San Diego
 Santa Barbara
 Santa Cruz
 Carleton College
Case Western Reserve University
Chapman University
 City University of London
University of Chicago
 Claremont McKenna College
 Clark University
University of Colorado at Boulder

University of Colorado at CS Colorado College
 Colorado School of Mines
Colorado State U Ft. Collins
 Columbia College Chicago
Columbia University
 Concordia University (Canada)
 University of Connecticut
Cornell University
 Cornish College of the Arts
Culinary Institute of America
Dartmouth College
University of Delaware
 Denison University
University of Denver
 DePaul University
 Dickinson College
Dominican University
 Drexel University
 Drew University
 Eckerd College
 The University of Edinburgh
 Elon University
 Emerson College
 Emory University
 The Evergreen State College
Fashion Institute of Technology
 Fordham University
 Franklin & Marshall College
 George Mason University
George Washington University
Georgia Institute of Technology
 Gettysburg College
 Gonzaga University
Goucher College
 Hampshire College
Harvard University
Harvey Mudd College
University of Hawaii at Manoa
 Hofstra University
 University of Illinois at UC
 Indiana University
Ithaca College
Jewish Theological Seminary
Kenyon College
 Lafayette College
Lehigh University
Lewis & Clark College
 Loyola Marymount University
Macalester College

U of Maryland College Park
 U of Massachusetts, Amherst
 Mass College of Art & Design
Mass College of Pharmacy
 McGill University
Menlo College
 University of Miami
 Miami University (Oxford)
University of Michigan
 Michigan State University
Mount Holyoke College
Muhlenberg College
 University of Minnesota
 University of Montana
 University of Nevada (Reno)
 University of New Hampshire
 University of New Mexico
 The New School Eugene Lang
The New School Jazz and Contemporary Music
New York University
 UNC School of the Arts
Northeastern University
Northwestern University
 Northern Arizona University
Oberlin College
Occidental College
 Ohio State University
 Oregon State University
University of Oregon
 Otis College of Art & Design
Pace University NYC
PNW College of Art at Willamette
 University of the Pacific
 University of Pittsburgh
 Pitzer College
Pomona College
University of Portland
 Pratt Institute
University of Puget Sound
 Purdue University
 University of Redlands
Reed College
 Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
 Rochester Institute of Technology
 University of Rhode Island
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
Santa Clara University
 SF Conservatory of Music
Sarah Lawrence College
 School of the Art Institute of Chicago
Scripps College
Seattle University
Smith College
University of Southern California
Stanford University
 Stevens Institute of Technology
 Stony Brook University
SUNY at Binghamton
SUNY at Purchase
 SUNY at University of Buffalo
Syracuse University
 Tel Aviv University
 Temple University
University of Tennessee
Texas A & M University
Texas Tech University
 Trinity University
 University of Toronto
Tufts University
Tulane University
 Union College
 Vassar College
University of Vermont
University of Washington
 Washington and Lee University
Washington U in St. Louis
Western Washington University
 Whitman College
Whittier College
Willamette University
University of Wisconsin, Madison
 Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Yale University
 Yeshiva University

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

Between 2014 and 2024, JCHS students attended public and private institutions in the following regions:

