



WASHINGTON LATIN
PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

Washington Latin's Upper School

Upper School Information Night

December 12, 2024

Our Vision for the Upper School (US)

We recognize that ninth graders are striving for independence and we are working to create a school and a program that honors that.

- Choice and flexibility in a student's schedule
- Rigor in all subjects
- Opposite of anonymous, even though it is what students think they want.
- Structure that allows students to get help
- An intellectual atmosphere
- Leaders



We Believe...

- **Lean In** - You are the driver of your high school education , and we are here to support you; Don't let high school just "happen" to you
- **Community** - involvement, place, belonging
- **Relationships** with teachers
- **9th Grade Matters** - Get involved! And your academic record is attached to you
- **Student Autonomy and Choice** - different academic avenues based on interest and desire



Meeting Agenda

- Welcome!
- Graduation Requirements
- Core Courses
- Elective Courses
- Languages - Latin & World Language Opportunities
- Post-Secondary Support
- Clubs, Athletics, Community Service, Summer Opportunities
- **Our Student Panel!!!**



Questions?

There will be an opportunity to to ask questions at the end to our Student Panel.

Please always reach out directly to one of us.

Kara Brady, US Director

Meg Kovach, Asst Director Grades 11/12

Tiffany Austin, Asst Director Grades 9/10



Graduation Requirements

- 4 credits – English
- 4 credits – Math (one year past Algebra II)
- 4 credits – Science
- 4 credits – History (including D.C. History and Government)
- 3 credits – Latin (through Latin III)
- 2 credits – Chinese, French or Arabic (through the second level)
- 3.5 credits – Electives (credits that are above and beyond the minimum and specifically named grad. requirements and are of the student's choosing)
- .5 credit – Art
- .5 credit – Health
- .5 credit – Music
- .25 credit – Financial Literacy
- 1 credit – Athletics (four seasons)
- 100 hours – Community Service

**YOU need at least
27.25 credits to
graduate!**





Here is another
way to look at the
graduation
requirements!

- English 9
- English 10
- English 11
- English 12

- Algebra I
- Geometry
- Algebra II
- 4th Math

- World History I
- World History II
- US History
- DC History
- Government

- Physics
- Chemistry
- Biology
- 4th Science

- Latin I
- Latin II
- Latin III

- World Language I
- World Language II

- Art
- Music
- Health
- Financial Literacy

- Athletics

- 3.5 Electives

- Community Service



Common 9th Grade Courses

Subjects for all and most common courses
-- take one course in each of these four!

English -- English 9, Honors English 9

History -- World History I or Honors World History I

Science-- Physics or Honors Physics

Math -- Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, or Honors Geometry or Honors Algebra II (based on 8th grade math class)

Subjects that complete your schedule
--Choose three!!!

Modern language -- based on the class you took, through level I

Latin -- must take through Latin III or III/IV, based on your current Latin course

Required Electives

Interest-Based Electives

Study Hall

Check out the [2024-2025 Course Guide](#) to review all available courses, descriptions, and prerequisites!!



Honors Classes?

- Each Department (think Math, English, etc.) has criteria for placement/recommendation into Honors classes.
- Think about YOUR interests!
- Talk to your teachers and your advisor!

Work Ethic + Grades + Interest
Teacher Recommendation!



World Languages

- **Options:** French, Chinese, Arabic
- **Requirements:** 2 consecutive years
(For example, Chinese I and Chinese II)
- **Beyond:**
 - All languages have 5 levels
 - French and Chinese have AP
 - French includes an honors track
- **Communicative Method**- we speak the language students are learning
- **Seal of Biliteracy** - any student who can demonstrate Intermediate High proficiency in Reading, Writing, Speaking, and Listening
- **Spring Break Trips** - students are eligible after 3 years



Post-Secondary Support

BEYOND THESE WALLS

Ms. Hope Foster

Our BTW Team works with outside agencies to present the trades, apprenticeships for any students interesting in pursuing these careers either immediately post-graduation of high school or a 2 or 4 year institution.

Beyond These Walls offers information and opportunities to all students.

Informational Opportunities

- Law Enforcement
- Medical Professions
- Culinary Arts
- And many more!

Work Opportunities

- Metropolitan Police Department - Cadet Program
- Construction Apprenticeships
- Youth Apprenticeships
- IT Apprenticeships
- And many more!



Post-Secondary Support

College Counseling Office

Ms. Crys Latham, Ms. Sheyny Barahona, & Mr. Eric Price II

9th Grade

- Introduction to Post Secondary Team
- Access to MaiaLearning
- College Visits to Latin

10th Grade

- More Focused Programming
- 10th Grade Q.U.E.S.T. Course
- College Visits to Latin

11th Grade

- Weekly Emails
- Junior Portfolio - done by student & family
- Matched with College Counselor in Dec/Jan
- Student and Family Meetings
- Junior JumpStart Course

12th Grade

- Weekly Emails
- Application Boot Camp (early August)
- Senior Seminar Course
- Quarterly One-on-One Meetings
- Open Office Hours with All-Counselor Access
- Essay Writing Workshops w/ Essay Specialist



Athletics

Fall, Winter & Spring!

Competitive & Non-competitive,
all offered AFTER school

1 Full Credit = 4 Seasons

Participate in any sports outside of Latin?
Email Mr. Eleby-El to get credit! There is a
form you will need to fill out.

Boys: Cross Country, Soccer, Basketball, Indoor
and Outdoor Track & Field

Girls: Cross Country, Soccer, Volleyball,
Basketball, Cheerleading, Softball, Indoor and
Outdoor Track & Field, Lacrosse

Co-ed: Circuit Training, Weight Lifting, Winter
Conditioning, Wrestling, Ultimate Frisbee,
Volleyball Skills, Self-Defense, Dance, Yoga,
Spring Conditioning

*Athletic offerings may change due to coach and student interest.



Community Service

100 Hours Required by Graduation!

(25 hours per year would be great)

[CS Forms](#) can be found on the website.

All service immediately following 8th grade year counts.

There is a google form you must fill out to submit your form and hours. We will share this when you graduate from 8th grade!



Clubs

- Clubs in the upper school are **student led** with a faculty advisor, meeting mostly during lunch.
- This year we have almost 50 clubs in the upper school.

Monday Clubs		Tuesday Clubs		Thursday Clubs		Friday Clubs	
Mock Trial Club	014	Conversational Spanish Club	007	Yearbook Club	Theater Room	Knitting Club	211a
Around the World in Dishes	227	Anime Club	220	Strings Club	Music Room	Justice League	217
Homebrew Gaming Club	003	GSA	213	Beautification Club	212	Cheerleading	007
Black Lives Matter	222	Asian American Club	014	Model UN	007	Beauty Club	212
Community Council	217	National Chinese Honor Society	215	Muslim Youth Club	Gym	Literary Magazine	213
Spike Ball	Field	GLOW	117	Quiz Bowl	213	Women in STEM	227
Garden Club	007/112	Listening to Music Club	105	Youth Empowerment Club	005	Film Club	015
Film Editing Club	223	Latinx Club	005	Chess Club	205	Latin Booster Club	005
Ping Pong Club	Gym	Black Student Association	211	Music Playing Club	014	Cosmetology Club	212
		Art Therapy	212	AP Stats Lunch	217	Homebrew Club	003
		Philosophy Club	015	Environmental PLANET (EPC)	222	Frisbee Club	017
		Speculative Fiction Club	017			Red Hearts	117
		AP Calc Lunch	217				
		Arabic Honor Society	205				



Summer School Opportunities

- Any courses taken after the 8th grade graduation that are not remedial count towards high school credit.
- We often offer the following as 2.5 week electives:
 - Art, Music, Government, and DC History.
- We are participating in the SYEP program and we encourage you to register so you can get paid to take classes this summer.
 - Please note that seniority rules here.



If you do request teacher recommendations for another high school...

We ask:

- Provide 10 days notice
- If on paper - provide a self-addressed, self-stamped envelope
- If online - sent via email from the school
- All necessary components filled in by student/family prior to request

All recommendations will be mailed DIRECTLY to the school; for confidentiality purposes, forms cannot be returned to students.



Want to Chat? Family Meetings



Student Panel



Raigan Watson, Class of 2025

Sophia Showalter, Class of 2026

Saamir Young, Class of 2027

Leo Shapiro-Morton, Class of 2027

Johnie Thomas, Class of 2027

Andrew Kim, Class of 2028

June Walsh, Class of 2028



Questions?

