

# WATERTOWN HIGH SCHOOL

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Joel Giacobozzi, Principal  
Annmarie Boudreau, Assistant Principal  
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## Our Community

Watertown, a community of about 35,000 residents living in 4 ½ square miles bordering the city of Boston, is noted for its rich cultural heritage, diversity of language, and strong community spirit. Originally agricultural, then a manufacturing center, Watertown is now a middle class community with diversified services in manufacturing, retail trade, health, education, and other professional areas. The community represents a rich diversity in its ethnic heritage, with approximately 20% of the population born outside of the United States. For 33% of the students, English is not their first language.

## Our School

Watertown High School is a comprehensive, 4-year public high school accredited by NEASC. There are 700 students enrolled for the 2020-21 school year. There were 145 graduates in the Class of 2020. Core academic classes are offered in English, Math, History, Science, Foreign Language, Physical Education, and Health. With the exception of English 9, an unlevleled course, nearly all English, Math, Science, History, and World Language classes are offered at varying levels - level 1, Honors, and, when applicable, AP. WHS offers 18 AP courses and 28 Honors courses. Students select from a variety of electives in art, family and consumer science, engineering, finance, music, technology, TV production, and woodworking. An ESL program is also offered in English, Math, Science, and History. Additional credit-bearing learning and leadership opportunities available to students include: Virtual High School (VHS) coursework, Independent Studies, Teacher's Aide positions (11th & 12th grade), Advisory Peer Leader positions (12th grade), and Harvard Peer Leadership training (9th-12th grade).

## Graduation Requirements

Full year courses grant 6 credits and semester courses grant 3 credits. Credit can be withheld for attendance reasons. Students must earn 134 credits in the following areas:

- 4 years English (including Sr. Thesis)
- 4 years Mathematics
- 3 years Science\*
- 3 years Social Studies (including 2 yrs. U.S. History)
- 1 semester Physical Education for each year attending
- 1 semester Health
- 1 year Fine, Applied and Performing Arts or Career/Technical
- Education
- World Language is not a requirement but is strongly recommended for 2 years.
- 36 hours of approved community service

\*All Science courses offered at WHS are lab Sciences with the exception of Summer School, credit recovery, and Virtual High School courses.

## WHS Schedule

- 7 day rotating schedule
- 6 out of 7 periods meet each day for 57 minutes
- 9th and 10th grade students are required to carry 42 credits; 11th and 12th grade students are required to carry 36 credits with no more than one study per semester

## Course Levels

- **Advanced Placement (AP)** courses have the volume of work, depth of ideas and discussion, and pace of assignments equal to what students will find on the college or university campus. To enroll in AP courses, students must meet specific eligibility requirements.
- **Honors (H)** level courses are designed to provide intensive instruction to students who have demonstrated an interest in studying a subject in depth and pursuing independent projects. To enroll in Honors courses, students must meet specific eligibility requirements.
- **Level 1** courses prepare students to continue their education after high school through regular homework, independent and group work, and projects.

## Grading

All courses, with the exception of Pass/Fail courses, are included in a student's weighted GPA and are used in calculating decile ranking. Students who transfer to Watertown High School do not have grades from other schools calculated into their GPA. Summer School, Credit Recovery, and courses taken outside of Watertown High School are not calculated in a student's GPA. In order to be eligible for inclusion in the decile ranking, students must have attended Watertown High School for a minimum of five quarters and have accumulated a minimum of twenty term grades.

Passing grades at Watertown High School are: D-, P.

## Weighted GPA Scale

	AP	Honors	Level I
A+	5.3	4.8	4.3
A	5.0	4.5	4.0
A-	4.7	4.2	3.7
B+	4.3	3.8	3.3
B	4.0	3.5	3.0
B-	3.7	3.2	2.7
C+	3.3	2.8	2.3
C, S	3.0	2.5	2.0
C-	2.7	2.2	1.7
D+	2.3	1.8	1.3
D	2.0	1.5	1.0
D-, U	1.7	1.2	0.7
F, INC	0	0	0

## Our Students

### Testing Statistics (SAT)

Cohort year	% taking	Mean Math	Mean EBRW
2020	81%	571	562
2019	75%	567	551
2018	85%	563	551

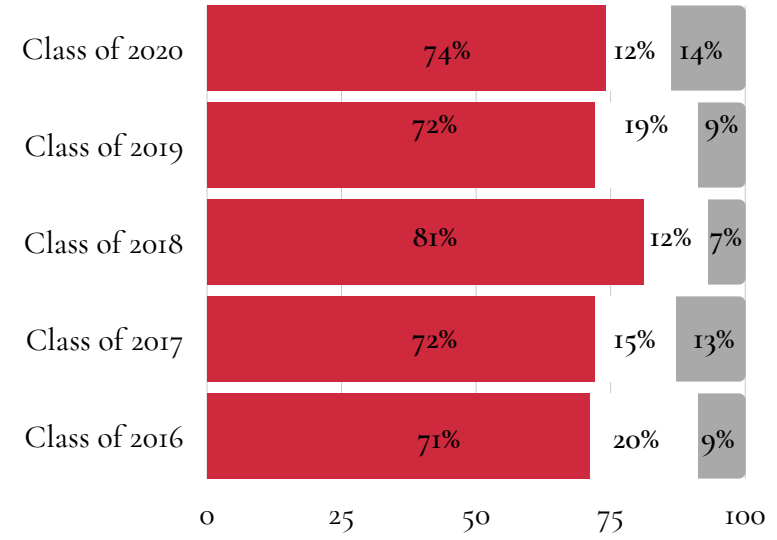
### Testing Statistics (ACT)

Cohort year	% taking	Mean Composite
2020	- Data not yet available -	
2019	18%	22.7
2018	30%	24

### Testing Statistics (AP)

AP courses are currently offered 18 subjects: English Literature, English Composition, U.S. History, European History, Psychology, Computer Science A, Calculus AB, Calculus BC, Statistics, Biology, Chemistry, Physics 1, Physics C (Mechanics, E&M), Environmental Science, Italian, Spanish, and Studio Art. Students are also able to enroll in a variety of Virtual High School AP courses. In May 2020, 131 students (grades 10-12) took a total of 229 exams in 20 different subjects. 74% scored 3 or better, with 46% receiving scores of 4 or 5.

### Post High School Plans of our Graduates



Other post-secondary options common at Watertown High School include employment, PG year, military service, and gap year programs.

## Our Staff

Adrienne Eaton, Lead School Counselor  
 Jaimie Leonard, School Counselor  
 Lindsay Orpen, School Counselor

Kimberly Osborne, School Counselor  
 Fabian Rivera, School Counselor  
 Linda Tracy Administrative Assistant

## COVID-19 Information

In response to the COVID-19 crisis, Watertown High School closed on March 13, 2020, and remained closed for the remainder of the school year. Students received virtual instruction beginning April 6, 2020, in all classes. Grading is outlined in the table below. For the 2020-21 school year, Watertown High School began with remote instruction on September 22. On November 30, Watertown High School transitioned to hybrid learning. During the beginning of remote learning, students continued to take 7 classes. Each class had two-60 minute synchronous learning meetings per week. Afternoons were reserved for asynchronous learning and office hours with teachers and counselors. On November 9, Watertown High School transitioned to a version of our old schedule. Mondays through Thursdays, students follow a fully rotating, 7-day schedule where 6 out of 7 classes meet each day for 52 minutes. On Fridays, all classes meet for shorter blocks, and time is reserved for meetings with teachers and counselors. Grading for the 2020-21 school year returned to pre-COVID 19 procedures.

### Spring 2020 Grading

	Q1	Q2	Q3 (includes Q3 & Q4)	Final Grade	Credits
<b>Full Year Courses</b>	Letter Grade	Letter Grade	CR (credit)/ NC (no credit)	<p>-If the student passed Q1 &amp; Q2 and earned a CR in Q3, the student had the choice of a letter grade (the grade from Q1 &amp; Q2) or a P</p> <p>-If the student passed Q1 &amp; Q2 and earned an NC in Q3, the student earned a P</p> <p>-If the student failed Q1 &amp; Q2 and earned a CR in Q3, the student earned a CR but did not meet the graduation requirement</p>	Full-year courses earn 6 credits; credits lost due to attendance in Q1 and Q2 (as usual) or NC grade in Q3
<b>Semester 1 Courses</b>	Letter Grade	Letter Grade	n/a	Letter Grade	Semester courses earn 3 credits; credits lost due to attendance in Q1 & Q2 (as usual)
<b>Semester 2 Course</b>	n/a	n/a	CR (credit)/ NC (no credit)	CR or P (credit)/NC (no credit)	Semester courses earn 3 credits; credits lost due to NC in Q3