

Newton North High School

2020-2021 School Profile

“Learning sustains the human spirit.”



457 Walnut Street
Newtonville, Massachusetts 02460

CEEB Code = 221-555
www.newton.k12.ma.us

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NNHS Distance Learning Grading Policy

Newton North High School transitioned from traditional in-person learning to a fully remote distance education model on March 13, 2020. During the Spring of 2020, instruction was mostly asynchronous and all courses were graded on a pass/no grade basis for an extended third marking period that spanned the remainder of the year. Final year grades were issued as letter grades whenever possible and reflected the average of all work completed between September 2019 and the close of school in March 2020.

For the 2020-2021 school year, Newton North continues to operate primarily remotely, except for a cohort of high needs students who are being supported in the building and accessing instruction remotely from the school building. Only substantially-separate special education classes are being taught in-person in the building. All other courses are being taught synchronously, online, with three class meetings per week. Some elective offerings that previously met twice weekly for the full year or for half of the year now meet three times weekly for half the year or one quarter of the year, respectively. Lab-based science courses and studio/shop-based electives are meeting virtually and replicating or simulating the hands-on elements of the courses to the greatest extent possible.

In recognition of our focus on student emotional wellness and our system-wide commitment to trauma-sensitive and active anti-racist practices, Newton North has implemented a new grading system for this remote school year. Both Newton high schools have introduced a modified standards-based grading system, with teachers emphasizing formative assessment and student ownership of learning.

Grades will be issued on the following scale:

- A: (Advanced) Student engages fully with the material and with the classroom community, uses feedback to improve performance, reflects on growth, and is able to independently and consistently demonstrate knowledge and mastery of skills.
- B: (Proficient) Student engages significantly with the material and with the classroom community, uses feedback to improve performance, reflects on growth, and is able to independently demonstrate knowledge and mastery of skills. Student may demonstrate some inconsistency in different skill or content areas.
- P: (Emerging) Student demonstrates proficiency in learning with teacher and or peer guidance and feedback. Student needs to show more consistency and independence in foundational knowledge and skill use. Student may also engage partially with the material and the class community, sometimes using feedback to improve performance and reflect on growth.
- NG: (Beginning) Student shows limited to no engagement with the material and class community. There is not enough work to elicit meaningful feedback from the teacher, providing little to no opportunity for growth, and there is minimal evidence of development of targeted skills.

David Fleishman, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Henry Turner, Ed.D.
Principal

Beth Swederskas 6230
Counseling Department Chair

Sara Foley 6230
Counseling Administrative Asst.

College Counselors	Extension
Jennifer Geraghty	6348
Jillian Hall	6349
Melissa Hanenberger	6347

School Counselors	Extension
Brendan Amedio	6242
Nancy Decoteau	6275
Matthew Ford	6234
Jolleen Filio	6230
Kyle Greenidge	6244
Amanda Griffin	6235
Belma Johnson	6232
Michele Kennedy	6236
Shani Leichter	6245
Patrick Manning	6231
Christine Potter	6241
Kyra Slawski	6233
Beth Swederskas	6230
Jessica Volmer	6251

Alison Malkin 6237
Prevention/Intervention Counselor

Jenn Pontillo 6293
Clinical Care Counselor

Elvin Cardona 6416
METCO Engagement Specialist

Andrea Koenig 617-559-6400
EDCO Program for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing ex 454547

Tricia Stamper 6247
Registrar

Records Office 6257
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School Facts

Total enrollment: 2,047
 Class of 2021 enrollment: 497
 Total faculty: 234
 Student : Faculty ratio: 11.5 : 1
 Average class size: 15.5
 Teaching faculty with advanced degrees: 98%

Student Demographic Profile

African American or Black: 6.4%
 Native American: 0.1%
 Asian: 14.7%
 Hispanic or Latino: 9.6%
 Multi-race, Non-Hispanic: 7.0%
 White: 62.2%
 Economically Disadvantaged: 11.7%

Graduating Class of 2020

Enrollment: 508 students
 Total to post-secondary education: 93.7%
 Attending four-year colleges: 87.4%
 Attending two-year colleges: 3.3%
 Gap year before entering college: 3.6%
 Other, including employment and military: 6.3%

Course Distribution Requirements

A student must earn at least 100 credits to graduate (at 5 credits per full year course).

The credits must include:

English:	20
Biological Science:	5
Physical Science/Chemistry:	5
History and Social Sciences:	10
United States History:	5
Mathematics:	10
Fine, Performing & Technical Arts:	5
Physical Education:	5

The standard science course sequence is:

Grade 9:	Physics
Grade 10:	Chemistry
Grade 11:	Biology
Grade 12:	Science Elective

Course Catalog:

<https://www.newton.k12.ma.us/Page/2656>

Explanation of Course Levels

Students may take courses in all three curriculum levels during the same year. Considerable work outside of class is required at each level. In all levels, students develop appropriate skills to work effectively in the subject area.

While world language is not required, most students complete two years or more of the one of the following languages: Spanish, Chinese, French, Italian, and Latin.

Please note: Some elective courses do not carry a level.

Advanced Placement / Honors (AP / H)

- These courses contain challenging material taught at an accelerated pace.
- Advanced placement courses are taught in the following areas: American history, art history, Italian, biology, calculus AB & BC, chemistry, Chinese, comparative government, English, European history, French, Latin, physics, psychology, Spanish, and statistics.
- **Due to the rigor of AP and honors courses, we strongly recommend that students take no more than three courses at this level in one year. Most AP courses are only open to seniors.**
- There are 17 AP and 87 honors courses offered.

Advanced College Prep (ACP)

- These courses are challenging college preparatory courses.
- They require that students have high interest, strong academic skills, and the capacity to do independent work.

College Prep (CP)

- These courses generally cover the same topics as advanced college prep courses and prepare students for college.
- Smaller classes, a more structured environment and in some cases, team teaching allows for more individual attention.

Grade Point Average

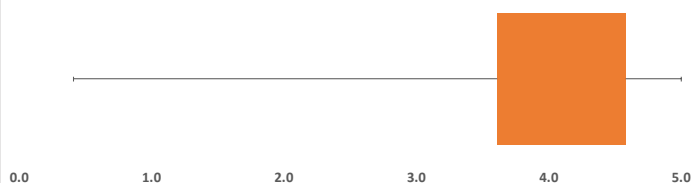
- Newton North does not report numerical rank in class; however, a weighted GPA is calculated on a 5.0 scale.
- Each student's weighted grade point average for grades 10 and 11 is reported to colleges on the transcript.
- GPA is first calculated mid-year Junior year.
- Only courses that have an assigned curriculum level are used in calculating the GPA.
- Only courses taken within Newton Public Schools are calculated in the GPA.
- Summer school courses are not calculated in the GPA.

Please note: Some transfer students do not have a Newton North GPA.

Class of 2021 GPA Distribution

As of November 3rd, 2020

Total Class Size: 497
 Number of students included: 488
 Highest GPA: 5.0
 Lowest GPA: 0.41
 Middle 50%: 3.61 – 4.58



Weighted Grade Point Average

Table of Weights			
Grade	Curriculum Level		
	CP	ACP	H
A	4.0	4.5	5.0
A-	3.7	4.2	4.7
B+	3.3	3.8	4.3
B	3.0	3.5	4.0
B-	2.7	3.2	3.7
C+	2.3	2.8	3.3
C	2.0	2.5	3.0
C-	1.7	2.2	2.7
D+	1.3	1.8	2.3
D	1.0	1.5	2.0
D-	0.7	1.2	1.7
F	0.0	0.0	0.0
N	0.0	0.0	0.0

Computing the Weighted GPA

1. For each leveled course, multiply the weight of the final grade by the credit value.
2. Divide the total in #1 by the total credits for courses being included. The result is the weighted GPA.
3. Marks in grade 9 are not included. Only courses which have been assigned a curriculum level are used in calculating the GPA.
4. Students must have taken at least 25 credits in leveled courses at NNHS to be included in the histogram.
5. Achievement of 5.0 is possible.

Class of 2020 College Admission Test Scores

SAT Scores

Mean: Critical Reading and Writing: 638 Math: 643

Number of seniors taking SAT reasoning test: 450

Number of seniors taking SAT subject test: 121

SAT Subject Test	# Taking Test	Mean
Chemistry	73	695
Chinese with listening	2	760
Ecological Biology	13	603
English Literature	37	648
French I	6	692
German	2	750
Italian I	1	580
Japanese with listening	2	800
Latin	2	680
Math Level I	15	648
Math Level II	126	732
Molecular Biology	33	678
Physics	9	658
Spanish I	10	688
US History	50	646
World History	7	616

ACT Scores

Number of students taking ACT: 168

Subject	Mean
English	28.5
Mathematics	27.8
Reading	29.4
Science	28.3
Composite	28.3

What Makes Newton North Unique

- Truly comprehensive high school
- Rigorous honors and advanced placement courses
- Career and Technical Education programs offer authentic learning experiences in the following career areas: automotive technology, business, carpentry, culinary arts, design and visual communications, drafting, early education and care, graphic communications, engineering technology, and TV media arts. CTE students have the opportunity to pursue cooperative education workplace learning experiences.
- Students who have asked, been recommended for, and accepted to participate in a CTE program as a major have made a commitment to invest additional time into a career area and therefore receive additional credits. These program majors are leveled the same as our core subject areas; honors and advanced college prep (ACP).
- Students in the TV media arts CTE program produce the school news and documentaries from start to finish.
- College and Career Center staffed by specialized college counselors
- Nationally-ranked science, math, robotics, and mock trial teams
- Over 80 clubs and organizations including model UN, improv and sketch comedy groups, ultimate Frisbee, and one of the first Gay/Straight Alliance groups in the country
- Impressive theater program provides study opportunities in acting, directing, costuming and technical theatre. Produces 12-15 shows annually, including plays, musicals, a full-length Shakespeare production, and a Playwright's Festival featuring original student works
- Vast music department teaches theory, composition, and improvisation. Ten ensembles perform 20-25 concerts annually, both locally and internationally, winning statewide and national awards
- Highly successful athletic program includes more than 30 varsity sports teams. Newton North recently added two teams as part of a unified basketball and track league that gives students with and without intellectual disabilities the opportunity to train and compete for their respective schools. Recent D1A championships include: 2016 boys outdoor track and field and 2017 girls volleyball
- National award-winning online newspaper and literary magazine
- Numerous travel, exchange, and service programs to destinations including China, France, Spain, Prague, Central America, and New Orleans
- Demonstrated success at narrowing the achievement gap
- Special mentoring program for our scholars of color (Dover Legacy Scholars) and first generation families (Transitioning Together)
- Strong commitment to English language learner and special education programs
- Open campus policy for students in grades 10-12

City of Newton

Newton, a suburb of Boston, is a small city with a population of approximately 88,000. Its population is heterogeneous with a large proportion of academic, business, and professional families. The citizens of Newton strongly support its public schools. Newton's excellent educational system attracts families from all over the world. Our students come from many other states and more than 70 foreign countries and speak more than 30 languages. Our diverse city is further enhanced by the METCO program, which brings students of color from Boston, and the EDCO program, which is a regional program for deaf and hard of hearing students.

Spring 2020 Advanced Placement Tests

489 students sat for 953 exams in 23 subjects.

92% of exam scores were 3 or better.

AP Test	# Taking Test	% with 3+
Art History	5	100
Biology	37	95
Calculus AB	67	61
Calculus BC	92	92
Chemistry	85	87
Chinese Lang & Culture	12	100
Comparative Gov't & Politics	38	89
Computer Science A	2	100
Computer Science Principles	23	87
English Lang & Comp	82	88
English Lit & Comp	13	100
European History	11	93
French Lang & Culture	14	100
Italian Lang & Culture	9	100
Microeconomics	3	100
Music Theory	5	100
Physics: Electricity & Magnetism	1	100
Physics: Mechanics	57	98
Psychology	120	96
Spanish Language & Cult.	23	100
Statistics	138	91
US History	110	91
Latin	5	80

Overall Score Distribution

5: 40% **4:** 29% **3:** 21% **2:** 8% **1:** 2%

Career and Technical Education Programs 5-Year Positive Placement Data 2014-2018

Program	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Automotive	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Carpentry	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Culinary Arts	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Drafting	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Early Education & Care	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Graphic Communications	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Design & Visual Communications	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
TV Media Arts	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Positive Placement data includes the number of students in postsecondary education, military service, and/or employed.

Newton Public Schools Annual SIMS Data reported to the DESE by November 30th each school year.

Class of 2020 National Merit Scholarships

Scholarships: 1 **Semi-Finalists:** 8

Letters of Commendation: 41

College matriculations of two or more Newton North High School students for the three most recent graduating classes (2018, 2019, 2020)

American University	Keene State College	The New School - All Divisions
Amherst College	Lasell University	The Ohio State University
Assumption College	Lehigh University	The University of Alabama
Babson College	Lesley University	The University of Arizona
Bard College	Lewis & Clark College	The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Barnard College	Macalester College	The University of Tampa
Bates College	Massachusetts Bay Community College	The University of Texas, Austin
Bennington College	Massachusetts College of Art and Design	The University of the Arts
Bentley University	Massachusetts College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences (MCPHS)	Trinity College
Berklee College of Music	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	Tufts University
Boston Architectural College	McGill University	Tulane University
Boston College	Merrimack College	Union College (New York)
Boston University	Middlebury College	University of California, Los Angeles
Brandeis University	Middlesex Community College	University of California, San Diego
Bridgewater State University	Mount Holyoke College	University of California, Santa Barbara
Brown University	Muhlenberg College	University of California, Santa Cruz
Bryant University	New York University	University of Chicago
Bryn Mawr College	Nichols College	University of Colorado at Boulder
Bucknell University	North Carolina State University	University of Connecticut
Carleton College	North Shore Community College	University of Denver
Carnegie Mellon University	Northeastern University	University of Hartford
Case Western Reserve University	Northwestern University	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Champlain College	Norwich University	University of Maine
Chapman University	Oberlin College of Arts and Sciences	University of Maryland, College Park
Clark University	Occidental College	University of Massachusetts Dartmouth
Colby College	Pace University, New York City	University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Colgate University	Pennsylvania State University	University of Massachusetts, Boston
Colorado College	Pitzer College	University of Massachusetts, Lowell
Colorado State University	Princeton University	University of Miami
Columbia University	Providence College	University of Michigan
Connecticut College	Purdue University	University of New Hampshire at Durham
Cornell University	Queen's University	University of North Carolina School of the Arts
Dartmouth College	Quinnipiac University	University of Oxford
DePaul University	Regis College	University of Pittsburgh
Dickinson College	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	University of Rhode Island
Drexel University	Rhode Island School of Design	University of Rochester
Duke University	Rochester Institute of Technology	University of South Carolina - Columbia
Elon University	Roger Williams University	University of Southern California
Emerson College	Roxbury Community College	University of Southern Maine
Emmanuel College	Rutgers University	University of Toronto
Emory University	Sacred Heart University	University of Vermont
Endicott College	Saint Anselm College	University of Victoria
Fairfield University	Salem State University	University of Virginia
Fisher College	San Diego State University	University of Washington
Fitchburg State University	Sarah Lawrence College	University of Wisconsin, Madison
Framingham State University	Savannah College of Art and Design	Vanderbilt University
Franklin & Marshall College	Scripps College	Vassar College
Franklin Pierce University	Simmons University	Villanova University
Gallaudet University	Skidmore College	Virginia Tech
George Mason University	Smith College	Wake Forest University
Georgetown University	Southern New Hampshire University	Washington University in St. Louis
Georgia Institute of Technology	Springfield College	Wellesley College
Grinnell College	St. John's University	Wentworth Institute of Technology
Hamilton College - NY	St. Lawrence University	Wesleyan University
Harvard College	Stonehill College	West Virginia University
High Point University	Stony Brook University	Westchester Community College
Hobart and William Smith Colleges	Suffolk University	Western New England University
Hofstra University	Swarthmore College	Wheaton College MA
Indiana University at Bloomington	Syracuse University	William & Mary
Ithaca College	Temple University	Williams College
Johns Hopkins University	The George Washington University	Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Johnson & Wales University (Providence)		Worcester State University