



SCHOOL PROFILE

2018-2019



College Preparatory School of America CEEB Code: 140402

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Principal
Ms. Samah Elzahdan
Dean of Student Affairs

Dr. Shahid Ansari
President

Mrs. Syeda Azra Kazmi
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Mrs. Azra Jabeen
ICM JH/HS

College Preparatory School of America (CPSA) is a private school serving students from pre-school through twelfth grade. Founded in 1991, CPSA is fully recognized by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) and accredited by the NCA/AdvancEd. Currently, approximately 432 students attend CPSA. High school enrollment is at 140 students, coming from DuPage County and surrounding suburban Chicago areas. Admission is highly selective and is based upon an admissions examination. High school students are expected to complete the courses and credit guidelines for the State of Illinois graduation requirements as well as CPSA's increased graduation requirements. At CPSA, students take Honors and Advanced Placement (AP) courses in addition to their regular high school courses. More than a dozen Honors and AP courses are offered for high school students. CPSA takes pride in the distinction of Illinois' Most Challenging High School by The Washington Post for the last 5 years.

CPSA is committed to provide a quality education in an Islamic environment and to develop well-rounded individuals dedicated to serving humanity.

Graduation Requirements

Minimum high school graduation requirements are set following the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) guidelines in addition to the CPSA increased graduation requirements. These increased (6 credit units) requirements are shown in the core subjects and foreign language units. In order to graduate, a student will be required to earn the following units of credits.

Subject	Required for Graduation
English (including 1 unit in writing and research)	4.0 units
Mathematics (including Algebra and Geometry)	4.0 units
Science	4.0 units
Social Studies (including US History and Government)	3.0 units
Religious Studies	3.0 units
Foreign Language	3.0 units
Computers/College and Career Readiness	0.5 unit
PE/Health	2.0 units
Electives	2.5 units
Total:	26.0 units
*Students are required to pass the US Constitution Test	
**Additionally, there is a minimum of 100 hours of volunteer/community service requirement during the high school years for all students graduating from CPSA.	

Grading System: Grading Scale / Grade Point Average

Letter Grade	Regular Course	Honors Course	Advanced Placement (AP) Course	Graduation Honors / Honor Roll
A	4.0	4.5	5.0	Summa Cum Laude: GPA = 4.25 and up
B	3.0	3.5	4.0	Magna Cum Laude: GPA = 4.15 – 4.24
C	2.0	2.5	3.0	Cum Laude: 4.00 – 4.14
D	1.0	1.0	1.0	
F	0.0	0.0	0.0	Gold Honor Roll: 4.0 and up
P	---	---	---	Silver Honor Roll: 3.75 – 3.99
Students earn a weighted cumulative grade point average (GPA) for high school coursework.				

Class Ranking

Due to its small size, the school policy does not endorse class ranking, with the exception of a valedictorian and salutatorian determined at the time of graduation.

Graduation Honors/Honor Roll

CPSA students are eligible to earn graduation honors based on their weighted average GPA at the end of eight semesters as the following: Summa Cum Laude (4.25 and up), Magna Cum Laude (4.15 to 4.24), and Cum Laude (4.00 to 4.14). Students can earn Gold Honor Roll (4.0 and up) and Silver Honor Roll (3.75 to 3.99) on a quarter basis. Honor Roll requirements are slightly lower

for 9th and 10th grades than for 11th and 12th grades. Also, students are selected for National Honor Society (NHS) based on scholarship, character, service, and leadership.

College Admissions Status

100% of CPSA students are college-bound. 92% of the class of 2016 students received admissions to a four-year post secondary institution including some of the nation's best colleges and universities. 8% of the class of 2016 decided to attend a community college. In addition, most students received a substantial amount of scholarships.

Curriculum Rigor

Elementary and Junior High: Elementary program stresses critical and abstract thinking processes in the areas of Arabic, Islamic Studies, English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Computers, Art, and Physical Education. In addition to the core subjects, Biology, Chemistry, and Physical Science are introduced as part of the integrated science program in the junior high curriculum.

High School: Although College Preparatory School of America (CPSA) follows the same academic standards established by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), High School Honors and Advanced Placement (AP) courses are more rigorous and are designed to provide students with in-depth knowledge of the subject areas. CPSA offers Advanced Placement (AP) courses based on the guidelines established by the College Board.

a. AP courses offered in the areas of Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Calculus, English Language, English Literature, U.S. History, U.S. Gov and Politics, U.S Comparative Politics, Microeconomics, Human Geography, Psychology and Computer Science **A. b.** Honors courses are offered in the areas of Arabic, Islamic Studies, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Pre-Calculus, Geometry, Algebra I, Algebra II, Economics, US History, Psychology, and Human Geography. **c.** In addition, CPSA offers all of the above courses at regular track as well including Health and Physical Education.

Community Service

CPSA students are required to complete 100 hours of community service/volunteer work during their high school years. Students participate in peer tutoring, volunteering for the humanitarian and charitable organizations.

Extracurricular

CPSA students have opportunities to join several clubs and sports teams. Popular clubs include Debate Team, FFN (Food for the Needy), HOPE (Humanitarian Offering Peace Everywhere), Speech Team, Mock Trial Team, National Honor Society, Red Cross and UNICEF. Our sport teams include basketball and volleyball.

Assessment/Testing

At CPSA, we strive to evaluate student learning through multiple assessments (homework, class work, projects, class participation, quizzes and tests) including traditional standardized tests such as IOWA, ACT Aspire, PSAT, ACT, SAT, and AP. Through multiple assessments we can identify the strengths and weaknesses of student learning more precisely, thus improve our instructional strategies.

At present, CPSA students have a mean ACT score of 28, and mean SAT score of 1968 (compared to national ACT average 21.1 and SAT average 1509).

Academic Competition

Additionally, CPSA students participate in various academic competitions including Illinois Junior Academy of Science (IJAS) Science Fair, World-Wide Youth in Science and Engineering (WYSE), Illinois Council of Teachers of Mathematics (ICTM), etc.

Special Recognition - School Wide

World –Wide Youth in Science and Engineering (WYSE): 1st place recognition for the school at the Regional and Sectional levels; 2nd place recognition for the school at the State level, among a total of 23 qualifying schools

Illinois Junior Academy of Science (IJAS): IJAS Regional Science Fair – 24 Gold, 8 Silver, and 1 Bronze Awards
IJAS State Science Fair – 5 Gold and 1 Silver Awards

American Mathematics Competitions - AMC 8 (JH): 1 Gold, 1 Silver, and 1 Bronze winner;

AMC 10 & 12 (HS): 6 students scored in the Top 25% nationally

ICTM- “Illinois Council of Teachers of Mathematics”: 3rd Place team in the regional contest.

MIST- “Muslim Inter-Scholastic Tournament”: Midwest Champion

Contact

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