



Established 1861

Recognized as a School of Excellence by the U.S. Department of Education

# Gwynedd Mercy Academy High School



## School Profile 2024-25

### Gwynedd Mercy Academy High School

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#### President

Mrs. Denise C. Marbach '72, P'05, '09

#### Principal

Mrs. Eileen Carty

#### College Counselors

Ms. Susan Merrill, M.S.  
Director of College Counseling  
smerrill@gmahs.org

Mrs. Ashley Deegan, M.A.  
College Counselor  
adeegan@gmahs.org



#### FACULTY

There are **41** faculty members, **37** have advanced degrees in their field.



#### ENROLLMENT

- There are **457** female students enrolled in grades 9 through 12 in the **2024-25** academic year.
- The student to faculty ration is **10:1**; the average class size is **18**.
- The class of **2025** contains **96** members.



#### COLLEGE MATRICULATION

**100%** attend 4 year institutions

#### ACCREDITATION

PAIS. Memberships include NAIS, PAIS, ADVIS, ACCIS, PACAC and NACAC.

#### MISSION

Founded by the Sisters of Mercy in 1861, Gwynedd Mercy Academy High School educates, inspires and empowers young women to become innovative, culturally competent change-makers. Gwynedd Mercy Academy High School nurtures highly competent and deeply compassionate leaders ready to serve the needs of a twenty-first century world. Preparing students for this important role necessitates the promotion of academic excellence in an environment that fosters the development of the whole person; spiritually, intellectually, physically and emotionally.

#### GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

GMA is committed to a rigorous college preparatory program. Six major subjects must be taken each year. All students at GMA are expected to take a minimum of 24 credits to graduate, including successful completion of the following:

- |            |           |                   |           |
|------------|-----------|-------------------|-----------|
| • Theology | 4 credits | • Science         | 3 credits |
| • English  | 4 credits | • Social Studies  | 3 credits |
| • Math     | 3 credits | • World Languages | 3 credits |

#### GRADING SCALE

- GMAHS does not rank students.
- Grades are numerical on a 100 points scale with a grade of 70 considered a passing grade.
- The school year is divided into two semesters.
- A cumulative GPA is calculated at the end of every academic year.
- Courses are weighted by adding 6 points for Honors and 8 points for AP to the regular grade. This is reflected in the cumulative grade on the transcript.
- First Honors: Cumulative average of 93 with no grade below an 88
- Second Honors: Cumulative average of 90 with no grade below an 85

Grade	Range	4.0 Scale
A+	98 - 100	4.3
A	94 - 97	4
A-	90 - 93	3.7
B+	87 - 89	3.3
B	84 - 86	3
B-	80 - 83	2.7
C+	77 - 79	2.3
C	74 - 76	2
C-	72 - 73	1.7
D	70-71	1.0
F	69 & Below	0.0

#### CURRICULUM

- All courses at GMAHS are College Prep.
- At minimum, students carry 6 major courses plus Seminar(not graded). All 9th grade students take an art, music and technology foundation for a full year in addition to Seminar.
- Students who level up to honors or AP must meet specific grade requirements as set by the departments.
- Students in English and Science must maintain an A- average to remain at the honors/AP level.
- There is no limit to the number of AP course students can take per year, but scheduling conflicts may limit possibilities.
- Students are required to take Seminar which is a full year course that rotates topics on Health/Wellness, Mental Health, DEI&J, Personal Finance, Study Skills, Leadership, and College Counseling.

## SIGNATURE PROGRAMS

### Innovation Scholars Program

This highly competitive program requires a minimum GPA of 92, advanced coursework in math and science, an internship in a STEM field, and a culminating independent project. Students who successfully complete these requirements will graduate with distinction. Students are invited to apply at the end of their 9th grade year and must write an essay, take a qualifying test and interview with a committee.

### Global Connections

This highly competitive program requires a minimum GPA of 92, advanced coursework in the humanities, completion of a global service learning project, participation in Model UN, and a culminating independent project. Students who successfully complete these requirements will graduate with distinction. Students are invited to apply at the end of their 9th grade year and must take a qualifying exam, write an in person essay and grades in language and history classes are strongly reviewed.

### Diocesan Scholars Program

Four students were selected based on academic excellence, an application, and an interview to attend two college classes at a nearby Catholic university. This is in addition to their Gwynedd courseload and extracurricular commitments.

### Leadership Program

The leadership department utilizes the Gardner Carney Leadership Lab method, developed by the Gardner Carney Leadership Institute (gcLi) in collaboration with the Graduate School of Education of the University of Pennsylvania. Led by 5 institute-certified faculty and staff, the gcLi method combines brain science, social and emotional intelligence, leadership studies, cultural competency, and developmental psychology.

All GMA students participate in L.E.A.D. as one of our Wellness Wheel seminar classes. The program is designed to champion ethical leadership, develop leadership competencies, inspire change agents, encourage career exploration, promote diversity, develop global competency, and combat unconscious gender bias among adults and teens themselves.

### Internship Program

Student internships are a stipend position. Students are required to work a total of 50 hours, outside of any club or activities. Upon completion of the program, interns will receive a stipend of \$500. Interns are selected on the basis of a resume, a goal sheet and an interview process.

### Externship Program

Open to all Juniors, each student who applies for an externship is interviewed, providing practice and direction on presentation skills and highlighting her strengths and unique qualifications. Students can receive assistance on placement or they may find a business independently. Most externships take place over the summer. All externs must complete 30 hours, keep a journal, and create a presentation for faculty and staff.



## STANDARDIZED TESTING CLASSES OF 2025

GMA reports the middle 50% range of standardized testing

The class of 2025 is comprised of 99 students. The test results reported below are through August of 2024 ACT and SAT administrations. This does not include October administration.

### SAT 1060-1260

EBRW 530-670

Math (mid 50%) 490-630

### ACT (3 students)

Middle 50% 26 - 36

## ADVANCED PLACEMENT RESULTS 2024

**170** Students in the Classes of 2024 and 2025 completed **303** exams, with **75%** earning a **3** or higher.

**25** AP Scholars

**11** AP with Honors

**17** AP with Distinction

National Merit Scholarship  
Program Recognition

**3** Commended  
Students



COLLEGE PREP		HONORS	AP	ELECTIVE
Religion (4)	9-12			
English (4)	9-12	9-12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Literature (12)</li> <li>Composition (11)</li> </ul>	
History (3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Cultures (9)</li> <li>US History (10)</li> <li>Govt &amp; Politics (11,12)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Cultures (9),</li> <li>US History (10),</li> <li>Govt &amp; Politics (11,12)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Human Geo (9-12)</li> <li>US History (10, 11)</li> <li>Gov &amp; Politics (11-12)</li> <li>Comparative Govt 12</li> <li>Psychology</li> </ul>	
Math (3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Algebra 1</li> <li>Algebra 2</li> <li>Geometry</li> <li>Precalculus</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Algebra 1</li> <li>Algebra 2</li> <li>Geometry</li> <li>Precalculus</li> <li>Calculus</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Calculus AB</li> <li>Calculus BC</li> <li>Statistics</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Honors Statistics</li> <li>Honors Engineering &amp; Design</li> <li>Honors Advanced Engineering Design</li> </ul>
Science (3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biology (9),</li> <li>Chemistry (10)</li> <li>Physics</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biology (9),</li> <li>Chemistry (10,11)</li> <li>Physics (11,12)</li> <li>Anatomy and Physiology (11,12)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biology (11,12)</li> <li>Chemistry (11,12)</li> <li>Environmental Sci x (11,12)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Forensic Science (11,12)</li> </ul>
Language (3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spanish I -IV</li> <li>French I-IV</li> <li>Latin I-IV</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spanish II-IV</li> <li>French II-IV</li> <li>Latin II-IV</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spanish Language and Culture</li> </ul>	
Fine Arts*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Intro to Art: Visual Arts Foundation (9)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Honors Art Studio and Art History (11,12)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2D Art and Design (12)</li> <li>Drawing (12)</li> <li>3D Art and Design (12)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mixed Media Studio (10,11,12)</li> <li>Drawing and Painting (10,11,12)</li> <li>Printmaking and the Creative Process (10,11,12)</li> </ul>
Technology*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Intro to Coding, Design and Robotics (9)</li> <li>Digital</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Principles</li> <li>Comp Sci A</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Media/Advanced Digital Media - 0.5 (10,11,12)</li> <li>Foundations of 3D Design - 0.5 (10,11,12)</li> <li>Broadcast and Media Production - 0.5 (10,11,12)</li> <li>Audio Engineering - 0.5 (10,11,12)</li> </ul>
Music *	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Intro to Music (9)</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guitar Lab (10,11,12)</li> <li>Piano Lab (10,11,12)</li> <li>Audio Engineering - 0.5 (10,11,12)</li> <li>Broadcast &amp; Media Production - 0.5 (10,11,12)</li> <li>Honors Music Theory and History 1 (10,11,12)</li> <li>Honors Music Theory and History 2 (11, 12)</li> <li>Honors Music Theory and History 3 (11,12)</li> </ul>



**GRADUATES FROM 2019-2024 MATRICULATED TO THE FOLLOWING COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES.**

Institutions in bold have enrolled multiple GMA students.

- Albright College**
- American University**
- Auburn University**
- Bates College
- Boston College**
- Boston University
- Bryn Mawr College
- Bucknell College**
- Case Western University
- Catholic University**
- Clemson University**
- College of Charleston**
- Columbia University
- Connecticut College
- Cornell University
- DeSales University**
- Dickinson College**
- Drexel University**
- Duke University
- Duquesne University
- Elizabethtown College
- Elon University**
- Emerson College
- Fairfield University**
- Florida Institute of Technology**
- Fordham University**
- Georgetown University
- Gettysburg College**
- High Point University
- Immaculata University
- Indiana University of Bloomington
- James Madison University**
- Johns Hopkins University
- Kutztown University**
- La Salle University
- Lafayette College**
- Lehigh University**
- Loyola University Chicago
- Loyola University Maryland**
- Loyola University New Orleans
- Lycoming College
- Manhattan College
- Marywood University
- Moravian University
- Monmouth University
- Muhlenberg College**
- New York University
- Northeastern University
- Pennsylvania State University**
- Providence College**
- Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
- Saint Joseph's University**
- Schreyer Honors College
- St. Johns University New York**
- Stevenson University
- Swarthmore College**
- Susquehanna University
- Syracuse University**
- Temple University**
- The College of New Jersey
- Thomas Jefferson University
- Tufts University
- United State Coast Guard Academy
- United State Military Academy
- United States Military Academy
- United States Naval Academy
- University of Alabama
- University of California Berkley
- University of Delaware**
- University of Denver
- University of Florida
- University of Louisville
- University of Maryland College Park**
- University of Massachusetts Boston
- University of Miami
- University of Michigan**
- University of Notre Dame**
- University of Pennsylvania
- University of Pittsburgh**
- University of Rhode Island**
- University of the Sciences
- University of Scranton**
- University of South Carolina**
- University of Tampa**
- University of Tennessee**
- University of Vermont
- University of Virginia
- Ursinus College**
- Vassar
- Virginia Polytechnic University**
- Wagner College
- Wake Forest University
- Washington and Lee University
- West Chester University**
- West Virginia University
- Widener University**