

Profile 2006-2007

SCHOOL

Northampton High School is a 4-year, public secondary school located in the city of Northampton, Massachusetts. Northampton is a middle income, residential city with a rich cultural life located in the Connecticut River Valley, twenty miles from Springfield, in Western Massachusetts, with a population of 30,000. The school population benefits from local educational resources such as Smith College, the Smith Art Museum, the University of Massachusetts, Holyoke Community College, and the general five-college area. Northampton High School has a professional staff of 75, including four guidance counselors and three administrators. Enrollment for 2006-2007 is 875 students with a senior class of 215. The student body includes 66 students from neighboring communities who have “chosen” to attend Northampton High School. Accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Northampton High School is on a 4X4 Block Schedule with 85 minute periods in a 37 week school year. Approximately 87% of graduates continue their education.

CURRICULUM

A student typically earns 8 credits each year. Generally, a student schedule includes three core subjects and one or two electives each semester. All courses are college preparatory unless designated as Honors, Advanced Placement or Applied. A total of 28 credits are required for graduation, including 4 credits of English, 1 credit of Writing, 3 credits each of Social Studies, Mathematics and Sciences, and 1 credit of Wellness. An additional 2 credits must be earned from either Math, Science, Social Studies, English, or World Language. Courses which meet alternate days earn .5 credits.

The curriculum includes Business, Consumer Science, English, Fine and Performing Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Technology, Wellness, and World Languages (French, Latin, Spanish). **Honors courses** are offered in English, World History II, Geometry, Algebra II, Pre Calculus, Art, Biology, Chemistry, and upper level World Languages. **Advanced Placement** courses include: English Language, English Literature, Modern European History, U.S. History, Economics, Computer Science, Calculus, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, and Spanish. Beginning with the Class of 2004, enrolled students are required to take AP exams. Placement in Honors level and Advanced Placement courses requires a teacher recommendation. Students may also enroll in courses at local colleges to pursue advanced study. **Applied courses** include: Mathematics, Biology and Chemistry. Applied and Developmental courses are designed for students who benefit from small classes geared toward individual needs.

GRADE POINT AVERAGE

An unweighted grade point average is computed for the Class of 2007. With the exception of Developmental courses, all graded courses are included in the calculation (Pass/Fail courses are not included). Numerical grades were initiated for the 2003-2004 school year. A student's grade point average is calculated at the end of junior year, at the end of first semester senior year, and at the end of senior year. Northampton High School does not provide individual rank-in-class ratings.

Students will receive a P for satisfactory work or an F for unsatisfactory work in the following courses (these are not calculated in the GPA): Internship, Peer Tutoring, Teacher Assistant, Work Experience, Work Study.

GRADING

<u>Numerical Grade</u>	<u>Grade Points</u>
95 – 100 (A)	4.0
90 – 94 (A-)	3.7
87 – 89 (B+)	3.3
84 – 86 (B)	3.0
80 – 83 (B-)	2.7
77 – 79 (C+)	2.3
74 – 76 (C)	2.0
70 – 73 (C-)	1.7
60 – 69 (D)	1.0
Below 60 (F)	0

SCHOLASTIC ASSESSMENT TEST

Percentage tested: 170
Average Verbal Mean: 549
Average Math Mean: 557
Average Writing Mean: 539

FOLLOW-UP STUDY OF GRADUATES

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>
Number of Graduates	205	224	195	185	189	168
Four-Year College	66%	63%	64%	64%	63%	61%
Two-Year, Nursing	21%	25%	13%	17%	20%	23%
Employment	6%	4%	5%	4%	5%	2%
Military	1%	1%	1%	1%	3%	1%
Vocational	.5%	0.8%	0.5%	0.5%	2%	1.5%
Other	2%	6%	16%	12%	8%	13%