



Waldorf High School

14 Pine Street
Stockbridge
MA 01262
(413) 298-3800

PO Box 905
Great Barrington
MA 01230

waldorfhigh.org

SCHOOL PROFILE

Great Barrington Waldorf High School

Mail: P.O. Box 905, Great Barrington, MA 01230

Street: 14 Pine Street, Stockbridge, MA 01262

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URL www.waldorfhigh.org

College Board (CEEB) code 220901

Massachusetts DOE code 01130850

SEVIS certification code BOS214F52691000

Head of School: Stephen Keith Sagarin, Ph.D., Faculty Chair

Graduation Requirements: Except in extraordinary circumstances, noted on a student's transcript, all students take all courses at our high school. Students generally earn 7.25 to 7.50 credits per year, each credit reflecting 120 class hours. Five and a half of these credits per year are for academic classes. The rest are for arts and physical education classes. Transcripts may reflect credit earned while on foreign exchange, but, usually, we simply include the report or transcript of the foreign school.

Grading and Ranking Procedures: We grade from A+ (98 % or 4.33) to D- (60% or 0.67). Grades of F receive no credit but are marked on the transcript. We do not weight our students' grades. We do not rank our students.

Courses: All academic, arts, and physical education courses are required for all four years of high school, with the exception of electives, noted on transcript. All courses are Honors level. We do not offer AP courses.

Test Score Information: 100% of our seniors and juniors will take the SAT I this year. Mean scores for the SAT I for past tests are:

Critical Reading 590 Math 560 Writing 580

College Attendance: We anticipate that 100% of our graduates will attend 4 year colleges. Our graduates have attended the following schools:

American Academy of Dramatic Arts	Occidental College	Thomas More College
Bard College	Providence College	UMass Amherst
Berkshire Community College (2)	Rochester Institute of Technology (2)	UMass Boston
Chapman University	Sarah Lawrence College (2)	University of Kings College
Cleveland Institute of Art	Skidmore College	University of New Mexico, Taos
College of the Atlantic	Smith College	University of North Dakota, Aerospace College
Connecticut College	St. Johns College, Santa Fe	University of Western Washington
Hampshire College (2)	Stonehill College	Vassar College
Montserrat College of Art	SUNY Albany (2)	
Mt. Holyoke College	Syracuse University,	
New School for Social Research	Newhouse School	



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School and Community Information: The Great Barrington Waldorf High School is a small, rigorous, college preparatory, independent, coeducational Waldorf day school. We enroll 38 students in grades 9-12 this year, and celebrate our eighth graduating class, of eight seniors, in June 2014. As a Waldorf school, founded on the educational principles of Rudolf Steiner, we aim to balance rigorous academic work with required fine art, practical art, and performing art classes and with social and community responsibility. As a school near Main Street of a small town, we aim to integrate our school into our community, aiding community soup kitchens, a local environmentally-friendly river walk, and local community-supported organic farms, while using local resources—libraries, artists' studios, museums and the great outdoors—to extend our small campus. Our school is open to all, regardless of ability to pay. The economic range of our students is significant.

Unique Elements of Our Curriculum (Please also see *Course of Study*):

Many academic courses—history, English, science—are taught in 3-4 week blocks as seminars that meet for 100 min. per day, five days per week. Other academic courses—foreign languages, mathematics, and some English—meet 3 to 4 days per week for 50 min. Arts and physical education meet 50-100 minutes, 1-2 times per week.

English: English classes meet 3 times per week to focus on reading, writing, and interpretation. Additional English seminars cover specific topics in literature. (See student transcript for list of seminars.) Most students graduate with 6 credits in English.

Math: In addition to a standard course of study that progresses from Algebra through Geometry, Trigonometry, Analytic Geometry, and Precalculus to Calculus, we require seminars in Statistics & Probability and Projective (non-Euclidean) Geometry.

History: History seminars cover U.S. history and world history from the ancient world to the modern world. In addition, seminars in history through art, history through drama, history through language, history through music, and history through architecture present the cultural history of, primarily, the western hemisphere, as a development of human consciousness. We also require courses in the history and culture of China and India.

Foreign Languages: We teach German or Spanish with an emphasis on conversational facility and reading. Each class takes a 3 week visit to Munich, Germany, or to a Spanish-speaking country in 10th or 11th grade; many students then exchange with Waldorf schools in these cities.

Science: In addition to sequential seminars each year of high school in biology, chemistry, and physics, we require seminars in earth science or geology, and astronomy. Transcripts record those seminars that have a laboratory component. Science teaching focuses on observation and experience, and uses a phenomenological approach. Most science courses include a lab component.

Arts: All students take required courses in fine and performing arts each year. Student portfolios represent this work to colleges and universities.