



Philadelphia Classical School

2025 - 2026 Profile

CEEBC Code: 395489

Contact

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Philadelphia, PA 19145
(267) 990-2698
www.philaclassical.org

Leadership

Katharine Savage
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Luke Trouwborst
Upper School Head

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Lower School Head

College Counselor

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Accredited by Middle States Association and ACCS

Member of ACCS and SCL
Affiliated with the
Educational Records Bureau

Admission

Admission to Philadelphia Classical School is based on academic records, teacher recommendations, entrance exam scores, and parent and student interviews.

Philadelphia Classical School maintains a generous tuition assistance program to ensure socio-economic diversity; approximately 60% of students receive financial aid.

Philadelphia Classical School is excited to announce our fourth graduating class, which includes our very first kindergarteners – the Class of 2026!

Philadelphia Classical School is an independent, co-educational school that serves children in grades K-12 from the Greater Philadelphia area. Since its founding in 2013 with only 20 students, Philadelphia Classical School has added one new grade each year.

Today, PCS is an established institution with over 200 students that seeks to provide a classical education through rigorous, liberal arts coursework with a Christian worldview.

Curricular & Pedagogical Distinctives:

- **All students are required to complete the same core courses in six subject areas by the time they graduate**, which includes 7 honors-level courses. The core emphasizes classical language, the Great Books, mathematics, and natural sciences.
- **All students complete required capstone projects in each grade. Seniors complete a year-long senior thesis, which can be taken for college credit**, on a topic of their choosing as the culmination of the rhetoric curriculum.
- **Students study the humanities in 90-minute daily honors courses called Humane Letters.** These courses utilize Socratic seminars to discuss the Great Books, primary sources, theology, history, art, and philosophy of a time period.
- All science courses **incorporate laboratory experimentation and careful scientific argumentation** in lab reports and presentations.
- **Students study Latin from 3rd Grade through 10th Grade, with more advanced courses being offered after Latin IV.** Upper School students read and translate primary sources (Cicero, Virgil, and others) from the original Latin with ease.
- **With an academic course load that is heavier in volume and rigor than those at peer schools**, students develop virtue and time-management skills to fulfill their responsibilities.

Co-Curricular Distinctives:

- **The House Leadership Program** provides students the opportunity to serve in a student government role by organizing events, developing strategic planning skills, and cultivating a healthy team culture with their peers. Weekly responsibilities for house leaders can rise above 6 hours per week.
- **All students participate in the House Program**, which is intentionally designed to foster community across 7th-12th grades. Students participate in a yearly Upper School retreat, academic and athletic competitions, and hands-on, student-led, community-building events.
- **All students are required to participate in the annual Spring Musical**, either as an actor or another contributing member of the tech team or live band.
- **All students are required to be in a musical ensemble starting in Kindergarten.** Featured Upper School ensembles include choirs (for both Rhetoric and Logic schools) and a strings chamber ensemble. **All PCS students learn to play strings instruments beginning in 1st Grade.**

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210 K-12 Students

Average Upper School
Class Size of 10

Top 5 School in the Nation for CLT10 Scores 2025

Class Rank

Due to smaller class sizes
and the caliber of
students, *PCS does not
create class rankings.*

Faculty

Student to Faculty Ratio of 7:1
*83% of faculty hold or are
pursuing advanced degrees.*

Dual-Enrollment and Honors Courses

There are 11 honors-level
courses that students can
take. 4 of these courses may
be taken for college credit,
provided by Cairn University.

*PCS does not offer AP courses
by design. Our courses follow
a coherent, seminar-driven
curriculum that prioritizes
depth over breadth and
challenges students to pursue
truth, beauty, and goodness.*

Graduation Requirements

Humanities: 8 credits

Rhetoric: 5 credits
Includes 8th Grade Logic

Math: 3 credits

Science: 3 credits

Language: 2 credits

Fine Arts: 2 credits

Physical Education: 1 credit

Total Minimum: 24 credits

Upper School Courses

	Humanities	Rhetoric (English)	Math	Science	Foreign Language
9th	<i>*Humane Letters III</i>	<i>Writer's Rhetoric</i>	<i>Geometry</i>	<i>Biology</i>	Latin I OR Latin III
10th	<i>*Humane Letters IV</i>	<i>Classical Rhetoric</i>	<i>Algebra II</i>	<i>Chemistry</i>	Latin II OR Latin IV
11th	<i>*Humane Letters V</i>	<i>*Summa Theologica (Junior Thesis)</i>	Pre-Calculus	*Anatomy & Physiology	*Advanced Latin
12th	<i>*Humane Letters VI</i>	<i>*Summa Civitas (Senior Thesis)</i>	*Calculus OR Statistics	*Physics	*Advanced Latin II
Required Credits		8	5	3	3

Selections from the Humane Letters Reading List

The Epic of Gilgamesh
The Iliad and The Odyssey, Homer
The Histories, Herodotus
Oedipus the King, Sophocles
The Republic, Plato
Nicomachean Ethics, Aristotle
The Aeneid, Virgil
On the Incarnation, Athanasius
The City of God, Augustine
The Consolation of Philosophy, Boethius
Summa Theologica, Aquinas
The Divine Comedy, Dante

Julius Caesar and Hamlet, Shakespeare
Meditations on First Philosophy, Descartes
Paradise Lost, Milton
Candide, Voltaire
The Social Contract, Rousseau
Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass
The Communist Manifesto, Marx
The Scarlet Letter, Hawthorne
The Brothers Karamazov, Dostoevsky
Beyond Good and Evil, Nietzsche
Animal Farm, Orwell
The Great Divorce, C. S. Lewis

Philadelphia Classical School Grading Scale

Letter Grade	Numerical Grade	Standard GPA	Letter Grade	Numerical Grade	Standard GPA
A+	98-100	4.0	B-	80-82	2.67
A	93-97	4.0	C+	78-79	2.33
A-	90-92	4.0	C	73-77	2.0
B+	88-89	3.33	C-	70-72	1.67
B	83-87	3.0	D	60-69	1.0

Please note that any grade below a 60% is considered failing.

**Denotes honors. All honors courses are weighted on a 5.0 scale.*

Courses in italics are graduation requirements.

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College Acceptances to Date

Cairn University	Eastern University	Patrick Henry College
Carson-Newman University	Gordon College	Penn State University
Cedarville University	Hillsdale College	Samford University
Covenant College	Messiah University	Temple University
Denison University	Georgia Tech	Texas A&M
Drexel University	Geneva College	Wheaton College
	Grove City College	