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2015-2016 PROFILE

Niskayuna High School

Niskayuna Central School District **A National School of Excellence**

Administration: Dr. Cosimo Tangorra, Jr. Superintendent
 Lauren Gemmill, Assistant Superintendent
 for Instruction
 John W. Rickert, Principal
 Eva Jones, Assistant Principal
 John Moskov, Assistant Principal

High School Counselors
 Tim Albanese, talbanese@niskayschools.org
 Nancy Bushee, nbushee@niskayschools.org
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The School and Community

Niskayuna is a suburban community with an approximate population of 23,000 residents. It is conveniently located in the Albany-Schenectady-Troy metropolitan area. The community has long provided strong and consistent support to an effective and forward-looking educational program. The school district takes in students from the towns of Niskayuna and Rexford and parts of Glenville and Colonie.

While Niskayuna is essentially a residential community, industry leaders such as GE Global Research, Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory, the WRGB television studio, Environment One, and SI Group Inc., are located here.

Niskayuna High School is a focal point of the community. We are a comprehensive high school with a student population of 1,400 students in grades 9-12. Thirteen departments offer a rich variety of programs designed to meet the needs of a talented student population. Offerings include 46 honors and 15 AP classes, options for interdisciplinary studies, and a broad range of electives. Classes are offered in five 78-minute blocks on alternate days.

Distinctions

Niskayuna High School was recognized as the top-rated high school in the area by Albany Business Review in 2014 and the school district has been ranked in the top three in the region in nine of the last 10 years by the same publication. The New York State Education Department has named Niskayuna High School a "Reward School" for outstanding performance and

achievement on state assessments. In each of the last two years, Newsweek named Niskayuna High School to its list of 500 top high schools in the nation, reaching No. 26 in 2014. In 2012, U.S. News & World Report cited Niskayuna High School as the highest-rated high school in the Capital Region. Upon heading into the 21st Century, The Wall Street Journal published a report that ranked Niskayuna High School in the top ten high schools in the country based upon achievement data, standardized test scores, and SAT results. Each year, our students rank among the best in the area on performance on all state assessments, graduation rates, and college and career readiness.

There are more than 125 faculty members at Niskayuna High School, 99 percent of whom hold advanced degrees, including 4 doctoral degrees. In addition, 17 members of our teaching faculty are distinguished with National Board Certification. This is the highest percentage of nationally certified teachers in the Capital area.

| Class of 2015 | |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| Post High School Plans | |
| Four-year college or university | 73% |
| Two-year college | 19% |
| Military | 1% |
| Employment | 1% |
| Other | 6% |



Honors & Advanced Placement

Students who demonstrate superior promise in English, social studies, science, math, foreign language, art and music may be recommended for honors or AP courses in one or more of these subjects. Students may also “self select” for these courses. A complete Program of Studies is available on the district Web site at www.niskayunaschools.org.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAMS 2015

203 students wrote 361 exams ... 91% scored 3 or higher

| Academic Area | Frequency of Scores | | | | | Total |
|------------------------|---------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|----------|------------|
| | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | Written |
| Biology | 11 | 8 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 24 |
| Calculus AB | 9 | 6 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 19 |
| Calculus BC | 26 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 28 |
| Chemistry | 9 | 14 | 6 | 4 | 0 | 33 |
| Economics Macro | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 10 |
| Economics Micro | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 4 |
| English Lang & Comp | 29 | 33 | 22 | 3 | 0 | 87 |
| English Lit & Comp | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 7 |
| Environmental Science | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| French Language | 0 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 8 |
| German Language | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Gov't & Politics: U.S. | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 10 |
| Psychology | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Physics C: E&M | 3 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 8 |
| Physics C: Mechanics | 5 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 13 |
| Spanish Language | 5 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 9 |
| Statistics | 9 | 6 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 24 |
| U.S. History | 14 | 20 | 10 | 2 | 0 | 46 |
| World History | 10 | 10 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 27 |
| TOTALS | 137 | 124 | 74 | 22 | 4 | 361 |

Honors Courses

- English 9 Honors
- English 10 Honors
- English 11 Honors/AP
- SUPA English 12
- English 12 Honors/AP
- Global History I Honors, II Honors
- American History Honors
- Introduction to Political Science Honors
- Geometry Accelerated
- Algebra 2/Trigonometry Honors
- Pre-Calculus Honors
- Multivariable Calculus
- Biology Honors
- Chemistry Honors
- Earth Science Honors
- Physics Honors
- French II Honors, III Honors, IV Honors, V Honors
- German Accelerated I/II, II Honors, III Honors, IV Honors, V Honors
- Latin Accelerated I/II, IV Honors
- Spanish II Honors, III Honors, IV Honors, V Honors
- Advanced Art Studio
- Advanced Jewelry
- Advanced Ceramics
- Advanced Studio in Video
- Advanced Studio in Computer Arts
- Advanced Photography
- Advanced Sculpture
- Symphonic Band
- Symphony Orchestra
- Music Theory II
- Concert Chorale
- Jazz Ensemble
- Chamber Strings
- Studio Singers
- Bel Canto Voices
- Orchestra Winds

AP Courses

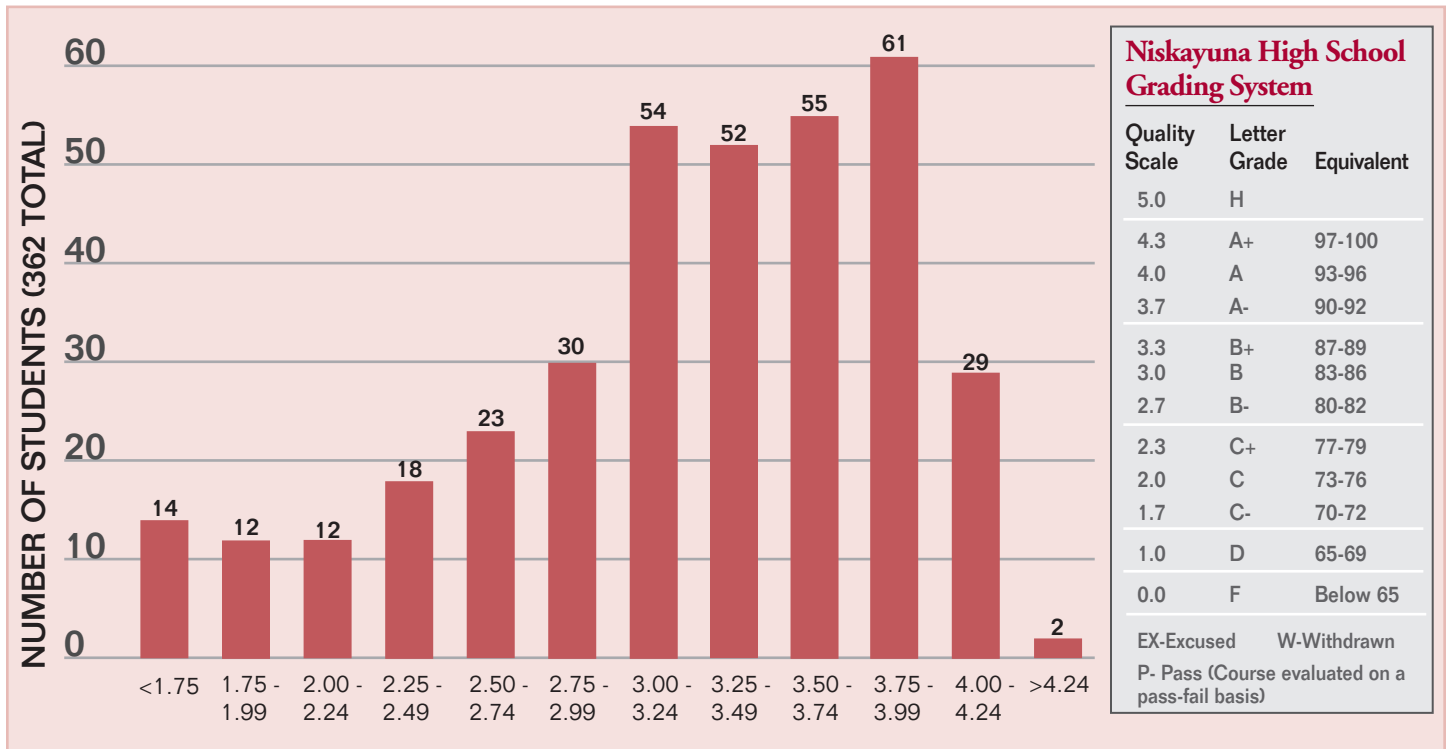
- AP English 11 Honors
- AP English 12 Honors
- AP United States History
- AP Micro Economics
- AP Macro Economics*
- AP Macro Economics & United States Government
- AP American Government & Politics
- AP World History
- AP U.S. Government & Politics*
- AP Calculus
- BC Calculus
- AP Statistics
- AP Computer Science
- AP Biology
- AP Chemistry
- AP Physics
- Latin - Vergil AP
- AP Music*
- AP Art

*not offered in the 2015-16 school year

Grading

The GPA chart in this profile is based on six semesters of grades for this class. The grading system is detailed below. Note: There is no weighting of Honors or AP courses. A previous grade of “H” (5 points) for outstanding work was discontinued in September 2013. The highest grade a student can earn is “A+” (4.3 points).

CLASS OF 2016 SIXTH SEMESTER CUMULATIVE G.P.A. DISTRIBUTION *(as of 09/15)*



Mean Scores for 2014-15 Subject Tests

| Subject | Number | Mean | Standard Deviation |
|-------------------|--------|------|--------------------|
| Literature | 5 | 652 | |
| U.S. History | 28 | 660 | 75 |
| World History | 12 | 683 | |
| Math Level 1 | 14 | 657 | |
| Math Level 2 | 36 | 738 | 73 |
| Biology — E | 12 | 645 | |
| Biology — M | 23 | 727 | |
| Chemistry | 21 | 676 | |
| Physics | 15 | 727 | |
| French | 3 | | |
| German | 1 | | |
| Latin | 3 | | |
| Modern Hebrew | 1 | | |
| Spanish | 2 | | |
| Spanish—Listening | 1 | | |

Niskayuna Average ACT scores – Three year trend

| Year | # tested | English | Math | Reading | Science | Composite |
|---------|----------|---------|------|---------|---------|-----------|
| 2012-13 | 159 | 24.6 | 26.4 | 25.2 | 24.7 | 25.3 |
| 2013-14 | 158 | 26.4 | 27.5 | 26.6 | 26.0 | 26.8 |
| 2014-15 | 166 | 25.1 | 26.6 | 25.9 | 25.8 | 26.0 |

2014-15 SAT

| | 25th%ile | 75th%ile |
|------------------|----------|----------|
| Critical Reading | 480 | 630 |
| Math | 500 | 660 |
| Writing | 470 | 620 |

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

| | |
|-------------------------|-----|
| Number of Participants | 167 |
| Semifinalists | 9 |
| Letters of Commendation | 17 |

Colleges & Universities currently attended by Niskayuna graduates:

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| Adelphi University | Grove City College | Providence College | University of California at Los Angeles |
| Albany College of Pharmacy | Hamilton College | Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute | University of Colorado at Boulder |
| Alfred University | Hampton University | Rhode Island School of Design | University of Connecticut |
| Allegheny College | Hartwick College | Rice University | University of Hartford |
| American University | Harvard University | Rider University | University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign |
| Amherst College | Harvey Mudd College | Rochester Institute of Technology | University of Louisville |
| Arizona State University | Haverford College | Roger Williams University | University of Maryland, College Park |
| Bard College | Hobart & William Smith College | Russell Sage College | University of Massachusetts, Amherst |
| Barnard College | Hofstra University | Rutgers University, New Brunswick | University of Miami |
| Baruch College of the CUNY | Hunter College of the CUNY | Sacred Heart University | University of Michigan |
| Bates College | Ithaca College | Sage College of Albany | University of Minnesota, Twin Cities |
| Bentley University | James Madison University | Salve Regina University | University of New England |
| Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania | Johns Hopkins University | Santa Clara University | University of New Hampshire |
| Boston College | Johnson & Wales University, North Miami FL | Savannah College of Art and Design | University of New Haven |
| Boston University | Johnson & Wales University, Providence RI | School of Visual Art | University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill |
| Bowdoin College | Keene State College | Seton Hall | University of Notre Dame |
| Brandeis University | Knox College | Siena College | University of Pennsylvania |
| Brigham Young University | Keuka College | Skidmore College | University of Pittsburgh |
| Brown University | La Salle University | Smith College | University of Rhode Island |
| Bryant University | Lafayette College | St. Bonaventure University | University of Richmond |
| California State University – Monterey Bay | Las Positas College | St. John Fisher College | University of Rochester |
| Carlton University, Ottawa ON | Lasell College | St. John's University - Queens | University of South Carolina |
| Case Western Reserve University | Le Moyne College | St. Lawrence University | University of Tampa |
| Castleton State College | Lehigh University | Stanford University | University of Toronto |
| Catholic University of America, The | Loyola Marymount University | State University of New York, Albany | University of Vermont |
| Cazenovia College | Loyola University Maryland | State University of New York, Alfred | University of Virginia |
| Central Connecticut State University | Manhattan College | State University of New York, Binghamton | University of Waterloo, Waterloo ON |
| Champlain College | Maria College | State University of New York, Brockport | Utica College |
| City College of New York (CUNY) | Marist College | State University of New York, Buffalo | Vassar College |
| Clark University | Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts | State University of New York, Buffalo College | Villanova University |
| Clarkson University | Massachusetts College of Pharmacy & Health Services | State University of New York, Canton | Virginia Military Institute |
| Clemson University | Massachusetts Institute of Technology | State University of New York, Cobleskill | Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University |
| Coastal Carolina University | McGill University | State University of New York, Cortland | Wake Forest University |
| Colgate University | Medaille College | State University of New York, Delhi | Wesleyan University |
| College of Charleston | Merrimack College | State University of New York, Environmental Science and Forestry | West Island College International, Class Afloat, Lunenburg NS |
| College of Holy Cross, The | Miami University, Oxford | State University of New York, Fredonia | West Virginia University |
| College of Saint Rose, The | Middlebury College | State University of New York, Geneseo | Western New England College |
| College of Wooster, The | Millersville University of Pennsylvania | State University of New York, Institute of Technology Utica/Rome | Wentworth Institute of Technology |
| Columbia University | Mount Holyoke College | State University of New York, Morrisville | Wheaton College, IL |
| Connecticut College | Mount San Jacinto College | State University of New York, New Paltz | Williams College |
| Cornell University | Nazareth College | State University of New York, Oneonta | Worcester Polytechnic Institute |
| Culinary Institute of America, The | New Hampshire Institute of Art | State University of New York, Oswego | Yale University |
| Dartmouth College | New Jersey Institute of Technology | State University of New York, Plattsburgh | |
| Dean College | New York University | State University of New York, Potsdam | Community Colleges & Two-Year Programs |
| Delaware State University | Niagara University | State University of New York, Purchase | Adirondack Community College |
| Drew University | North Carolina State University | State University of New York, Stony Brook | Clinton Community College |
| Drexel University | Northeastern University | Suffolk University | Finger Lakes Community College |
| Duke University | Northwestern University | Susquehanna University | Fulton-Montgomery Community College |
| Duquesne University | Oberlin College | Swarthmore College | Hudson Valley Community College |
| Eastman School of Music of the University of Rochester | Occidental College | Syracuse University | ITT Technical Institute, Albany |
| Elmira College | Ohio State University, The | Temple University | Mohawk Valley Community College |
| Elon University | Ohio University | Towson University | North Shore Community College |
| Emerson College | Oral Roberts University | Tufts University | Onondaga Community College |
| Emory University | Pace University, New York City | Tulane University | Schenectady County Community College |
| Endicott College | Peabody Institute of the Johns Hopkins University, The | Union College | |
| Fairfield University | Pennsylvania State University, University Park | University of California at Berkley | |
| Fashion Institute of Technology | Philadelphia University | | |
| Fordham University | Post University | | |
| Full Sail University | Pratt Institute | | |
| George Washington University, The | | | |
| Georgetown University | | | |
| Georgia Institute of Technology | | | |
| Gettysburg College | | | |
| Gordon College, Massachusetts | | | |