



The
SAGE SCHOOL
EXPERIENCE YOUR EDUCATION

COLLEGE & BEYOND





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EXPLORING A WORLD OF POSSIBILITIES

Although the ranks of Sage alumni are still relatively small, we're excited about what they are doing out in the world. After graduation, Sage School alumni enter a world of possibilities, and our curriculum intentionally exposes students to a wealth and diversity of fulfilling and productive ways of life. Most of our alums are currently enrolled in college, some after completing gap year programs or spending time abroad volunteering, or entering the workforce. Sage School students have been accepted to 70 four-year colleges and universities in all geographic regions of the country, as well as Canada.

We encourage students to be interested and pursue their interests with energy, consistency, and good humor. The ability to find an interest, pursue it, and develop skill or competence in it is not just attractive to colleges, but also to employers, friends, and future partners, too.

Our students' college applications are also distinct because we offer a unique program. Just by showing up, students are exposed to a huge range of experiences, opportunities, events, and activities. Our transcript also reflects our values and mission, giving credit for more traditional skills block classes as well as for Field Studies, Wellness, Community Action, and Independent Study.

A major part of our mission is helping adolescents to define and understand their own identities. To the extent that our students gain a deep sense of self-awareness, the processes of choosing, apply-

ing to, being accepted by, and succeeding in college are all enhanced. Students who know themselves, their skills, and their interests are better able to choose a school that fits them well.

Students will have distinct and meaningful experiences, skills, and outlooks that will be attractive to a wide variety of schools.

WAYS THAT THE SAGE CURRICULUM PREPARES OUR STUDENTS FOR THE COLLEGE EXPERIENCE

- + Through Human Ecology, consequential choices are given to students as to the content and form of their projects.
- + Content: Students are assigned a project on a broad theme and encouraged to choose a topic that engages their curiosity and addresses that theme
- + Form: Often projects can be tailored to individual interests through the form they take--video, writing, visual expression.

SPANISH

Spanish at The Sage School, with the Organic World Languages (OWL) methodology that we use, allows students to progress at as fast a pace as their skills and diligence provide. We have had numerous reports from alumni in college-level classes

who describe themselves as the only students with the confidence to actively speak and use their skills.

ENGLISH & LITERACY

Our English and Literacy program (Writing, in common parlance) is designed to help students become effective readers and writers. While student choice in the format of writing assignments or the books chosen to read may be limited, crucial skills are being developed in this time. College applications are primarily verbal documents. A student's ability to articulate their experiences and knowledge in an application essay is a vital component to many applications. Reading, writing, and editing skills are fundamental to success on the standardized tests used by many colleges in their applications.

MATH

A student's effort and skills in Math class can be clearly seen in our transcript, as demonstrated by the number of courses that student completes in their time with us. Many selective colleges and universities expect that students will have at least finished pre-Calculus, and more often expect to see pre-Calculus finished by the end of 11th grade. However, this is not at all to discourage those who work at a slower pace in math. The variety of colleges and universities available to our students is vast, and the emphasis they place on an accelerated math progression also varies widely.

COMMUNITY ACTION

In 9th through 12th grade alone, students will spend 240 hours in school participating in community action with various non-profits in our community. As a general rule, students' control over their community action time increases as they grow older, with 12th-graders assuming the most independence in how they choose to spend their hours. Students also participate each year in the Wow! Students organization's valley wide community service event. Each band picks among

proposals by local non-profits, and here again students can continue their work in areas of interest to them.

CREATIVITY WORKSHOP | INDEPENDENT STUDY:

On Friday afternoons, we offer an option called Independent Study. We very intentionally set the bar high for allowing an independent study to run: students must have a clear plan with goals and objectives and a way to demonstrate these; students must have set up both a faculty advisor and an outside mentor who will be responsible for the student and impart valuable skills and knowledge. The payoff, however, is the ability to design your own curriculum for two hours of school every week, and to pursue a topic that is of great interest to you.

xii. Field Studies: Field Studies are the places in the curriculum where students are regularly exposed to experts providing information in their field. This might be plant biologists at the University of Idaho research station in Parma, landscape engineers discussing the Yankee Fork restoration project, authors giving advice in a Writers' Workshop, or curators explaining their choices in an art museum. Here again is a place for students to demonstrate engagement with something that interests them.

COLLEGE PLAYBOOK

The Sage School College playbook is designed as an overview of the process of selecting and applying to colleges in one's high school years. There is no one, single formula or path for doing this. Our guide is a jumping off point more than an exhaustive blueprint. It is conceived as a checklist, though you may find that not every task applies to you, or that the order in which items are presented here needs to be modified for your circumstances.

[Read the full college playbook.](#)

