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THE SCHOOL AND FACULTY

Pinewood students seek knowledge, demonstrate character, build confidence, and experience joy in an uplifting community

Pinewood School, founded in 1959, is an independent, coeducational, nondenominational college preparatory day school serving grades K–12. Upper Campus enrollment in Los Altos Hills (grades 7–12) is 300 students; K–6 enrollment, at two separate campuses in Los Altos, is 300 students. The student teacher ratio at Upper Campus is approximately 7 to 1 and the maximum class size is eighteen students. Upper Campus faculty includes forty full-time and seven part-time teachers, thirty-three of whom hold advanced degrees. Pinewood is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges.

THE COMMUNITY AND THE STUDENTS

Los Altos Hills and Los Altos are located in the heart of Silicon Valley. Drawing from communities throughout the San Francisco Peninsula and greater San Jose, our student body is comprised of students from diverse cultural, religious, socioeconomic and ethnic backgrounds who seek challenging academics and support a high standard of behavior. Pinewood provides a nurturing environment where every student is encouraged to become a well-rounded individual, an insightful learner and critical thinker, a self-motivated student, a clear communicator and a respectful member of any community. 100% of Pinewood graduates attend college.

CURRICULUM AND COURSE LOAD

Pinewood’s curriculum is college preparatory. The required course load for most students is six academic courses per semester. For those students enrolled in three or more AP/AT classes, the minimum requirement is five academic classes per semester. Exceptions may be made for students taking college courses in addition to their Pinewood course work, or for those students who enter after grade nine.

SCHEDULE

The school year is comprised of two semesters of approximately eighteen weeks each. All classes meet every other day (four classes per day) on a rotating four-day repeating schedule.

HONORS, AP, AND AT COURSES

Pinewood is committed to providing Honors, Advanced Placement (AP), and Advanced Topics (AT) level courses to all eligible students. Eligibility for enrollment in Honors, AP, and AT courses is determined by teacher recommendation and/or department consent. Regardless of grade level, Pinewood counsels students as to the appropriateness of taking advanced classes with respect to individual needs and abilities.

Honors Courses

American Literature	Precalculus
French 4	Chemistry
Mandarin 4	Biology
Spanish 4	Graphic Design

Advanced Placement Courses

English Language*	Calculus AB
English Literature	Calculus BC
Chinese Language	Statistics
French Language	2D Art and Design
Spanish Language	Drawing
Chemistry	Art History
Physics C: Mechanics	Computer Science Principles
Modern World History	United States Government/Politics
United States History	

* All juniors take one-semester of AP English Language.

Advanced Topics Courses (college-level)

Biology	Data Science and Machine Learning
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All sophomores and juniors enrolled in AP classes are expected to take the corresponding AP Exams. Seniors may opt out of taking an AP Exam with the approval of the College Counselor, the AP course teacher, the student’s parents, and a member of the administration.

PINEWOOD SCHOLARS PROGRAM (PSP)

The Pinewood Scholars Program—focusing on social innovation, sustainability, and community impact—empowers students to address real-world challenges with creativity and purpose. PSP is a highly selective, three-semester program in social entrepreneurship and earns honors credit; it appears on the transcript as Social Entrepreneurship 1 and 2.

NOTES ON HONORS, AP, AND AT CLASSES

- Enrollment in Honors, AP, and AT classes is determined by teacher recommendation; all students receive guidance with regards to their individual curriculum paths
- Pinewood students are allowed to take AP or Honors courses beginning in the 10th grade; AT courses in 12th grade
- AP/AT course enrollment is capped at 5 classes per year for seniors and 4 classes per year for juniors

These policies are designed to encourage qualified students to challenge themselves by attempting higher level work.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Graduation requirements are:

English: Literature	4 years
Social Studies	3 years
Math	3 years
Lab Science	3 years
World Language	3 years
Physical Education	2 years
English: Writing	1.5 years
Visual and Performing Arts	1.5 years
Computer Science	.5 year
Upper Division Electives	minimum two courses
Community Service	20 hours per year

AP EXAM RESULTS FOR MAY 2024

260 AP Exams were taken by 117 students in grades 10–12 (out of a 10–12 enrollment of 137).

Passing	Number of Tests	Percent of Total
5	129	50%
4	93	36%
3	29	11%
2 and below	9	3%

Mean Score: 4.32

AP School Scholar Awards

65 students were recognized as AP School Scholars

36	AP Scholars with Distinction
13	AP Scholars with Honor
16	AP Scholars

FINAL EXAMS

Two-hour final exams are given in high school level courses in literature, writing, math, and science, and the exam score accounts for 20% of the semester course grade.

GRADING and GPA CALCULATIONS

- GPA is weighted and calculated for all Pinewood courses
- All Honors, AP, and AT courses receive an additional point
- Courses taken outside of Pinewood may appear on a student transcript, but are NOT calculated in GPA

GRADING SYSTEM

Passing

A	93–100	B+	87–89	C+	77–79
A-	90–92	B	83–86	C	73–76
		B-	80–82	C-	70–72

No Credit

D+	67–69	F	0–59
D	63–66		
D-	60–62		

CLASS RANKING

Pinewood School does not rank students.

REPORTING DISCIPLINE

Pinewood students and counselors will report discipline history to colleges if requested.

CLASS OF 2025

54 Students in the Class of 2025

2	National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists
12	National Merit Commended Students
11	AP Scholars with Distinction
12	AP Scholars with Honor
10	AP Scholars

GPA FOR THE CLASS OF 2025

GPA Range	4.515–2.933
Weighted Mean	3.945
Unweighted Mean	3.684

ATHLETICS AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Pinewood students are encouraged to pursue individual talents and interests through extracurricular activities and athletic participation. The high school athletic program includes girls' and boys' basketball, soccer, tennis, cross-country, swimming, track and field, and golf; boys' baseball; and girls' softball and volleyball. School-sponsored activities include student government, yearbook, journalism, drama, speech and debate, choir, robotics, special interest clubs, service clubs, and honor societies.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Pinewood students are required to complete twenty hours of volunteer time per year in service-oriented activities.

COLLEGE ADMISSION AND ENROLLMENT FOR THE CLASSES OF 2021–2024

Pinewood graduates from the Classes of 2021–2024 have been admitted to the following schools and matriculated to those in ***bold italic***.

American University

Amherst College
 University of Aberdeen (UK)
 Arizona State University
 University of Arizona
Art Center College of Design
 Babson College
 Bard College
 Barnard College
 Bates College
 Baylor University
 Belmont University
 Berklee College of Music
Bond University (Australia)
Boston College
Boston University *
 Brandeis University
Brigham Young University, Provo *
Brigham Young University, Idaho *
Brigham Young University, Hawaii
University of Brighton (UK)
 University of Bristol (UK)
Brown University
 Bryn Mawr College
Bucknell University
 Cal Poly Pomona
Cal Poly San Luis Obispo *
 California College of the Arts
California State University
 Dominguez Hills
 East Bay
 Fresno
Fullerton
Long Beach
 Los Angeles
Monterey Bay
 Northridge
 Sacramento
San Marcos
University of California
Berkeley *
 Davis
Irvine
Los Angeles *
Merced
Riverside
San Diego *
Santa Barbara
Santa Cruz
Capilano University (Canada)
 Carleton College
Carnegie Mellon University *
Case Western Reserve University
Chapman University *
University of Chicago *
 University of Cincinnati
 Clark University
 Clemson University
Colby College *
 Colgate University
 College of Charleston
 College of the Holy Cross
Colorado College
 Colorado State University
University of Colorado, Boulder *

Columbia University *

Connecticut College
 University of Connecticut
Cornell University *
Culinary Institute of America, California
Dartmouth College *
Davidson College
 University of Dayton
 University of Delaware
Denison University
 DePaul University
University of Denver *
Duke University
 Eastern Washington University
EHL (Switzerland)
 Edinburgh College (UK)
University of Edinburgh (UK)
 Elon University
 Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
Emerson College
Emory University *
 University of Exeter (UK)
 Florida State University
Fordham University
 Franklin and Marshall College
Franklin University Switzerland
 Furman University
 George Mason University
George Washington University *
 Georgia Institute of Technology
 University of Georgia
Gonzaga University *
 Goucher College
 Hamilton College
 University of Hartford
Harvey Mudd College
 Haverford College
 Hawaii Pacific University
University of Hawaii, Hilo
 High Point University
 Hofstra University
 University of Houston
 Illinois Institute of Technology
 Illinois State University
 University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
 Indiana University
 Iowa State University
 University of Iowa
 Ithaca College
Johns Hopkins University
 University of Kansas
 University of Kentucky
 Kenyon College
 La Salle University
 Lafayette College
 Lake Forest College
 Lawrence University
Lehigh University *
 Lewis & Clark College
List College—JTS
 Louisiana State University
Loyola Marymount University

Loyola University Chicago *

Macalester College
 University of Maryland
 Marymount Manhattan College
 University of Massachusetts
 McGill University (Canada)
Miami University, Oxford
University of Miami
 Michigan State University
 University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
 Middlebury College
University of Minnesota
 University of Missouri
 Montana State University
 Montclair State University
 Mount Holyoke College
 University of Nevada, Las Vegas
 University of New Hampshire
New York University *
 University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
Northeastern University *
 Northern Arizona University
 University of Northern Colorado
Northwestern University
 Oberlin College
Occidental College
Ohio University
 Oregon State University
University of Oregon *
 Otis College of Art and Design
 Pace University
Pacific University
 Pennsylvania State University
University of Pennsylvania
 Pepperdine University
 University of Pittsburgh
Pitzer College *
 Plymouth University (UK)
Pomona College
University of Portland *
 Pratt Institute
Providence College
University of Puget Sound *
Purdue University *
 Queen's University Belfast (UK)
 Quinnipiac University
University of Redlands
 Reed College
 Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
 University of Rhode Island
 Ringling College of Art and Design
 Rochester Institute of Technology
 University of Rochester
 Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
 Rutgers University
 Saint Joseph's University
Saint Mary's College of California
San Diego State University
University of San Diego
 San Francisco Conservatory of Music
 San Francisco State University
 University of San Francisco

San Jose State University

Santa Clara University *
Sarah Lawrence College
 Savannah College of Art and Design
School of the Art Institute of Chicago
 Scripps College
Seattle University
 Seton Hall University
 Skidmore College
 Sonoma State University
University of Southern California *
Southern Methodist University *
Southern Utah University
 Southern Virginia University
 University of St. Andrew's, (UK)
Stanford University
 St. John's University, New York
 Stevens Institute of Technology
Syracuse University *
Texas A & M University
Texas Christian University
 The Ohio State University
 The New England Conservatory of Music
 The New School
The University of British Columbia (Canada)
 The University of Sheffield (UK)
The University of Tennessee
 The University of Texas, Austin
University of Toronto (Canada)
 Trinity College
Trinity College Dublin (Ireland)
Tufts University *
Tulane University *
 Union College
 University College London (UK)
 University of the Arts
 University of the Pacific
Utah State University
University of Utah *
 Utah Valley University
 Vanderbilt University
Vassar College
 University of Vermont
 University of Virginia
Villanova University
 Virginia Tech
 Washington & Jefferson College
 Washington State University
Washington University in St. Louis *
University of Washington *
Wheaton College, MA
 Whitman College
 Whittier College
 Willamette University
 William and Mary
Williams College
University of Wisconsin, Madison
Worcester Polytechnic Institute *
 University of Wyoming
 Xavier University

* attended by 2 or more graduates