2021-2022
High School Profile

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Our Pact
We invite our students, guides, staff, parents, and trustees to be:

Peacemakers. As we learn to resolve conflicts, we demonstrate compassion, grace, skill, and courage. We take responsibility for our actions.

Advocates. We strive to understand and value diverse perspectives, cultures, and faiths. We recognize our agency and act with integrity in pursuit of a more just and equitable society.

Creators. Curiosity, wonder, and the creative process are essential to a fulfilling life. We discover ourselves and our voices by taking intellectual and artistic risks.

Thinkers. As self-directed learners, we approach education with intention. We use observation, research, and reason to explore problems that matter to us, our community, and the world.

Our Purpose
We cultivate identity formation, foster empathy, and embrace diversity to bring more peace to the world.

Our Promise
We guide our students to live authentically, think expansively, and create bravely.
Montessori Foundation, International Baccalaureate® Diploma

The Montessori curriculum in our Early Childhood and Elementary programs is the foundation that leads to our International Baccalaureate® (IB) Diploma Programme. The IB is an academically challenging and balanced program of education that prepares students for success at university and beyond. It has been designed to address the intellectual, social, emotional, and physical well-being of students. At Headwaters, we work to make the IB as inclusive as possible by not setting barriers to participation in terms of GPA minimums or necessary honors courses prior to IB. Students can participate either as full IB diploma candidates or as individual course candidates.

Calendar

**Middle and High School Campus**

*We began the 2020-2021 school year online until health authorities deem it safe to return to the classroom.*

| 38 weeks | In school year (including one week of final exams and one week of student-planned experiential learning) |
| 2 semesters | Fall and Spring |
| 5 days/week | Rotating A/B day schedule for eight periods with Advisory four times a week and Pitso (school assembly) once a week |
| 7.5 hours | Length of school day |

High School Course Offerings

**English**
- Literature & Composition
- Advanced Literature & Composition
- IB Language & Literature HL I
- IB Language & Literature HL II

**Social Studies**
- World Geography
- Government & Economics
- IB History SL/HL I
- IB History SL/HL II

**Natural Sciences**
- Biology
- Chemistry
- IB Physics SL I & SL/HL II
- IB Environmental Systems & Societies SL I & II
- IB Design Technology SL I & SL/HL II

**Visual and Performing Arts**
- Film/Advanced Film
- Jazz Band
- Photography
- Studio Art
- IB Studio Arts SL/HL I & II
- IB Photography SL/HL I & II
- IB Film SL/HL I & II

**Mathematics**
- Geometry
- Algebra 1 & 2
- IB Math Applications SL I & II
- IB Mathematics Analysis HL I & II
- Pre-Calculus

**World Languages**
- Spanish 1, 2, 3, 4, & 5
- IB Spanish HL/SL I & II
- Mandarin 1 & 2
- IB Mandarin Ab Initio I & II

**Academic Electives**
- Astronomy
- Global Peace & Conflict Studies
- Music
- Psychology
- Screenwriting
- Social Justice
- Engineer Your World (in partnership with UT Austin)

**The Headwaters Core**
- Wellness & Life Skills
- College Planning
- IB Theory of Knowledge I & II
- IB CAS: Creativity, Activity, Service
- IB Senior Thesis

Our High School serves 114 students in grades 9 through 12. This number includes students from countries including China, France, Senegal, Russia, and Spain.

**Faculty and Staff**
- 39 Faculty and Staff Members
- 15 Average years of faculty and staff experience
- 69 Percentage of high school faculty with advanced degrees

**Tuition Assistance**
- 16% of our high school student body receives tuition assistance

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exam</th>
<th>Middle 50%</th>
<th>Mean</th>
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<td>SAT Total</td>
<td>1150-1310</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACT Composite</td>
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**Our COVID-19 Response in 2020-2021 and 2021-2022**

We followed a distance-learning schedule from August 2020 through February 2021. This Headwaters®@Home schedule featured 45-minute periods on an A/B day rotation separated by a Flex Day. Flex Day mornings began with our community-building traditions of Advisory and Pitso (all-school meetings), with afternoons dedicated to drop-in office hours and independent work. In March of 2021, we transitioned to a hybrid schedule, in which students attended school both on-campus and at home virtually for 70-minute classes.

For the 2021-2022 school year, we have adjusted our schedule and added sections to create smaller class sizes, which will allow us to have all students on campus for in-person learning.

13:1 Student to staff advisor ratio with up to 36 students per grade level

16% of our high school student body receives tuition assistance
Headwaters Culture

Our community culture is fostered through connection with each other and the world around us.

**The Forward**: The Headwaters Forward is an annual trip during which Headwaters staff and students spend several days in the beautiful Texas Hill Country. We consider it to be an important part of the Headwaters curriculum.

**Pitsō**: Pitsō is a Sesotho word (a dialect from Southern Africa) meaning “meeting of the people.” Pitsōs are held weekly and all students attend and participate.

**Advisory**: Each student in our Middle and High School is a member of an Advisory group with 12-16 other students, led by a faculty member. Much more than a homeroom, Advisory creates a small-scale support structure for academic and personal success.

**Project Week**: Students are allotted an entire week each spring to execute the independent project of their choice. Each student completes the week by presenting their work to the community.

**Student-Led Conferences**: Twice each year, students reflect on their academic and social progress in collaboration with their advisor and parents.

Beyond the Classroom

**Outdoor Leadership**: Our High School Outdoor Leadership program focuses on leadership, environmental awareness, and specialized outdoor skills.

**Model United Nations**: Our award-winning Model UN team travels all over Central Texas to participate in conferences. Through Model UN, students learn about diplomacy, international relations, and the United Nations.

**Athletics**: Students can participate in an after-school sports program. Teams compete in the Austin Private School Association and other local leagues. We offer flag football, volleyball, basketball, and soccer. Students independently complete a P.E. credit each year, including any team sports.

**Student-Led Clubs**: Our high school students are encouraged to initiate and participate in student-led clubs, including the PAL program, Culture Club, Anime and Manga Club, Chess Club, Fashion Club, and Fiber Arts Club.

Centering and Mindfulness

Every class at Headwaters School begins with a few minutes of centering – a period of intentional silence as a class. Centering refers to a method of engaging self-awareness, which helps make learning more efficient and enjoyable.

Why “Guides?”

In our high school, we believe that student agency is important for authentic learning. Our educators, called Guides, point students in the right direction and give them the resources to find their way, while being careful not to limit their pursuits and interests.

City as Classroom

Our River Campus (Middle and High School) is blocks from the State Capitol, City Hall, The University of Texas, Austin Central Library, Shoal Creek, Waller Creek, Lake Austin, the Blanton Art Museum, and the business district. We view this location as an incredible asset to our programs today and in the future. Our vision for the River Campus is an upper school program that is deeply integrated with civic, tech, environmental, and service opportunities for our students beyond the walls of our schools. We believe this creates a unique opportunity for our students and sets Headwaters apart.

Student Partnership in the Development of Our School

**Community Leaders**: Students collaborate with our administration in the development of the school and its culture.

**Admissions Council**: Students support our admissions team in reading applications, hosting and interviewing students, and making admissions decisions.

**National Honor Society**: Students take on community service projects that tie our school community to Austin and beyond.

**Participation in Hiring Committees**: Students have the opportunity to serve on a committee with administrators and guides to read applications, interview, and host faculty/staff applicants on our campus.

Other student councils are currently forming as we revise and evaluate needs and purpose for the new school year.
Life Beyond Headwaters™

Our graduates have been accepted to the following colleges and universities, and have matriculated to the schools indicated with an asterisk.

Abilene Christian University*
Academy of Art University
Agnes Scott College
Allegheny College
Allegheny College Honors
American University of Paris*
American University of Rome
American University*
Amherst College
Angelo State University*
Antioch College*
Arcadia University
Arizona State University
Arizona State University - Barrett, The Honors College
Art Institute of Austin*
Art Institute of Dallas*
Auburn University
Austin College*
Austin Community College*
Baldwin Wallace University Honors
Bard College
Barnard College
Bates College*
Bayou State University
Belmont University*
Beloit College
Bennington College*
Berry College* of Music
Blinn College
Boston College
Boston Conservatory of Music*
Boston University*
Bowdoin College
Brandeis University*
Brigham Young University*
Brooklyn College*
Bryn Mawr College
Butler University
California College of the Arts*
California Polytechnic State University*
Carleton College
Carnegie Mellon University
Carroll College
Catholic University of America
Central Washington University
Centre College
Chapman College*
Chapman University
Chattanooga
Clark University*
Colby-Sawyer College
College of Charleston*
College of St. Benedict
College of the Holy Cross
College of William & Mary
College of Wooster
Colorado College*
Colorado School of Mines*
Colorado State University*
Columbia College Chicago
Columbia University
Concordia University
Concordia University at River Forest*
Connecticut College*
Cooper Union
Cornell College
Cornell University*
Cornish College of the Arts
Dallas Baptist University
Dartmouth College
Denison College
DePaul University
Dickinson College
Dominican University of California
Drew University
Drexel University
Duquesne University
Earlham College
Eastern Michigan University
Eckerd College
Elizabethtown College
Elon University
Emory-Riddle Aeronautical University
Emerson College*
Emory & Henry College
Emory University
Evergreen State College*
Experiences College for Digital Arts
Fairfield University
Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising*
Fashion Institute of Technology*
Flagler College
Florida Atlantic University
Florida Gulf Coast University
Florida International University
Florida Southern University
Fordham University
Fort Lewis College*
Franklin and Marshall College
Franklin University Switzerland
George Mason University
George Washington University*
Georgia Institute of Technology
Georgia Institute of Technology Goucher College*
Green Mountain College
Grinnell College
Guilford College
Gustavus Adolphus College
Hamphshire College
Harvard University
Hawaii Pacific University
Hendrix College
High Point University
Hiram College
Hofstra University
Howard University
Humboldt State University
Huston-Tillotson University
Illinois Wesleyan University
Indiana University
Iowa State University
Istituto Marangoni London
Ithaca College
James Madison University
John Cabot University
John Hopkins University*
Johnson & Wales University*
Kalamazoo College
Kansas State University
Kenyon College
Knox College
La Salle University
Lawrence University*
Leiden University
Lesley University
Lewis & Clark College*
Lindenwood University
Linfield College
London Metropolitan University
Long Island University
Louisiana State University
Loyola Marymount University
Loyola University Chicago
Loyola University New Orleans
Lubbock Christian University*
Lynn University*
Macalester College
Manhattanville College
Marboro College
Maryland Institute College of Art
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy & Health*
McDaniel College
McGill University
Merrimack College
Miami University
Michigan State University
Middlebury College
Midwestern State University
Mills College*
Molloy College
Montana State University
Billings
Mount Holyoke College*
Muhlenberg College
Muskingum College
Naropa University*
New College of Florida*
New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology
New York Film Academy
New York University*
New York University Shanghai*
Northeastern University*
Northern Arizona University
Northwestern University
Nottingham Trent University
Oberlin College*
Occidental College
Ohio Wesleyan University
Oklahoma City University
Oklahoma State University
Orange Coast College*
Oregon College of Art & Craft
Oregon State University
Pace University
Pacific University
Parsons the New School for Design
Pennsylvania State University
Pitzer College*
Polytechnic Institute of New York University*
Portland Community College
Portland State University*
Prairie View A&M University
Pratt Institute*
Prescott College
Purdue University
Quest University
Reed College*
Regents University London
Regis University
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rhode Island College
Rhode Island School of Design
Rhodes College
Rice University
Richard University - The American International University in London
Rider University
Ringling College of Art & Design
Rochester Institute of Technology*
Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology*
Rutgers University*
San Diego State University*
San Francisco Art Institute
San Francisco State University
Santa Clara University
Santa Fe University of Art & Design*
Sarah Lawrence College*
Savannah College of Art & Design*
School of the Art Institute of Chicago*
School of Visual Arts
Schreiner University
Seattle University*
Seton Hall University
Sewanee: University of the South
Skidmore College*
Smith College*
Southern Methodist University*
Southern Oregon University
Southern Utah University*
Spelman College
St. Andrew's University*
St. Edward's University*
St. Edward's University Honors*
St. John's College*
St. John's University
St. Kate's University
St. Louis University
St. Louis University – Madrid
St. Mary's University of San Antonio
St. Olaf College
Stanford University*
Stephen F. Austin State University*
Stetson University*
Story Brook University
Suffolk University
SUNY – Geneseo*
SUNY – Purchase
SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry
Swarthmore College
Sweet Briar College
Syracuse University*
Tampa University Honors
Temple University*
Texas A&M University*
Texas Christian University
Texas Lutheran University
Texas State Technical College
Texas State University*
Texas State University Honors*
Texas Tech University*
The New School*
Thomas Jefferson University
Trinity College
Trinity University*
Tulane University*
Tulane University Honors*
Universidad del Valle de México – Monterrey*
Universiteit van Amsterdam*
University College Cork
University College Dublin*
University College Utrecht
University of Alabama
University of Alaska Southeast
University of Arizona
University of Arkansas
University of British Columbia
University of California at Berkeley
University of California at Davis*
University of California at Irvine
University of California at Los Angeles*
University of California at Santa Barbara*
University of California at Santa Cruz*
University of Central Florida
University of Cincinnati
University of Colorado at Boulder*
University of Colorado at Boulder Honors*
University of Colorado at Colorado Springs
University of Colorado at Denver
University of Dallas
University of Denver*
University of Edinburgh*
University of Georgia*
University of Hawaii at Hilo
University of Hawaii at Manoa*
University of Hawaii at West Oahu
University of Houston*
University of Idaho
University of Illinois at Urbana
University of Iowa
University of Kansas
University of Kentucky
University of Limerick
University of Mary Hardin-Baylor*
University of Massachusetts, Amherst
University of Miami
University of Miami Frost School of Music
University of Michigan at Ann Arbor*
University of Minnesota at Twin Cities
University of Missouri at Columbia
University of Montana at Missoula
University of Nebraska at Lincoln*
University of Nevada Honors
University of Nevada, Reno
University of New Mexico
University of North Carolina at Asheville
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
University of North Carolina at Charlotte
University of North Texas*
University of Oklahoma*
University of Oregon*
University of Portland*
University of Puget Sound*
University of Redlands*
University of Rochester*
University of San Diego
University of San Francisco*
University of Southern California
University of Tampa
University of Texas at Arlington*
University of Texas at Austin*
University of Texas at Austin Dean's Scholars*
University of Texas at Austin Liberal Arts Honors*
University of Texas at Austin Plan II Honors*
University of Texas at Austin Polytechnic Scholars Program*
University of Texas at Austin Tutor Scholars*
University of Texas at Dallas*
University of Texas at San Antonio*
University of Texas at Tyler*
University of the Pacific
University of Toledo
University of Tulsa
University of Utah
University of Vermont*
University of Washington
University of Washington Honors
University of West London
University of Wisconsin at Madison
Ursinus College*
Vanderbilt University*
Virginia Tech University*
Wake Forest University
Warren Wilson College*
Washington & Lee University
Washington State University
Washington University in St. Louis
Webster University
Wellesley University
West Texas A&M
Western State University
Western Washington University
Westminster College*
Whitman College*
Whittier College*
Willamette University*
Williams College
Woodbury University
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Wycliffe University
Yale University