

Julie A. Aavatsmark, Director of College Counseling jaavatsmark@northcross.org

> Armistead Lemon, Head of School alemon@northcross.org

Stephen H. Belderes, Director of the Upper School **sbelderes@northcross.org**

CEEB #: 471-941

2023-24 School Profile

School Mission

North Cross School is an independent, coeducational, college-preparatory day school that serves children from early childhood through twelfth grade. In all of its programs, North Cross School strives to promote in its students scholarship and a love of learning; character and a sense of personal integrity and responsibility; and a commitment to the good of the community and all within it. Although we prepare our students to enter the finest colleges and universities in the country, we understand that such preparation is of greatest use when it provides for our students the personal and intellectual skills to lead full and meaningful lives. In all respects, North Cross School endeavors to be true to its motto: Veritas Vincit — Truth Triumphs.

Student Body

North Cross School is committed to attracting and retaining students who show intellectual curiosity and who reflect varied social, economic, religious, ethnic, and racial backgrounds. Our student body reflects the diversity of the greater Roanoke metropolitan region. In the 2023-2024 academic year, the North Cross School student body is comprised of 590 students, with 207 students in the upper school and a senior class of 54.

Accreditation and Associations

North Cross School is accredited by the Virginia Association of Independent Schools and is a member of the National Association of Independent Schools, Southern Association of Independent Schools, National Association for College Admission Counseling, and Potomac and Chesapeake Association for College Admission Counseling.

Honor Code

The Code — I Will Not Lie; I Will Not Cheat; I Will Not Steal — was crafted by students and is administered by a student/faculty honor council. North Cross School does not report honor or disciplinary violations that occur prior to the senior year. Students, if asked on college applications, are expected to self-report honor or disciplinary violations that have occurred at any time during their high school career.

Advanced Placement

In 2023-24, the following 22 Advanced Placement courses are available at North Cross School: Biology, Calculus AB and BC, Chemistry, Comparative Government and Politics, Computer Science A, Computer Science Principles, Drawing, English Language and Composition, English Literature and Composition, European History, French Language and Culture, Human Geography, Latin, Physics 1, Spanish Language and Culture, Spanish Literature and Culture, Statistics, United States History, World History: Modern, 3-D Art and Design, and 2-D Art and Design. Enrollment in AP courses is subject to departmental recommendation. Students enrolled in an AP course are required to take the AP exam, and in May, 2023, 121 students sat for 314 AP exams, resulting in 38 students earning AP Scholar status.

Community Service

Upper school students are required to participate in a minimum of 12.5 hours of community service per year enrolled as a requirement of graduation. Students coordinate their service independently with the community organization and must provide documentation in order to receive credit.

DeHart Project

For over four decades, students have been required to complete a senior project that includes a research paper of at least ten pages and a fifteen-minute presentation to the entire upper school community. All elements of this project, including the paper, presentation, and audiovisual component, are graded by a faculty committee.

Global Studies, STEM, and Fine Arts Distinctions

North Cross School offers students the option of earning certificates in Global Studies, STEM, and the Fine Arts. Additional information will be sent to colleges with the transcripts of seniors who are on track to earn one or more of these designations. In each case, students must complete advanced course work, meet additional requirements outside of class time, and produce a DeHart Project related to Global Studies, STEM, or the Fine Arts.

North Cross School's COVID-19 Response

In March of 2020, after schools were closed by the State of Virginia, North Cross School moved seamlessly into online learning. Classes were held on Zoom, students were graded and expected to attend class daily, turn in homework, and take tests and guizzes. We finished the 2019-20 school year with full year final grades. We completed the 2020-21 school year socially distanced, masked and in-person, with the option of distance learning for students who were unable to attend inperson. Courses were fully graded. The 2021-22 academic year started in-person with masks and very limited distance learning options, and finished without masks. Courses were fully graded. In the 2022-23 academic year, we returned to normal academic programming and operations. Those policies will remain in place for 2023-24.

Course of Study

North Cross School is on a trimester calendar. Full-year courses are worth three credits and one-term courses are worth one credit. Students must earn 70 credits to graduate. In 2021-22, we added an additional class period, making the school day eight periods long and the normal course load seven courses per year. Honors classes are available in chemistry and biology.

Graduation Requirements

In order to graduate from North Cross School, students must take the following courses: four consecutive years of English; three years of math through at least Algebra 2; three years of science including Conceptual Physics, Chemistry, and Biology; four years of social studies including Introduction to Global Studies in Grade 9. In Grade 10, students

choose between AP Human Geography, AP World History: Modern, or Sophomore Humanities. In the junior year, students take either AP United States History or United States History, and seniors choose between United States Government and AP Comparative Government and Politics; three years of the same world language through at least the third level of French, Latin or Spanish; and one year of fine arts. Students fulfill the PE requirement by participating in at least three seasons as a member of an athletic team, either as a player or team manager. Additional graduation requirements include 12.5 hours per year enrolled of community service and successful completion of the DeHart Project.

Grading Scale

North Cross School does not rank, weight, or calculate grade point averages. The grading scale is:

A+ 97-100	B+ 87-89	C+ 77-79	D+ 67-69	F 0-59
A 93-96	B 83-86	C 73-76	D 63-66	
A- 90–92	B- 80-82	C- 70-72	D- 60-62	

SAT and ACT Distribution for the Class of 2023

- SAT CR & M (middle 50%) 1080-1280 (51 of 60 seniors took the SAT)
- ACT (middle 50%) 21-31 (14 of 60 seniors took the ACT)
- 7 of 60 seniors did not take the ACT or the SAT

College and University Matriculations for the Classes of 2019-23

George Mason University

Hampden-Sydney College

Gettysburg College

Hampton University

Guilford College

American University **Anderson University** Appalachian State University Art Academy of Cincinnati **Averett University Boston University Bridgewater College** Bryn Mawr College California Lutheran University Catawba College Centre College **Christopher Newport University** Clemson University Coastal Carolina University College of Charleston College of Wooster Cornell University **Davidson College** Dawson College (Canada) **Denison University**

Dickinson College

Duke University

Eckerd College

Elon University

Ferrum College

Flagler College

Furman University

Haverford College High Point University Illinois Wesleyan University Indian Hills Community College James Madison University Johns Hopkins University Kent State University King University Lewis and Clark Community College Liberty University Marshall University Methodist University Michigan State University Monmouth University Mount St. Mary's University Naval Academy Preparatory School Nazareth College East Tennessee State University **New York University** North Carolina State University Oberlin College Old Dominion University Oxford College at Emory University Parsons School of Design | The New

School **Purdue University** Quinnipiac University **Radford University** Randolph-Macon College **Rhodes College** Roanoke College **Rutgers University New Brunswick** Saint Louis University Saint Vincent University Savannah College of Art and Design Saxion University (The Netherlands) Sewanee, University of the South Skidmore College Stanford University Swinburne University of Technology (Australia) **Temple University** The College of William and Mary Trinity College Dublin (Ireland) **Trinity University** University of Alabama University of Arizona University of California San Diego University of Georgia University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign University of Illinois Chicago

University of Kentucky University of La Verne University of Mary Washington University of Massachusetts Boston University of Miami University of North Carolina Greensboro University of North Carolina School of the Arts University of Northern Colorado University of Pennsylvania University of Richmond University of South Florida University of Tennessee University of Tennessee at Chattanooga University of Vermont University of Virginia University of Wisconsin Virginia Commonwealth University Virginia State University Virginia Tech Virginia Western Community College Wake Forest University Washington and Lee University West Virginia University Wofford College Wytheville Community College