

# Centennial High School



## Profile 2016-2017

Accredited by the Maryland State Department of Education

4300 Centennial Lane • Ellicott City, Maryland 21042 • 410-313-2856 • [chs.hcpss.org](http://chs.hcpss.org) • CEEB Code: 210509

**Principal**  
Claire Hafets

**Assistant Principals**  
Lynnette Moore  
Tracy Scaltz  
James Zehe

**Counseling Office**  
410-313-2857  
FAX: 410-313-2534

**Instructional Team Leader**  
Jennifer McKechnie - Howe  
[jmckechnie@hcpss.org](mailto:jmckechnie@hcpss.org)

**Counselors**  
Jae Hi Hebler  
[jaehi\\_hebler@hcpss.org](mailto:jaehi_hebler@hcpss.org)

Todd Kriner  
[todd\\_kriner@hcpss.org](mailto:todd_kriner@hcpss.org)

Christian Sanders  
[christian\\_sanders@hcpss.org](mailto:christian_sanders@hcpss.org)

Ellen Mauser  
[ellen\\_mauser@hcpss.org](mailto:ellen_mauser@hcpss.org)

**Psychologist**  
Stacy Rosuck  
[stacy\\_rosuck@hcpss.org](mailto:stacy_rosuck@hcpss.org)

**Registrars**  
Cathy Aballo  
[cathy\\_aballo@hcpss.org](mailto:cathy_aballo@hcpss.org)

Kimberly Tracy  
[kimberly\\_tracy@hcpss.org](mailto:kimberly_tracy@hcpss.org)

**Data Clerk**  
Page Barnes  
[page\\_barnes@hcpss.org](mailto:page_barnes@hcpss.org)

**Secretary**  
Carole Sormanti  
[Carole\\_sormanti@hcpss.org](mailto:Carole_sormanti@hcpss.org)

*It is the policy of the Howard County Public School System not to disclose a student's discipline record. This statement should not be construed to imply that this applicant has any disciplinary record.*

All Howard County public high schools are consistently ranked among the region's and the country's best high schools by the *Washington Post* and *US News & World Report*.

### Community

Centennial High School is located in a rapidly developing county with great diversity in socio-economic and ethnic groups. Its proximity to Baltimore and Washington provides a multitude of educational, social, and cultural opportunities. Centennial High School, which opened in September, 1977, has enjoyed a history of outstanding student performance in academic, athletic and the visual and performing arts. Academic achievement measures rank Centennial High School as one of the top public high schools in the state of Maryland. The present enrollment of 1,503 students in grades nine through twelve is drawn from Ellicott City. Centennial High School's mission is to:

- provide opportunities for all students to grow academically, artistically, and athletically;
- exhibit creative thinking, an excitement for learning, and a spirit of inquiry;
- maintain a safe and emotionally supportive environment;
- cultivate skills for success in a diverse and changing world;
- foster mutual respect and individual integrity.

### Highlights

Centennial High School has maintained an enviable reputation as one of the premier high schools in the state of Maryland and has the highest average SAT score (1821) in Howard County. Centennial was selected as one of the top high schools in the state of Maryland and in the nation by *US News & World Report* and was also their Gold Award Winner for America's Best High School. *The Washington Post* named Centennial High School as the number one school that challenges their students in excellence. *The Baltimore Business Journal* ranked Centennial High School number one in the Baltimore Metropolitan area.

In recent years, the many stakeholders at CHS have worked diligently to diversify our learning opportunities in order to meet student needs and interests. Humanities, GT Intern Mentor, AP Mathematics, Differential Equations, AP Science, Music Theory & Art AP, Chinese Language, Project Lead the Way Engineering Program, and Career Academies are a few of the many course offerings that help Centennial maintain the "Commitment to Excellence." In addition, 80 percent of our students participate in Advanced Placement courses and 87 percent of those students scored a 3 or higher on AP exams. A CHS scholar is an award bestowed upon a student who has taken six or more AP exams across four distinct subject areas and has scored a 3 or higher on all of the exams. The class of 2016 celebrated 88 (out of 357 graduates) CHS scholars.

### Instructional Program

Centennial has a comprehensive program which recognizes the differences in students' abilities, needs and goals. Maryland's College and Career Readiness Curriculum is designed to provide all students the opportunity to achieve their greatest potential. Offerings are available in the area of academic college preparation, career connections, and special needs programs. Courses are denoted on the transcript as Mastery, Honors (H), Gifted and Talented (GT), and Advanced Placement (AP).

The Humanities Gifted and Talented Program (two credits, two periods) is a multi-disciplinary approach to teaching English Language Arts and sequential Social Studies. It incorporates the cultural arts. Specifically, the Humanities program includes the following:

- |                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| Humanities I (Grade 9)    | English 9 (GT), World History (GT)          |
| Humanities II (Grade 10)  | English 10 (GT), Government & Politics (AP) |
| Humanities III (Grade 11) | English 11 (AP), U.S. History (AP)          |
| Humanities IV (Grade 12)  | English 12 (AP), 20th Century History       |

**Current Enrollment:**

Total enrollment: 1503  
Senior Class: 354

**Class of 2016 Decisions:**

Four Year College: 78%  
Two Year College: 20%

**Class of 2016 Statistics:**

SAT: composite;1793  
ACT: 26.5

**Class of 2016 National Merit Finalists:** 15

**Current National Merit Semi-Finalists:** 15

**Current Ethnicity:**

American Indian/Alaska Native	0.1%
Asian	36.2%
Black/African American	8.3%
Hispanic	4.6%
Native American/Pacific Islander	0.1%
White	45.7%
Two or More Races	4.9%

**Students Receiving Special Services 2016:**

Limited English Proficient	≤5%
Free/Reduced Lunch	9.4%
Special Education	≤5%

**Grading System**

A = 90-100    B = 80-89    C = 70-79    D = 60-69    E = 59 & below

N = Greater than 20% absence – no credit awarded

Z = Exam not taken – no credit awarded

W = Withdrawn from course

X = Late enrollment in class; no credit awarded

The Howard County Public School System has adapted a tri-level Certificate of Merit program that recognizes students who have an un-weighted cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale and have earned a minimum of 12 credits in merit courses. The levels of recognition vary with the student's GPA and the number of advanced courses taken.

**Class Rank and GPA**

The Howard County Public School System computes both a weighted and un-weighted Class Rank/GPA for each senior. Both are determined at the beginning of the senior year and include all courses completed through junior year. The un-weighted rank/GPA is computed by counting all courses equally on a 4.0 scale. The weighted rank/GPA is computed by weighting **Advanced Placement (AP)**, **Gifted and Talented (GT)**, and **Honors (H)** courses in which a student earns an A, B or C. In AP and GT courses, students will earn the weighted designation of 1.0 additional quality points. In Honors courses, students will earn the weighted designation of .5 quality points. Weighted and non-weighted Class Rank and GPA both appear on the high school transcript.

**Advanced Placement Courses**

Art III, IV	Calculus AB	European History
Photo II and III	Calculus C	Government & Politics
Computer Science III	Statistics	Microeconomics/Macroeconomics
English 11	Biology	Modern World History
English 12	Chemistry	Psychology
French V	Environmental Science	United States History (Hum 3)
Spanish V	Physics C Mechanics	Comparative Government
German IV	Physics C Electricity and Magnetism	Music Theory II
Chinese IV		Human Geography

**Where our graduates are:**

Alabama, Arizona State Univ., Brigham Young Univ., Calif. Inst. Of Tech., Catholic Univ. of America, College of William and Mary, Colorado Christian University, Columbia Univ., Cornell Univ., Dartmouth College, Dickinson College, Duke, Emory Univ., Florida State Univ., Frostburg State Univ., Furman University, George Mason Univ., George Washington Univ., Georgia Tech., Goucher College, Harvard Univ., High Point Univ., Howard Comm. College, Howard University, Ithaca College, Indiana Univ., James Madison Univ., Johns Hopkins Univ., Lafayette College, LaSalle Univ., Lehigh Univ., Loyola Univ., Massachusetts Institute of Technology, McDaniel College, McNally Smith College Of Music, MICA, Michigan Technological Univ., Misericordia Univ., Moore Col. Of Art & Design, Morgan State Univ., Mt. St. Mary's, Univ., New York Univ., North Carolina State Univ., Northeastern Univ., Northwestern Univ., Notre Dame Univ. of MD, Ohio State Univ., Penn State Univ., Philadelphia Univ., Princeton Univ., Rhode Island school of Design, Rutgers Univ., Salisbury Univ., St. Joseph's Univ., Shepherd Univ., Stanford Univ., Susquehanna Univ., Swarthmore College, St. Mary's College of Md., Towson Univ., U.S. Air Force Academy, U.S. Naval Academy, Univ. Of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Univ. of Cal. Berkley, Univ. of Cal. Los Angeles, Univ. of Connecticut, Univ. of Md. Baltimore County(UMBC), Univ. of Md. College Park(UMCP), Univ. of Delaware, Univ. of Ill. Champaign-Urbana, Univ. of Kentucky, Univ. of Md. Eastern Shore, University of Miami in Ohio, Univ. of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Univ. of North Carolina at Charlotte, Univ. of Pennsylvania, Univ. of Richmond, Univ. of South Carolina, Univ. of Tennessee, UVA, Virginia Military Institute, Virginia Tech, Virginia Wesleyan Col., Wake Forest Univ., Washington College, Wesleyan Univ., Conn., West Virginia Univ., Widener Univ., Winthrop Univ., Yale Univ., York College of Penn.

**High School Credit Requirements**

4 credits - English

3 credits - Mathematics

- one in Algebra/Data Analysis

- one in Geometry

3 credits - Science

- one in Biology

- two that must include laboratory experience in any or all of the following areas: earth science, life science, physical science

3 credits - Social Studies

- one in U.S. History

- one in Modern World History

- one in American Government

1 credit - Fine Arts

1/2 credit - Physical Education

1/2 credit - Health Education

1 credit - Technology Education

- a number of designated courses will fulfill this requirement

2-4 credits - Program Choice:

Two credits in World Language or American Sign Language

or

two credits in an approved Advanced Technology Program

or

four credits in a Career Academy (state-approved Career and Technology Education Completer program).

1-3 credits - Electives

**Total: 21**

**Students must also:**

- Complete the Career Preparation requirement
- Complete 75 hours of Student Service Learning.
- Pass the High School Assessments (HSA's) for Biology & Government and the PARCC Assessments in Algebra I & II, English 10 & 11 (for certain graduating classes), or meet other criteria established by the Maryland State Department of Education to receive a Maryland High School diploma.