



Profile 2025-2026

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Founded in 2004, Jackson Hole Community School (JHCS) is an independent, coeducational day school located in Jackson, Wyoming. This year, the school enrolled 100 students and will graduate 22 seniors on June 5, 2026.

Mission

Jackson Hole Community School prepares students to succeed in college and life, through challenging academics and excellence in teaching, in a community founded on personal relationships, student initiative, and integrity.

JHCS is committed to educating an economically and culturally diverse student body. For this school year, 36% of the JHCS student body received financial aid awards totaling approximately \$845,000. All students with demonstrated financial need are assisted by the school.

Honor Code

Student written and student run, the Honor System at JHCS is an integral part of the school's culture, holding students accountable for being thoughtful and supportive members of a rigorous academic and social community based on integrity. Holding a position on the Honor Council is considered one of the most important and respected student roles at the school.

Faculty/Staff

There are 28 full- and part-time faculty and staff members, 61 percent of whom hold advanced degrees in their fields. To fulfill the school's mission, all staff participate in a combination of professional development and evaluation throughout the school year. All full-time members are student advisors and play a significant role in a student's development over four years.

Academic Program

JHCS believes in challenging its students to the highest levels of inquiry and providing its faculty with the academic freedom to create student-centered learning environments. Students complete a rigorous and innovative curriculum, in which all courses are of an advanced nature and challenge students to become independent, lifelong learners. JHCS does not offer AP courses based upon the principle of preparing students to manage the breadth and depth of academic requirements and assessments they will encounter in college and allowing for teaching autonomy. Students may choose to sit for AP exams.

Grading System

The school employs a letter grading system with pluses and minuses (A-F). We do not weight grades. The school chooses not to rank its students due to the small number enrolled in each grade level. JHCS does not include grades from outside institutions when calculating GPAs.

Curricular Offerings

English

Foundations in Literature, World Literature, American Literature, Literature of the American West, Postcolonial Literature

World Language

Spanish 1, 2, 3; Spanish for Advanced Language Learners (SPALL); Spanish Language and Culture; Latinoamerica; Spanish Cinema

History

History of Humanity, Modern World History, U.S. History, History of the American West, Postcolonial History

Mathematics

Algebra, Geometry, Algebra 2, Precalculus, Calculus, Advanced Calculus, Computer Programming, Statistics, Mathematical Modeling

Science

Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Physics 2, Botany, Ecology, Advanced Environmental Microbiology, Human Anatomy, Astronomy, Web Development, Electrical Engineering (some courses offered on a rotating basis)

Arts

Visual Arts 2D and 3D, Video Production, Theater, American and World Architecture, Jazz Band - Advanced and Beginning, Music Appreciation in American Society, World Music Appreciation

Additional Academic Offerings

Students may enroll in select courses offered by Global Online Academy, One Schoolhouse, and LanguageBird and will receive Community School Credit.

Graduation Requirements

Twenty-two and a half (22.5) credits are required to graduate, with seventeen (17) required credits and five and a half (5.5) elective credits.

English: 4 years, History: 3 years, Math: 3 years, Science: 3 years, World Language: 3rd level of a second language, Fine Arts: 1.5 years. In addition, students must fulfill requirements for athletics, community service, and a senior project.

Experiential Learning Program

All students are expected to participate in Community Day, Fall Trips, and Minimester. During Community Day, each grade completes community service and engages in a community-building experience. Most Fall Trips consist of 4-5 days in the Jackson Hole area backcountry and are a required part of the curriculum. Students build collaborative relationships, teamwork, trust, and mental and physical resilience. Additionally, the trips are designed so that students foster decision making skills, embrace uncertainty, develop a sense of responsibility toward each other and the environment, unplug from daily life, and have fun. Minimester occurs over four consecutive days in February and provides curricular enrichment (through skill acquisition) via community opportunities and access to local experts. These three experiences are designed to build teamwork, trust, a sense of responsibility toward each other and the environment, and appreciation for community service.

Senior Project

The Senior Project is a capstone and culmination of 12+ years of learning, an opportunity to investigate personal passions, a showcase for critical thinking skills, and an integral part of every JHCS student's legacy. All projects have a research, writing, and field work component, and projects are formally presented at Senior Symposium at the end of each school year. To complete Senior Projects, students demonstrate initiative by managing their time independently and effectively, utilizing community resources, and employing scholarly research methods. Students can choose to express their findings and learning through the creation of a product or via an apprenticeship in our local community.

Community Service

Giving back to our school and community is an integral part of the JHCS mission. Service provides an opportunity for students to bring their academic, interpersonal, and character development to bear on their larger communities—a testing ground for the meaningful contributions they make upon graduation in Jackson and around the globe. During their time at Jackson Hole Community School, students learn the value of service work and reflect on how they can use their skills and passions to improve their communities. Our students and faculty take pride in contributing to our community in myriad ways.

Accreditation

Jackson Hole Community School is accredited by the Northwest Association of Independent Schools ([NWAIS](#)) and licensed through the Wyoming Department of Education.

Portrait of a JHCS Graduate

A graduate of JHCS is a....

Leader

- Approaches challenges with integrity and empathy
- Actively pursues inclusive and diverse perspectives
- Recognizes when to lead and when to follow
- Listens attentively and communicates clearly

Thinker

- Remains curious
- Generates ideas through critical and creative thinking
- Makes connections between learning and their life

- Challenges assumptions and suspends judgment

Contributor

- Seeks and takes initiative
- Demonstrates personal, social, and civic responsibility
- Builds partnerships through meaningful collaboration

Appreciator

- Values the opportunities offered and relationships developed
- Authentically gives back to the school and community
- Comfortably expresses and receives gratitude

College Matriculation

Members of the past five graduating classes of JHCS enrolled in the following colleges or universities. 100% of the graduating seniors choose to attend 4-year institutions throughout the world.

American University

Amherst College

Bates College

Baylor University

Belmont University

Boston College

Boston University

Bowdoin College

Brown University

Cal Poly SLO

Carleton College

Casper Community College

Chapman University

Colby College

Colgate University

Colorado College

Colorado School of Mines

Colorado State University

Columbia University

Connecticut College

Cornell University

Dartmouth College

Davidson College

Denison University

Embry-Riddle AZ

Emory University

Fort Lewis College

Georgetown University

Gonzaga University

Hamilton College

Harvard University

Hobart and William Smith Colleges

Lewis and Clark College

Michigan State University

Middlebury College

MIT

Montana State University

Northern Arizona University

Northwestern University

Pepperdine University

Pitzer College

Point Loma Nazarene University

Pomona College

Princeton University

Rose Hulman Institute of Technology

San Diego State University

Santa Clara University

Seattle University

Skidmore College

Southern Methodist University

St. Andrews Scotland

St. John's College

St. Lawrence University

Stanford University

Syracuse University

Texas Christian University

Tufts University

Tulane University

Union College

University of British Columbia

University of California, Berkeley

University of California Santa Barbara

University of California Santa Cruz

University of Colorado Boulder

University of Colorado Denver

University of Denver

University of Idaho

University of Michigan

University of New Hampshire

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

University of Notre Dame

University of Oregon

University of Puget Sound

University of Richmond

University of Southern California

University of St. Andrews

University of Utah

University of Wisconsin - Madison

University of Wyoming

University of Vermont

University of Virginia

Vanderbilt University

Villanova University

Virginia Tech University

Wake Forest University

Washington University in St Louis

Western Washington University