

KETCHIKAN HIGH SCHOOL PROFILE

Updated: (10/14/2025)

COMMUNITY

Alaska's southernmost city, Ketchikan, population approximately 8,000, is the only community on Revillagigedo Island. Access is by plane or ferry, as there are no roads linking the island to the rest of Alaska or to the Outside. Ketchikan's major industries are fishing, shipyard, healthcare, education, government, and tourism. The summer cruise season is a major contributor to the local economy. Annual rainfall of more than 165 inches creates scenic mountains with lush forests and harsh weather. Remote island life offers lessons in resourcefulness, teaching students to overcome challenges different from those of the contiguous U.S.

HIGH SCHOOL DESCRIPTION & STUDENT POPULATION STATISTICS

Ketchikan High School is a comprehensive four-year public high school accredited by Cognia enrolling approximately 500 students. There is one alternative high school on the island, one middle school, and five elementary schools. Every student in the high school has a school-issued chromebook.

Ethnic breakdown: 1% African American, 26% Alaska Native, 2% American Indian, 10% Asian, 52% Caucasian, 1% Hispanic, 7% Multi-Ethnic, 1% Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, 15% of students speak a language other than English in the home.

Socioeconomic Status: 30% students eligible for free/reduced lunch.

Parents' Education Level: 34% Bachelor's degree or higher, 10% Associate's degree, 9% apprenticeship/certificate, 35% high school diploma, 12% high school dropout.

SPORTS AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Sports: Baseball, Basketball, Cheer, Cross-Country, Dance Team, Softball, Soccer, Swim & Dive, Track & Field, Volleyball, Wrestling. Clubs: Academic Decathlon, Chess Club, Class Act (Freshman Mentor Program), Debate, D&D Club, Environmental Club, Filipino American Club, Gay Straight Alliance, Girls Who Code, Jazz Band, Kayhi Current (newspaper), National Honor Society, National Art Honor Society, Ocean Sciences Bowl, Pep Band, Pep Club, Student Government, Rotary Interact, Theater, Yearbook. Students fly or ferry long distances to compete in games, meets, and activities.

CURRICULUM

A comprehensive curriculum includes AP, Dual Enrollment, CTE, and Music & Fine Arts. World Languages: Italian, French (cut in 2024), Spanish (cut in 2024), and Tlingit/Tsimshian/Haida (offered in 2-year cycles). Advanced Placement: AP classes are offered in alternate years rotation. Low enrollment often causes an AP course to be canceled. Potential AP courses: English Lit, English Lang, Biology, Chemistry, US Govt., US History, World History, European History, Calculus AB, Computer Science. AP is open enrollment and is generally limited to juniors & seniors. The district policy allows students to take no more than two AP courses per year. Students may request an exception to this rule. AP courses 25-26: Calculus, Chemistry, Computer Science Principles, US Government. Partnerships with the local community college allow co-registration & dual enrollment opportunities.

***Our most demanding curriculum ranking is given to students with 5+ AP and/or dual enrollment, college classes.*

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

22 credits required: 4 English, 3 Science, 3 Math, 2 Social Studies (1 US), .5 Civics, .5 Health, .5 PE, .5 Alaska Studies, 1 CTE or Fine Art, 7 Electives. 100 hours paid and/or volunteer work and completed State of Alaska Job application required. Students take 6 classes each year with .5 credits awarded per class each semester, and the possibility of a 7th class (zero hour) in band or basketball.

GRADING/GPA/CLASS RANK

Unweighted letter grades are awarded in each subject area on a four-point scale as follows:

A (4.0) = 90-100, B (3.0) = 80-89, C (2.0) = 70-79, D (1.0) = 60-69, F (0) = less than 60

Pass (P) and Withdraw Pass (WP) not calculated in GPA; Withdraw Fail (WF) calculated as 0 in the GPA

"R" indicates class retaken in later term; "R" is not calculated in GPA.

The highest GPA possible is 4.0; Class Rank is based on overall GPA.

POSTSECONDARY PLACEMENT STATISTICS

40% 4-year college; 11% 2-year college; 10% Voc School;

8% Apprenticeship; 1% military; 10% work; 10% Gap Year; 10% travel, mission, unsure

Regions our graduates attend college or vocational school: 30% Alaska; 60% West; 3% East; 3% South; 4% North

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Jared Garlick, Principal; Kerry Dixon, Assistant Principal; Rhonda Bolling, Registrar

Natasha O'Brien and Alice Patton, Counselors

Website: <https://khs.kgbsd.org/en-US>