TRINITY SCHOOL AT RIVER RIDGE

Mission

The educational mission of Trinity School at River Ridge is to impart basic ordered knowledge about the world and to train students in intellectual skills and habits of mind. Trinity School at River Ridge is a community of learners characterized by the rigorous exploration of reality, the free and disciplined exchange of ideas, and active participation in the fine arts.

Accreditation

Accredited by the Independent Schools Association of the Central States (ISACS)

Visit Us!

Trinity School welcomes visits. Appointments can be booked on **RepVisits.**

601 River Ridge Pkwy
Eagan, MN 55121
phone: 651.789.2890

TSRR.ORG

2026-2027 SCHOOL PROFILE

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OVERVIEW

Trinity School at River Ridge is a comprehensive Christian private high school for grades 6–12. The school opened in 1987 and graduated its first senior class in 1991.

Trinity School at River Ridge is located in Eagan, Minnesota and draws students primarily from the southeastern suburbs of the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul. The Twin Cities are the 16th largest metropolitan area in the U.S., with a population of over 4 million.

150	51%	6:1	33%	20
Enrollment	**Financial Aid Recipients**	**Student to Faculty Ratio**	**Advanced Degree Faculty**	**2026-2027 Senior Class**

PEDAGOGY

Trinity School offers a seven-year program, with one curriculum for all students. The curriculum is coherent and integrated. Though Trinity School operates according to a different educational philosophy than AP or IB, the courses compare favorably in terms of rigor. **The coursework exceeds the Department of Education's highest rating for rigor.**

Trinity School is designed to encourage participation and performance of the student in the learning process. Rather than receiving knowledge passively, each student must actively engage with concepts and relationships. For example, students:

- read, discuss, and write about original texts in humanities seminars;
- solve problems and apply concepts to real-world problems in mathematics;
- conduct dissections and experiments, and write original code in science;
- perform on stage in music and drama, and paint and draw in art.

1996 • 2008 • 2019
The only high school in Minnesota to be named three times as a Blue Ribbon School of Excellence by the U.S. Department of Education

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STUDENT OUTCOMES

Although Trinity School is not a college preparatory school, our students are well prepared for college and sought after by schools that know us. Our graduates attend large research institutions, small liberal arts schools, community colleges and seminary, as well as go into the workforce and mission service. We value all choices equally. For a complete list of college acceptances over the past four years, please visit: **www.tsrr.org/academics/curriculum/college-preparation/**

CURRICULUM

The academic program is organized on a six-period, two-semester schedule.

- All students spend two periods in Humane Letters every day from 9th-12th grade.
- All students spend one period in Math and one in Science every day from 9th-12th grade.
- The remaining two periods are devoted to a mix of foreign language, fine arts, and religion courses.
- Our curriculum is fixed; Trinity School does not offer non-academic "study hall" options.

9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade
Humane Letters	Humane Letters	Humane Letters	Humane Letters
Biology	Chemistry	Computer Science/Physics A	Physics B/C
Geometry/Precalculus A	Precalculus B/C	Calculus A/B	Calculus C/Advanced Topics
Latin III	Latin IV	Modern Foreign Language I	Modern Foreign Language II
Christian Doctrine	Scripture I	Scripture II	Introduction to Economics
Music III	Music IV	Drama I	Drama II
		Art III History/Studio	Art IV History/Studio

Humane Letters

Humane Letters combines History, Literature, Writing, and Philosophy through reading of, Socratic seminar discussion on, and writing about original fiction and non-fiction texts.

- **Freshman Year** focuses on American History and Literature: *Federalist Papers, Ernest Hemingway, Frederick Douglass, Willa Cather, Harper Lee, Stephen Crane,* **and more...**
- **Sophomore Year** focuses on European History and Literature: *John Locke, Jean-Jacques Rousseau, Charles Dickens, Fyodor Dostoevsky, Karl Marx,* **and more...**
- **Junior Year** focuses on Greek Philosophy and Literature: *Homer, Aeschylus, Sophocles, Thucydides, Plato, Aristotle, Athanasius, Augustine,* **and more...**
- **Senior Year** focuses on Medieval and Modern Philosophy and Literature: *Aquinas, Luther, Dante, Flannery O'Connor, James Agee, Montaigne, Hegel, Wallace Stevens,* **and more...**

In four years of Humane Letters, students write 30 analytical essays and produce multiple substantial research papers.

Math

- The curriculum equips students to use mathematics effectively as a tool in understanding other disciplines, brings them to a comprehension of the substance and structure of mathematics, and prepares them for further study at a higher level.
- Students use graphing calculators throughout high school.
- Juniors and seniors write MATLAB programs to aid the study of both calculus and physics.
- Seniors study advanced topics in calculus and linear algebra.

Science

- Freshmen perform at least six dissections and numerous labs and projects in Biology.
- Sophomores apply the fundamental principles of chemistry to understand and explain the complex web of interactions that make up living organisms.
- Juniors learn to code in MATLAB, solving science & math problems with GUIs, then study Newtonian mechanics.
- Senior physics explores heat, electromagnetism, light, relativity, and quantum physics.
- **Calculus and computer programming are integrated into all junior and senior science coursework.**

Fine Arts

9th and 10th graders study Music.

- They sing in a choir, including four concerts, building on performance skills from junior high instrumental music.
- The study of music theory and composition, begun in junior high, continues with more advanced work.

11th and 12th graders study Drama and Art Studio/History.

- Drama develops performance techniques and knowledge, leading to acting on stage in two full-length plays.
- Art History probes themes, symbolism, and techniques, from cave paintings to the present.
- Art Studio explores pencil, charcoal, watercolor, and acrylics, culminating in a major independent work.

TRANSCRIPT NOTES

- Humane Letters is 2.5 credits per semester:
  - 1 credit of History;
  - 1 credit of Literature;
  - Plus .5 credit in either Writing (9th and 10th grade) or Philosophy (11th and 12th grade.)
- Trinity students take a full year of Algebra in 8th grade.
- Modern Foreign Language is an accelerated class, more than a year's worth of foreign language in two semesters.

GRADING SYSTEM

Trinity School de-emphasizes grades in favor of a more holistic evaluation of students. Grades are not provided to students, either on classwork, tests, or as report cards. At the end of each semester parents receive a comprehensive narrative account of their child's performance which they are encouraged to share with their child, rather than the objective grades. When seniors apply to college, it may be the first time they are seeing their grades and GPA.

- The grading scale follows the normal, **unweighted 4.0 system**, with the addition of an A+ for exceptional work.
- Due to the small size of classes and curriculum rigor, class rank would be misleading in most cases.
- Therefore, Trinity School **does not rank** students.

Grading Scale

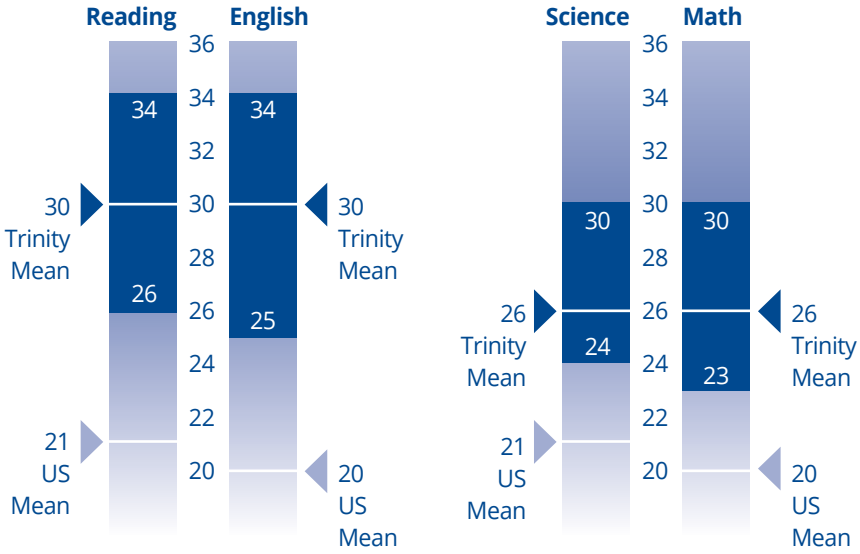
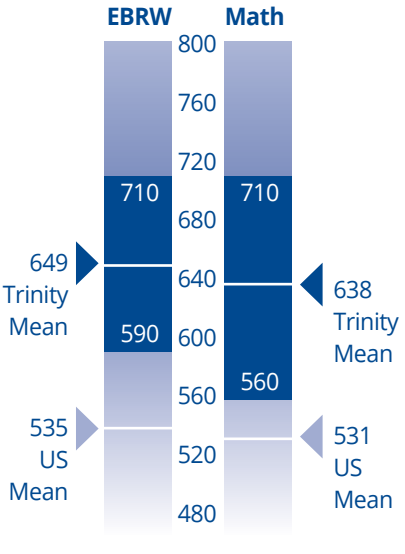
A+ = 4.50	B+ = 3.35	C+ = 2.35	D+ = 1.35
A = 4.00	B = 3.00	C = 2.00	D = 1.00
A- = 3.65	B- = 2.65	C- = 1.65	D- = 0.65

STANDARDIZED TESTS

Over the past four years:

- 61% of our students sat for the ACT and 45% took the SAT;
- Our entire Middle 50% on both the ACT and SAT is above the national mean;
- 10% (16) earned National Merit recognition, with 4% (6) advancing to National Merit Finalist.

2019-2022 ACT MIDDLE 50%



2019-2022 SAT MIDDLE 50%