



# WESTERN RESERVE ACADEMY 2024-25 SCHOOL PROFILE

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**CEEB Code: 362 655**

*To prepare students to blaze trails in learning and in life.*



## HEAD OF SCHOOL

Suzanne Walker Buck

## COLLEGE COUNSELING OFFICE

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### ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

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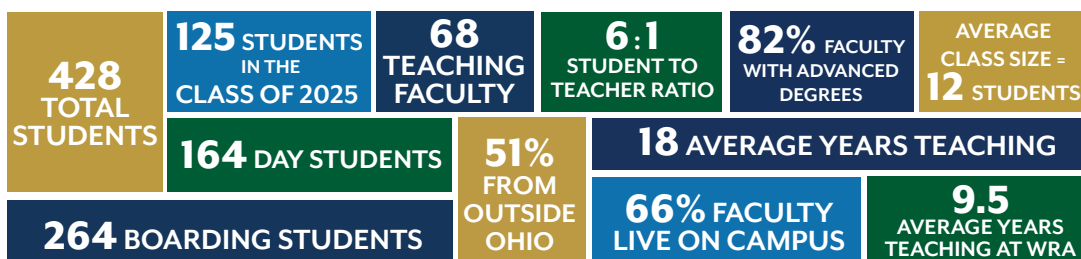
## ABOUT WESTERN RESERVE ACADEMY

Founded in 1826 as a preparatory school for Western Reserve College, Western Reserve Academy is an independent coeducational boarding and day school, grades nine through post graduate. Western Reserve Academy is ranked number one best college prep boarding and day school in Ohio and is recognized as one of the top boarding schools in the country. Our innovative college-preparatory curriculum features programs of distinction that prepare our students for an increasingly interconnected world.

## MISSION & VISION

Western Reserve Academy prepares students to *blaze trails in learning and in life*, equipping young adults with the knowledge, skills and resilience needed to navigate an ever-changing world. This unrivaled educational experience is one *illuminated by tradition, sparked by innovation and energized by joy*. With a culture that values discovery and growth, every student is empowered to reach their fullest potential.

## FACTS AT A GLANCE



## PROGRAM AND CALENDAR

Within our semester schedule students will take 6-8 courses per semester following an alternating daily schedule of five, 65-minute classes. Students earn a final grade in their courses every semester, with traditional full-year courses receiving two semester grades annually.

## GRADING SYSTEM

For the 2024-2025 academic year we will continue to use an A+ through F scale, and this will be noted on transcripts and marking period reports in the same manner. WRA does not include a GPA on the transcript, though one is available by request.

## REPORTING DISCIPLINE AND STUDENT CHANGES

When asked on college applications, students are expected to self-report discipline infractions if required by the college. If contacted by a college, WRA college counselors will only confirm the accuracy of details and outcome.

## STATISTICAL PROFILE

WRA Class of 2024: 125 students  
38% of students applied test optional

47 students took the ACT  
78 students took the SAT

\* \* \*

Testing Averages  
for the WRA Class of 2024

National Testing Averages  
for the Class of 2024

WRA MEDIAN ACT **26.5**

NATIONAL MEDIAN **19.6**

WRA MEDIAN SAT **1309**

NATIONAL MEDIAN SAT **1028**

# CURRICULAR NOTES & APPLIED LEARNING

**COLLEGE LEVEL (CL) COURSES:** The pinnacle of academic height and rigor at WRA, CL courses replaced our Advanced Placement offerings beginning in 2017. The intellectual discourse in the CL classroom is sophisticated, nuanced, and responsive to a changing world and student curiosity.

**SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH:** WRA provides outstanding opportunities for scientific research. The Cancer Immunology I, II, and CL courses allow students to explore biotechnology methods, including cell culture, protein purification, and CRISPR gene editing. CL Synthetic Biology I and II, delves into the intersection of biology, engineering and innovation. This course culminates with students submitting genetically engineered machine designs for publication and the presentation of their work at an MIT synthetic biology conference.

**ENGINEERING & APPLIED SCIENCES:** EAS offers courses such as College Level Automation & Robotics and Idea to Product, encouraging exploration of opportunities within the Wang Innovation Center. With an emphasis on critical thinking, entrepreneurship, communication, and collaboration, EAS enriches students' high school experiences and prepares them for life beyond graduation.

**COMPASS:** Compass is a program that empowers students to tackle real-world problems, fostering creativity, tenacity and initiative. Students identify problems and offer solutions, while cultivating unique interests and talents. They develop skills in project design, collaboration, budgeting and leadership, applying their passions to professional contexts. The program culminates in the Compass Exposition, where students showcase their work. Compass spans areas such as Civic & Global Engagement, Science & Technology, Arts & Culture, and Entrepreneurship, promoting comprehensive development and real-world impact.

**THE WANG INNOVATION CENTER (WIC):** A 6,000-square-foot collaborative learning space with state-of-the-art industrial design and production equipment makes the WIC a hub for turning student ideas into reality and fostering experiential learning. The WIC comprises three distinct areas: one for conceptualization and planning, another for prototyping with advanced tools like laser cutters and 3-D printers, and a large-scale wood and metal shop for transforming prototypes into finished products.

**TEACHING PRACTICUM:** Our teaching practicum affords selected students the opportunity to work with a mentor teacher, first observing before then gradually taking on responsibilities like lesson planning, teaching, grading, and offering extra help to their peers. Students develop their own teaching style with regular feedback and the course culminates with the student teaching their peers within the course.

## UNIVERSITY OF AKRON RESEARCH PROGRAM

**PROGRAM:** Offered in partnership with the University of Akron's Economics Department, this highly selective research course is designed for WRA students interested in augmenting their understanding of economics through academic research. The course emphasizes hands-on research and critical thinking as well as the unique opportunity to be mentored by university professors, bridging the gap between high school and higher education. Students are assessed and graded by their University of Akron professor and WRA faculty member overseeing the program.

**KENYON COLLEGE DUAL-CREDIT:** WRA partners with Kenyon College to offer dual-credit coursework in CL Chemistry, CL Ethics and CL Spanish. Students currently taking these classes have the option of enrolling in the Kenyon Academic Program (KAP). Those who enroll in KAP will receive college credit directly from Kenyon College upon successful completion of the course.

## MOST RIGOROUS COURSEWORK BY ACADEMIC DEPARTMENT

### FINE & PERFORMING ARTS

Advanced Acting  
Advanced Art/Portfolio  
Advanced Dance  
Advanced Digital Music Production  
Advanced Musical Theater Performance  
CL Music Theory

### MATHEMATICS

Honors Accelerated Precalculus (Math 43)  
Honors Algebra 2 (Math 32)  
Honors Precalculus (Math 42)  
CL Calculus AB (Math 52)  
CL Calculus BC (Math 53)  
CL Calculus-Based Probability & Statistics  
CL Computer Science  
CL Differential Equations  
CL Multivariable Calculus  
CL Statistics  
CL Linear Algebra\*

### ENGINEERING & APPLIED SCIENCES

CL Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning  
CL Compass  
CL Engineering  
CL Fab Academy  
CL Robotics & Automation  
Digital Fabrication: Capstone  
Engineering Capstone

### MODERN & CLASSICAL LANGUAGES

Honors French II  
Honors French III  
Honors Latin II  
Honors Latin III  
Honors Spanish II  
Honors Spanish III  
CL French Language & Culture I  
CL French Language & Culture II  
CL Latin Literature  
CL Mandarin Chinese I  
CL Mandarin Chinese II  
CL Spanish-Latin America

### SOCIAL SCIENCE

CL African American Studies I  
CL African American Studies II  
CL Art History: Modern  
CL Economics  
CL Ethics  
CL Frederick Douglass  
CL Philosophy  
CL United States History & Government  
CL Civil Rights\*  
CL Civil Rights: Revolutionary War Through Reconstruction\*

### ENGLISH

CL American Literature & the Free Market Economy  
CL Divided by Class  
CL Power of Language  
CL Shakespeare

### SCIENCE

Honors Chemistry  
Honors Physics  
CL Cancer Immunology  
CL Chemistry  
CL Microbiology  
CL Physics  
CL Synthetic Biology I  
CL Synthetic Biology II

\*Not offered this year