School Overview Information

2013-2014
**Mission Statement**
Boston College High School is a Jesuit, Catholic all male college preparatory school. We challenge our students to become young men of integrity, educated in faith and for justice, committed to academic excellence and service to others. We strive to reflect the diversity of our church and community. Our mission since 1863 has been to form leaders of competence, conscience, and compassion who seek to do all things “ad majorem Dei gloriam,” for the greater glory of God.

**Enrollment**
While the high school enrollment is 1,300 students, the student/teacher ratio is 13 to 1, and the average class size is 22. The Arrupe Division enrollment is 330, with an average class size of fewer than 20 students. Students are drawn from more than 140 communities with 35% coming from urban areas.

**Academic Program**
Successful completion of 25 credits is required for graduation. They must include:

- **Four years**
  - English
  - Religious Education

- **Three years**
  - Mathematics
  - Modern/Classical Language
  - Science
  - Social Studies

**College Placement**
49% of the Class of 2013 are attending what Barron’s considers the “Most and Highly Competitive Colleges.”

Sample List of “Most Competitive Colleges”
Ivy League schools, Georgetown University, Boston College, Amherst College, Duke University, MIT, Stanford University, Notre Dame

Sample List of “Highly Competitive Colleges”
Babson College, Clemson University, Fordham University, Marquette University, Trinity College, Boston University

**National Merit Scholars**
The Class of 2013 had 22 students commended as National Merit Scholars.

**Honors Level Courses**
Admission to Honors Level courses is by application. Honors courses are offered in most academic departments except Religious Education. Incoming freshmen are invited to take placement exams in Mathematics and a Modern/Classical Language. Additionally, students with advanced preparation in additional subjects are welcome to request additional placement exams.
Advanced Placement Courses
BC High offers 24 Advanced Placement (AP) courses. Admission to AP courses is by application. In 2013, BC High students took 1,015 AP exams.

- **Social Studies**: American History; American Government and Politics; European History; Economics AP: Micro and Macro*
- **Mathematics**: Statistics; Calculus AB; Calculus BC; Computer Science AB
- **English**: English Literature and Composition; English Language and Composition
- **Classical Language**: Latin IV; Latin V
- **Modern Language**: Spanish Language; Spanish Literature; French Language; Chinese Language and Culture
- **Science**: Biology; Chemistry; Environmental Science; Physics B; Physics C*
- **Fine Arts**: Music Theory

*requires two AP exams

Post AP College Courses
These courses are geared toward the highly motivated and academically prepared student.

- **Classics**: Homeric Academy; Latin V
- **Mathematics**: Multi variable Calculus
- **Modern Language**: French Literature

Guidance
All students have a Group Guidance class and work with a guidance counselor for four years. The college preparation process begins for students and their parents in spring of freshman year. Students and parents begin the process appropriately by exploring student interests, developing a list of potential schools, culminating in the application process during the first semester of senior year. The department uses the Naviance College Prep Program.

BC High annually hosts multiple college fairs on campus with 200+ colleges in attendance. Additionally, more than 100 Colleges nationwide send admissions representatives to campus to conduct college interviews with our students.

SAT Prep
BC High juniors are encouraged to take the SAT Prep Review course taught by specifically trained BC High faculty. The SAT Prep course is offered after school and on Saturdays at no additional cost.

International Exchange and Service Programs
BC High provides students the opportunity for academic, cultural and service immersion in Argentina, China, Ireland, France, Belize, Spain, El Salvador, Tanzania, and the Dominican Republic.

Community Service
During the course of their four years, high school students are required to complete a total of 95 hours of supervised community service work. In keeping with Jesuit educational philosophy, students reflect on their experience through group discussion and personal essays.

The Office of Service and Justice Initiatives has developed relationships with various non-profits in the Boston area to provide opportunities to complete this requirement.