MISSION
Mercyhurst Preparatory School is a four-year co-educational Catholic secondary school founded by the Sisters of Mercy to prepare students from all religious and ethnic backgrounds for a successful, productive, and compassionate life in an ever-changing and interdependent world. A Mercyhurst Prep education is based upon the teachings of Jesus Christ, the charism of Mercy, and a modeling of Judeo-Christian values. We strive for excellence in academic and co-curricular programs, we promote service to our local and global communities, and we foster the dedication and active support of the students, parents, faculty, staff, and alumni of the Mercyhurst community.

MERCYHURST PREP COMMUNITY
The MPS community is comprised of 520 students in grades 9-12 and 53 FTE members of the faculty and support staff. The student-to-faculty ratio is 13:1, and 49% of the educational staff hold postgraduate degrees. The student body is diverse, with students from a range of ethnic, religious, and socioeconomic backgrounds. While 78% of the students are day students, the school also serves 115 international boarding students from countries such as China, Egypt, Kyrgyzstan, Vietnam, Russia, Italy and Spain, among others. More than 55% of the student body received financial aid for the 2016-17 school year.

BOARDING OPPORTUNITIES
Mercyhurst Prep maintains a partnership with Pennsylvania International Academy (PIA), which provides dormitory housing and boarding for full-time and weekly international and American students. Its campus offers a state-of-the-art Nautilus gym, indoor basketball and soccer facilities, and outdoor soccer fields. Located 6 miles from the high school and in close proximity to malls and other shopping venues, restaurants, and movie theaters, PIA provides transportation to school and school events as well as to leisure time destinations.

ADMISSIONS
Admission to Mercyhurst Prep is competitive and based on the likelihood of the student finding success in the rigorous programs that we offer. All students pursue a college prep curriculum, with academic support services available for those who require them. The school offers comprehensive courses of study for academically gifted students. MPS has a 99-100% graduation rate with approximately 98% of our our graduates going on to higher education.

GRADING SYSTEM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quality Point Scale</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>College Prep</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>A  =  4.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+ =  3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B   =  3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+ =  2.5</td>
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<tr>
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<td>D   =  1.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>F   =  0.0</td>
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<td><strong>Honors/IB</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>4.5</td>
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<td>4.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.0</td>
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<td>0.0</td>
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</table>

2015 GRADUATE PROFILE
Graduates on to college 99%
• Four-year college 99%
• Two-year college 0%
• Work/Armed Services 1%
DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS
Mercyhurst Prep operates on an A/B day block schedule with four 90 minute classes per day. Each student must pursue eight courses per term including a minimum of six yearlong classes. Students are strongly encouraged to study at least one course at the IB level. Students must also complete 25 hours of community service per year and must fulfill annual summer reading requirements.

Recommended IB/Honors/College Prep
- Theology: 4 years
- English: 4 years
- Math: 4 years
- Science: 4 years
- Social Studies: 4 years
- Foreign Language: 3-4 years
- Creative Arts: 2 years (6 terms)
- Physical Education: 4 terms (1 term each year)
- Health: 1 year (3 terms)
- Information Technology: 1 year (3 terms)
- Freshman Communications: 1 term

Minimum Graduation Requirements
- Theology: 4 years
- English: 4 years
- Math: 3 years
- Science: 3 years
- Social Studies: 4 years
- Foreign Language: 2 years
- Creative Arts: 1 year (3 terms)
- Physical Education: 4 terms
- (1 term each year)
- Health: 1 year (3 terms)
- Information Technology: 2 terms
- Freshman Communications: 1 term

COURSES OF GREATEST RIGOR

English:
- British Literature-Honors/IB Higher (HL) & Standard (SL) Levels
- World Literature-Honors/IB Higher (HL) & Standard (SL) Levels

Social Studies:
- The 20th Century-Conflict and Intervention-Honors/IB Standard (SL) Level
- History of the Americas-Honors/IB Higher (HL) Level
- 20th Century World History-Honors/IB Standard (SL) Level
- World History-Honors/IB Higher (HL) Level

World Language:
- French IV-Honors/IB Standard (SL) Level
- Spanish IV-Honors/IB Standard (SL) Level

Math:
- IB Mathematics-Higher (HL) & Standard (SL) Levels
- IB Math Studies-Standard (SL) Level
- Calculus-Honors

Science:
- Biology II-Honors/IB Higher (HL) & Standard (SL) Levels
- Chemistry II-Honors/IB Higher (HL) & Standard (SL) Levels
- Physics-Honors
- Sports, Exercise & Health Science I & II-Honors/IB Standard (SL) Level

Other:
- Religions of the World-Honors/IB Standard (SL) Level
- Art History – Honors/IB Higher (HL) & Standard (SL) Levels
- Art Seminar – Honors/IB

CLASS OF 2015: MEAN TEST SCORES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SAT</th>
<th>All Students</th>
<th>Honors/IB</th>
<th>IB Diploma</th>
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<tr>
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<th>SAT Subject Tests</th>
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<td>Chemistry</td>
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<td>Math II</td>
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<td>Physics</td>
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ACT:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>ACT</th>
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<th>Honors/IB</th>
<th>IB Diploma</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
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<td>25.4</td>
<td>27.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science Reasoning</td>
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<td>25.4</td>
<td>26.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Composite</td>
<td>24.0</td>
<td>25.5</td>
<td>27.9</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

CURRICULUM
As a college preparatory school, the Mercyhurst Prep curriculum is rigorous. The school offers a wide range of courses at the college prep, honors, and International Baccalaureate (IB) levels.

COLLEGE PREP COURSES
College prep courses are tailored to prepare students for university studies with a focus on reading, discussion, problem solving, research skills, and academic writing. There is mobility among college prep, honors and IB courses, and counselors work with students in selecting the combination that offers an appropriate challenge.

HONORS COURSES
Students may select from 53 honors courses, of which 30 are also IB, in English, mathematics, social studies, science, theology, world languages, and the performing and visual arts. Honors courses move at an accelerated pace and cover additional topics and/or topics in greater depth.

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE (IB)
Mercyhurst Prep has been a member of the International Baccalaureate Organization since 1985, offering IB diplomas, subject area certificates, and 30 courses in mathematics, sciences, language and literature, modern world languages, history, art, dance, music, and religions of the world. A superior academic program, IB develops students who are inquirers, thinkers, communicators, and risk-takers. These students are principled, open-minded, caring, balanced and reflective - characteristics fostered through an intensive course of studies that encompasses independent scholarly research, metacognition, community service, thoughtful reflection and round table discussion.
MATHEMATICS
The math department offers a wide range of college prep and honors courses, including IB classes in Math Studies, Standard Level, and Higher Level. In addition, students annually travel to participate in math competitions and are active in Math Club. In order to provide a strong math foundation for students who lack a firm background, the school offers Algebra I Plus, an intensive freshman class that meets for 90 minutes every day.

VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS
Offering 46 courses in the arts, Mercyhurst Prep fosters creativity and innovation. Many students develop a visual arts concentration with courses such as drawing, painting, ceramics, jewelry making, photography, publication graphics, animation, art history, and art studio and seminar. Students with a visual arts concentration compile an extensive portfolio. Performing arts students are involved in dance company, orchestra, show choir, concert choir, and musical production. They mount two musical productions, one play, and several dance, orchestra and choral concerts annually. Visual and performing arts students are also heavily involved in community outreach, offering performances, exhibits, visual arts projects, and art competitions for Erie residents. Recently, the entire school community was engaged in a six month long artist-in-residence collaboration, resulting in an 8,200 square foot mural affixed to the facade of the school.

SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING
With over 25% of our students interested in a career in the health field, the science department provides an intensive program of academic rigor and laboratory focus with offerings in foundations of scientific inquiry, chemistry I and II, biology I and II, physics, anatomy and physiology, hydrology, geology, astronomy, environmental science and sports, exercise and health science. Courses in the engineering design process engage students in project management, innovation and problem solving with access to 3D printers and scanners in a state-of-the-art technology lab.

SOCIAL STUDIES
The social studies department offers a variety of core and elective history, psychology, government and economics, art history, anthropology, and world cultures courses at the college prep, honors and IB levels. Students gain background in research, working with primary source documents and analytical writing. IB history students complete an additional research and intensive writing project in an area of their interest. With 103 international students enrolled at Mercyhurst Prep, social studies classes are enriched by the global perspectives brought to the discussion table.

WORLD LANGUAGES
Four year sequences with a focus on the spoken language in Spanish and French are offered at the college prep, honors and IB levels. Students may also elect to study introductory Italian, IB Mandarin Language A or IB Russian Language A for native speakers. International students opting for Mandarin or Russian studies complete coursework in language and literature. All MPS students must complete a two year world language requirement for graduation, although students are encouraged to study a four-year sequence.

THEOLOGY
All Mercyhurst Prep students study a four-year theology sequence with classes in Scripture, church history, ethics, senior seminar, peer leadership and religions of the world. Courses are offered at the college prep level, with ethics having an honors option, and an IB selection for religions of the world. The curriculum addresses the standards set forth by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). The theology department faculty works closely with the chaplain and campus minister to provide a full complement of spiritual programs including daily prayer, retreats for each of the four classes, and liturgies.

ENGLISH
The English curriculum encompasses a wide range of literary genres, literary analysis, public speaking, discussion, collaboration and creation. Courses are offered at the college prep, honors, and IB levels with seniors pursuing an interdisciplinary curriculum in the humanities. There is a strong focus on academic research and writing.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND BUSINESS
With a 1:1 iPad program at Mercyhurst Prep, ninth grade students begin training in digital literacy and the discerning selection of technological tools. All freshmen study a curriculum in digital citizenship, evaluation of sources, and digital literacy. The IT department offers numerous classes in webpage design, presentation software, coding, and the Microsoft Office Suite. Students may elect a series of entertainment technology courses, such as mobile app and game design, via an online platform. With a full-time technology integration coach on staff, faculty are supported with one-to-one training as needed to ensure digitally literate and accomplished graduates. Students also have access to elective courses in banking and credit, financial planning, saving and investing, digital media and marketing and accounting.

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION
All students must complete at least one trimester of physical education each year by selecting from cross-training or dance offerings. All freshmen are enrolled in a wellness and fitness course, which teaches them how to monitor and maintain a healthy regimen of diet and exercise. Cross-training classes utilize a program of weight and machine-training balanced with activities designed to increase strength, flexibility and agility. Mercyhurst Prep offers a complementary program of health courses in which students learn body systems and healthy behaviors.

ATHLETICS
Students may participate in a wide range of competitive athletic teams in football, soccer, tennis, golf, volleyball, basketball, bowling, swimming, softball, cheerleading, baseball, rowing, cross country and track. MPS teams regularly win district, regional and state titles with a program philosophy that emphasizes dedication, teamwork, and good sportsmanship.
CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES
MPS students are involved in over 30 clubs and activities, among them performing groups in dance, show choir, concert choir, and theatre; service organizations; student government; academic clubs; and sports clubs. In addition, students produce various school publications such as the Chrysalis literary magazine and the yearbook. Mercyhurst students are active in a competitive and award-winning speech and debate team at the local and national levels and have garnered awards for their participation in Model UN. MPS Lakers have also been recognized for their service contributions with the Bread Box Award for helping to feed the impoverished and a commendation for the history club's research at Erie's Maritime Museum.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND SERVICE
All students are required to complete 25 hours of community service each year. However, the great majority far surpass this requirement with individual students amassing more than 600 hours in one school year. Mercyhurst Prep students develop and execute service projects that serve real needs of the community: cooking and serving healthy meals to the homeless, developing support programs to ease the assimilation of refugees into the Erie area, and painting murals in area elementary schools to beautify the space. MPS students understand the need to work in service to others. Through service work they also become adept at project creation and management.

UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIP
Mercyhurst Prep's campus is located adjacent to that of Mercyhurst University, and MPS students may avail themselves of university library privileges; performances, master classes, and seminars with world-renowned visiting artists at the Mercyhurst Institute of Arts and Culture (MIAC); and university coursework. Mercyhurst Prep students may take classes for university credit beginning in the sophomore year at a significantly discounted cost. Qualified seniors may participate in the Seniors at Mercyhurst University (SAM) Program, an opportunity to complete their senior year of high school and freshman year of college simultaneously, thus completing the traditional high school/university period of studies in seven years. Mercyhurst Prep students may also complete coursework at Gannon University. Both Mercyhurst and Gannon universities award college credit to Mercyhurst Prep students who have demonstrated superior competencies in designated IB and other challenging high school courses.

GRADUATE MATRICULATION (2012-2015)
Alfred University
Allegheny College
American University
Arizona State University
Auburn University
Babson College
Baldwin-Wallace College
Boston College
Brandeis University
Brown University
Bucknell University
Canisius College
Carnegie-Mellon University
Case Western Reserve University
Catholic University
Central Florida
Clemson University
Colgate University
Columbia University
Columbus College of Art and Design
Cornell University
Dartmouth College
Denison University
DePaul University
Dickinson College
Drexel University
Duquesne University
Edinboro College
Elon University
Emerson College
Emory University
Fordham University
Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering
Gannon University
George Mason University
George Washington University
Georgetown University
Harvard University
Indiana University
Ithaca College
John Carroll University
Johns Hopkins University
Kent State University
Kenyon College
Lehigh University
Loyola University
Marquette University
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Mercyhurst University
Michigan State University
New York University
Northeastern University
Northwestern University
Penn State University
Providence College
Purdue University
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Robert Morris College
Rochester Institute of Technology
St. Bonaventure University
Sarah Lawrence College
Syracuse University
Temple University
Trinity College
University of Chicago
University of Colorado
University of Dayton
University of Kentucky
University of Miami
University of Michigan
University of North Carolina
University of Notre Dame
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pittsburgh
University of Rhode Island
University of Rochester
University of Southern California
Vassar College
Villanova University
University of Vermont
University of Virginia
U.S. Naval Academy
Vanderbilt University
Washington & Jefferson College
Washington and Lee University
Wheaton College
Wittenberg University
College of Wooster
Xavier University

An International Baccalaureate World School

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