

### SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY:

The Columbus School, founded in 1947, is a private, bilingual, college preparatory school governed by an appointed board of trustees. It is divided into Elementary School (K4-5), Middle School (6-8), and High School (9-12) with a total of 1,659 students. The school is located on a 46-acre campus in "El Alto de Las Palmas," a forty minute drive from Medellín.

The Columbus School is accredited by AdvancED (1963) and the Colombian Ministry of Education (1964). Both the US High School and the Colombian Bachillerato programs are offered and diplomas are awarded for each.

Our mission at The Columbus School is to contribute to the education of ethical and competent citizens of the world. We are founded on universal values and on international education with academic rigor based on high quality Colombian and United States accredited programs.

### OUR REASON FOR BEING:

### VISION 2020

In 2020 we will be one of the leading international education institutions in Colombia, recognized by our excellence in the command of English, global and critical thinking, and social and environmental responsibility, based on universal values.

### STUDENT BODY:

Currently there are 1688 students enrolled in the school: 426 in High School, 337 in Middle School, 925 in Elementary. This year's senior class has 118 students. The school celebrated the graduation of its first senior class in June 1964. Students are mostly Colombians, although there has been a recent influx of foreign students.

### HIGH SCHOOL FACULTY

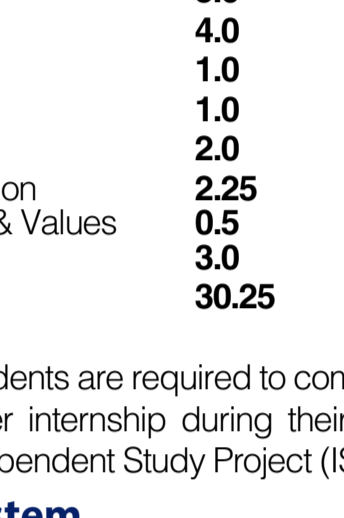
All members of the High School faculty hold university degrees. The average number of years teaching experience is 11. There are three Counselors, one being the College Counselor. The High School faculty consists of American, Canadian and Colombian teachers. The student/teacher ratio is 20:1. The student body comprises 98% Colombian, 1% United States and 1% other nationalities. There are 426 students in High School.

### COMMUNITY SERVICE:

The Columbus School is dedicated to promoting an attitude of service to the community through The Columbus School Foundation, in addition to the social service requirement stipulated by the Colombian Law of Education. To fulfill this graduation requirement all students must contribute 80 hours of community service. One of our most important social programs is Heroe Camina, in which our NHS students teach soldiers English for two hours a week and work with the soldiers that are victims of landmines, for an entire semester.

### MODEL UNITED NATIONS:

The Columbus School is the pioneer in Medellín in the Model United Nations program. Our program is called COSMUN. It is an extracurricular activity for students in grades 6 - 12. The goal is to develop and enhance communication and conflict resolution skills. Last year the school hosted its own COSMUN and also participated in national international MUN events.



### SPORTS:

Students may participate in the following coed team sports during the extra curricular sports activities of soccer, basketball, and volleyball. Additionally, the school offers Mountain biking, softball, baseball, roller skating, gymnastics, cheerleading, martial arts, and physical track, archery, theater.

The school has excellent sports facilities, which include 3 gymnasiums with basketball and volleyball courts, five soccer fields, a baseball court, a synthetic soccer court and a full size track.

### EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:

**Include:** Robotics, Music, Theater, French, Mandarin and Portuguese, Dance Academy, Archery, Astronomy, Yoga, and extracurricular sports activities.

**We also offer the following clubs:** Choir, Performing Arts, Construction, Rock Band, Tropical Dance, Scenography

### FINE ARTS:

The school has an art building with 3 art rooms, two band rooms, and a music room for choir. The building has a theater and a gallery. The school sponsors and promotes arts in its curriculum and extracurricular activities to encourage students to develop their artistic talents.

### AP CLASSES:

The Columbus School offers AP classes in Biology, Calculus AB, Calculus BC, Physics 1, Physics C, Chemistry, Environmental Science, World History, Human Geography, English and Spanish Literature, English and Spanish Language and Composition, Computer Science.

We also offer AP courses in through our Virtual High School Program.

### TECHNOLOGY:

Technology in our school covers a wide variety of areas such as design, 3D Modeling, engineering, multimedia, robotics and others. We work with advanced tools like Adobe Photoshop, Premier, Illustrator, Rhinoceors and Autodesk tools, as well as standard office related tools. In our technology classes and the elective classes, we work based on the ISTE Standards to continuously encourage our students to develop more critical thinking skills. Digital Audio Production, Business Technology, Technology and innovation and Hands On Engineer are more of our programs offered.

### Graduation Requirements and Curriculum:

#### Degrees Awarded:

U.S. High School Diploma  
Colombian Bilingual Bachillerato Diploma

English	4.0
Spanish	4.0
Social Studies	3.5
Mathematics	5.0
Science	4.0
Technology	1.0
Art or Music	1.0
Philosophy	2.0
Physical Education	2.25
Religion, Ethics & Values	0.5
Electives	3.0
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>30.25</b>

Additionally, students are required to complete a two week career internship during their Senior year called Independent Study Project (ISP).

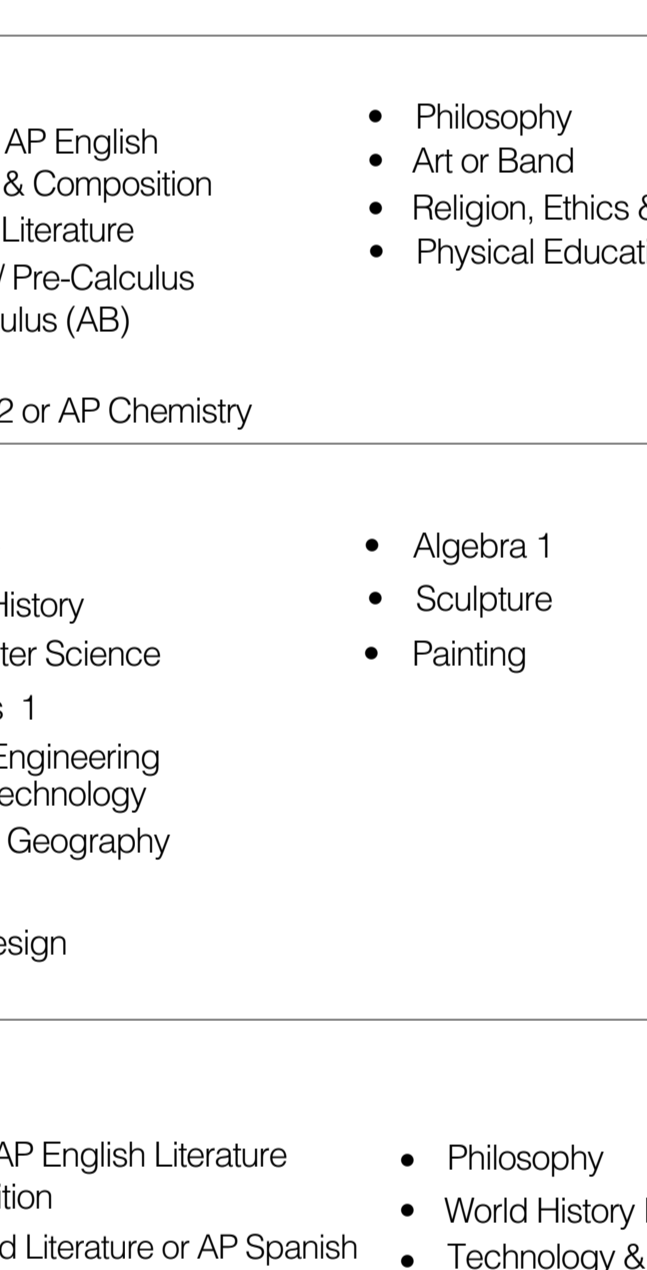
#### Grading System

The School year begins in August and ends in June with a minimum of 180 class days. The grading system under Colombian law is annual. Ranking class is cumulative with a weighted average as a basis. We are implementing SBG (Standard Based Grading)

For comparison with US public schools, and according to the Council of Foreign Education credentials the following scale is appropriate:

Columbus School Grading System High School	Equivalent Letter Grade	Grade to be given by The CS for GPA calculation (%)	Performance level (to be used when schools do not give a letter grade or percentage)
90-100%	A+	100 (97 - 100)	Student excels in demonstrating consistent learning and exceeding the benchmarks <b>Superior achievement</b>
	A	95 (94 - 96)	
	A-	90 (90 - 93)	
80-89%	B+	89 (87 - 89)	Student demonstrates consistent learning of the benchmarks, and understands and uses them independently <b>High achievement</b>
	B	85 (84 - 86)	
70-79%	B-	80 (80 - 83)	Student demonstrates inconsistent achievement of benchmarks <b>Basic achievement</b>
	C+	79 (77 - 79)	
	C	75 (74 - 76)	
65-69%	C-	70 (70 - 73)	Student demonstrates inconsistent achievement of benchmarks and minimal understanding of subject matter <b>Low achievement</b>
	D+	69 (68 - 69)	
	D	67 (66 - 67)	
65%	D-	65	Student does not demonstrate achievement of benchmarks and/or understanding of subject matter <b>Student does not demonstrate achievement</b>

Class of 2017 - % of Students at level



### COURSES OFFERED:

#### 9TH:

- English
- Spanish
- Algebra
- Technology
- Biology
- Physical Education
- World History
- Art or Band
- Geometry
- Physical Science
- Religion, Ethics & Values

#### 10TH:

- English
- AP Spanish Language & Composition
- Physics / Chemistry
- Geometry 2
- Social Sciences
- U.S. History
- Economy & Entrepreneurship
- Physical Education

#### Electives:

- Algebra 2 or Pre-calculus
- Introduction to Engineering
- Creative Desing
- Hand on Engineering
- VHS
- Anatomy & Physiology
- Seminar 20/20
- AP Computer Science
- Audiovisual Production

#### 11TH:

- English or AP English Language & Composition
- Spanish & Literature
- Algebra 2 / Pre-Calculus or AP Calculus (AB)
- Statistics
- Chemistry 2 or AP Chemistry
- Philosophy
- Art or Band
- Religion, Ethics & Values
- Physical Education

#### Electives:

- AP Biology
- AP World History
- AP Computer Science
- AP Physics 1
- Hands on Engineering
- Business Technology
- AP Human Geography
- VHS
- Creative Design
- Algebra 1
- Sculpture
- Painting

#### 12TH:

- English or AP English Literature & Composition
- Spanish and Literature or AP Spanish Literature Culture
- Calculus or AP Calculus (AB) or AP Calculus BC or Logical Reasoning
- Physics or AP Physics 1 or AP Physics C
- Philosophy
- World History III
- Technology & Innovation
- Physical Education
- Political Science

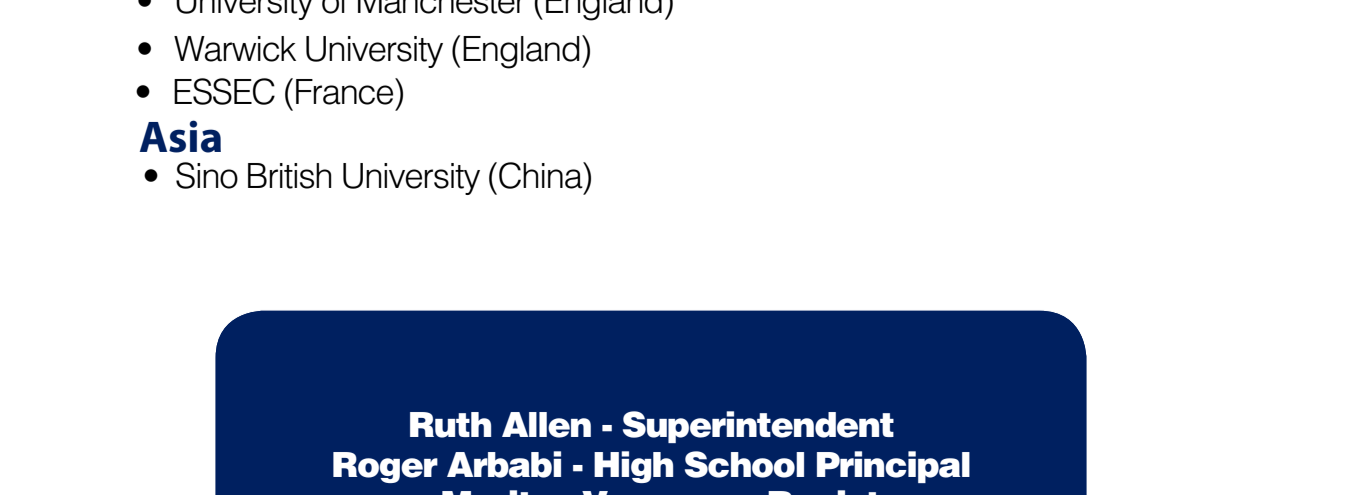
#### Senior Electives:

- AP Biology
- AP World History
- AP Human Geography
- AP Environmental Science
- AP Computer Science
- AP Chemistry
- Audiovisual Production
- Hands on Engineering
- Creative Design
- Business Technology
- Drawing
- Algebra 2/ pre-calculus
- Global Issues Seminar 20 - 20
- Sculpture
- Painting
- Choir
- VHS: AP Economics, AP Psychology, French Language and Culture, Portuguese 1, Latin 1, Biochemistry, Art History, Chemistry 11, Creative Writing

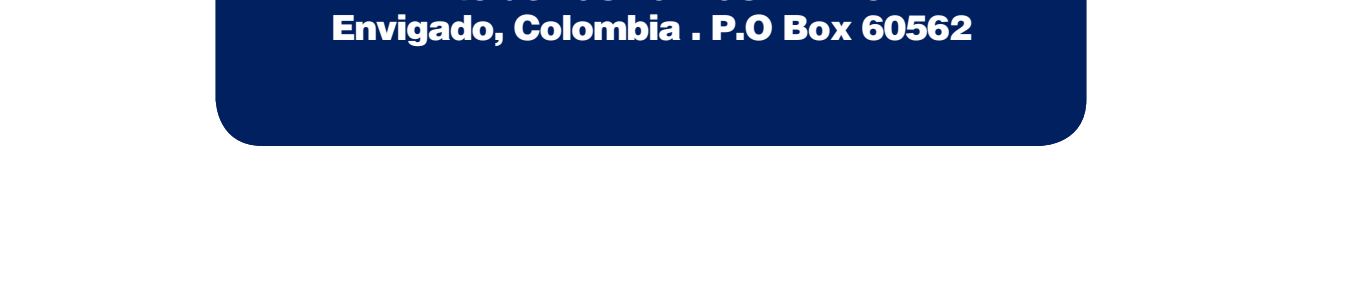
#### TESTING INFORMATION

ICFES: Seniors take the ICFES Exam (comprehensive university entrance examination given by the Colombian Ministry of Education) in March.

#### AP REPORT 2008-2017



#### % of Total AP Students with Scores 3+



#### AP Students with Scores 3+



#### Number of Exams AP



### COLLEGE SUMMARY

15 - 20% Seniors apply abroad. Columbus School graduates have been admitted to the following universities:

#### IN COLOMBIA

- AAA Academia Antioqueña de Aviación
- CEIPA
- CES
- CESA
- Colegiatura Colombiana de Diseño
- Corporación Universitaria La Sallista
- Eafit
- Escuela de Aviación Los Halcones
- Escuela de Ingeniería de Antioquia
- Universidad de Antioquia
- Universidad de Medellín
- Universidad de los Andes
- Universidad del Rosario
- Universidad Pontificia Bolivariana
- Universidad Pontificia Javeriana

#### ABROAD United States

- Bentley University
- Berklee College of Music
- Berkeley College
- Case Western University
- Chapman University
- Cornell University
- Drexel University
- Duke University
- Emerson College
- Fairleigh Dickinson University
- Florida Institute of Technology
- Full Sail University
- Georgia Tech
- High Point University
- Loyola Marymount
- Lynn University
- Miami Dade Community College
- Michigian State University
- Northeastern University
- NYU
- NYU Abu Dhabi
- Orange Coast College
- Pace University
- Purdue University
- Rollins College
- Stanford University
- Santa Monica College
- SCAD
- Stetson University
- St. Thomas University
- Suffolk University
- SUNY Plattsburgh
- Syracuse University
- Tufts
- UC Berkeley
- UC Davis
- UC Santa Barbara
- University of Chicago
- University of Delaware
- University of Indiana
- University of Miami
- University of Michigan
- University of Southern California
- University of Tampa
- University of Texas - Austin
- University of Virginia
- Worcester Polytechnic Institute

#### Canada

- Carleton University
- Brock University
- University of British Columbia

#### Central and South America:

- Universidad Zamorano
- Instituto Tecnológico de Monterrey

#### Europe:

- Durham University (England)
- Hult University (England)
- Instituto Europeo di Design (Italy)
- IE University
- Jacobs University (Germany)
- Richmond University (England)
- University of Manchester (England)
- Warwick University (England)
- ESSEEC (France)

#### Asia

- Sino British University (China)

**Ruth Allen - Superintendent**  
**Roger Arbabi - High School Principal**  
**Maritza Vanegas - Registrar**  
**College Counselor: María Teresa Mejía**  
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