

# MANCHESTER ESSEX REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

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## 2023 – 2024 SCHOOL PROFILE

Manchester Essex Regional High School (MERHS) provides a rigorous, well-rounded educational program in a learning environment that encourages individual growth and prepares all students for the diverse challenges of their futures. We want our students to be independent young adults who value integrity as well as the joy of discovery. To accomplish this goal, we require students to carry at least six courses, including a common core in English, math, science, and social studies. Students are encouraged to diversify their programs as much as possible around this core through a robust elective program. Finally, we ask our students to participate in at least one athletic and/or one extra-curricular activity and fulfill 40 hours of self-directed community service over a four-year period.

Total student enrollment is 412. There are 85 members of the Class of 2023 and over 50 full-time faculty. MERHS is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC).

### Post-Secondary Plans, Class of 2023

Pursuing higher education 84% Four-year institution  
83% Two-year institution 1% Military 1% Gap year 4%  
Employed 5% Undecided 6%

### 2023 Advanced Placement (AP) Results

141 students completed 355 exams with 82% of the scores at 3 or higher. MERHS offers open enrollment in all AP courses. A signed waiver is required to enroll in more than three AP courses in a year.

**Exam score 5 4 3** Studio Art 2D/3D Design 2 4 10  
English Language & Comp 6 12 12 English Literature & Comp 7 8 5  
Comparative Govt. & Politics 6 5 8 Psychology 10 5 7 US Government & Politics 8 8 11 US History 7 2 3 Calculus AB 5 3 4 Computer Science A 1 2 2 Statistics 6 12 6 Biology 6 4 10 Chemistry 3 4 4 Environmental Science 2 11 7  
Physics C: Mechanics 2 3 0 Physics 1 2 6 6 French Language & Culture 1 1 8 Spanish Language & Culture 6 4 3 Spanish Literature & Culture 1 2 2

### Standardized Testing Results

#### Class of 2023

Number of SAT students 72 SAT average combined  
1208 SAT average EWR 610 SAT average Math 598

Number of ACT students 8 ACT average composite 28

### Grade Point Average

MERHS does not rank students. The GPA is weighted on a 4.20 scale and includes all courses in which a student receives a final letter grade. The grading mode for Independent Studies, Teaching Assistants, Junior and Senior Fitness, and transfer courses is Pass/Fail. The 2020-21 academic year began on September 16 with synchronous, online instruction in line with recommended COVID 19 protocols. On January 25, the method of instruction moved to a hybrid model, and students had the option to return to school full time or remain remote. By April 9 at least 75% of our students returned to school in person. During the 2020-21 academic year, students were evaluated

through traditional means and received quarterly and final letter grades.

### Grading System AP Honors College Prep A+ 98 – 100 6.0 5.5 4.5

A 93 – 97 5.7 5.2 4.2

A- 90 – 92 5.4 4.9 3.9

B+ 87 – 89 5.1 4.6 3.6

B 83 – 86 4.8 4.3 3.3

B- 80 – 82 4.4 3.9 2.9

C+ 77 – 79 4.1 3.6 2.6

C 73 – 76 3.8 3.3 2.3

C- 70 – 72 3.5 3.0 2.0

D+ 67 – 69 3.1 2.6 1.6

D 63 – 66 2.8 2.3 1.3

D- 60 – 62 2.5 2.0 1.0

F 00 – 59 0.0 0.0 0.0

The complete [MERHS Course of Studies](#) is available for viewing online.

## Special Course Descriptions

**Authentic Science Research (ASR)** allows self-motivated students to pursue original and independent research under the mentorship of professional scientists and practitioners. In year one, students learn the process and methodology of science research. Year two is devoted to producing a professional research poster and delivering a presentation of the work in school and at the Southern New England Junior Science and Humanities Symposium.

**Debate** is offered through an introductory course, Evidence Based Argumentation, and through active participation and competition on the interscholastic debate team.

**Green Team** students serve as environmental stewards and change agents, partnered with a local community organization or business to address an environmental need and promote sustainable practices. Green Team students will have successfully completed Sustainability 101 prior to enrolling as a Green Team Apprentice or Scholar. This program is regularly recognized by the State of Massachusetts for excellence in environmental education.

**Individualized Learning Programs** are options for pursuing academic and/or career interests beyond the traditional curriculum. Teaching Assistants work with a classroom teacher planning and monitoring activities/assignments and assisting individual students. An Independent Study allows a student to pursue an academic topic of interest or research, coordinated with a supervising teacher and approved by the principal. Dual enrollment college-level courses may be awarded MERHS credit in place of or in addition to core requirements.

**Journalism** is an honors level elective that meets weekly to produce the school's award-winning newspaper, *The Independent*. Students complete an application and must receive a grade of B or higher in English the previous year.

**Senior Choice of Relevant Experience (SCORE)** is a five-week internship program releasing seniors from regular classes at the beginning of quarter four to explore potential career choices and academic pathways through full-time, hands-on experience under the supervision of a mentor in the field of choice. Final projects are prepared for presentation to peers and faculty members, and credit is granted upon successful completion.