



**Casco Bay High School**  
*For Expeditionary Learning*  
 A Portland Public School

196 Allen Avenue  
 Portland, Maine 04103  
 phone: (207) 874-8160  
 fax: (207) 797-5437  
<http://cbhs.portlandschools.org>  
 CEEB Code: 200804

**Casco Bay High School** (CBHS) is a small and rigorous public high school that reflects the increasing diversity of Portland, Maine (population: 64,000). Founded in 2005, CBHS is a school of choice for about 250 students (9-12). The Class of 2009 was our first graduating class, and 100% of our graduates were accepted to college. At Casco Bay, we challenge and support our students to become college-ready through our 3Rs: Rigor, Relevance, and Relationships.

Casco Bay High School is part of a national cohort of high-achieving, progressive and urban high schools in the Expeditionary Learning network ([www.elschools.org](http://www.elschools.org)). The Class of 2010 again exceeded city and state averages on the MHSA and SAT's. Maine's former Commissioner of Education, Duke Albanese, remarked, Casco Bay High School is "a maturing, innovative exemplar of what high school needs to be in these times for today's students."

**The Class of 2010**

- 50 Seniors
- 31% Free or Reduced Lunch
- 20% Students of Color
- 8% National Merit Recognized

**Curriculum**

CBHS students participate in a demanding, college preparatory curriculum. Students typically enroll in six, year-long courses that meet for nearly 90 minutes every other day. Additional support and accommodations are provided as necessary for our English language learners and special education students. 41 credits are required to graduate from all Portland Public Schools.

- Humanities courses (9-12) integrate English and social studies and meet daily.
- Our math program is inquiry-based and technology rich. Math 4 students have completed the equivalent of pre-calculus.
- Science courses are lab and field-based.
- French 1-5 and Spanish 1-5 emphasize oral proficiency.
- Honors (or "exceeds") work is available in each course. AP courses are offered on campus and online.
- Through our U. Start Ahead Program, upperclassmen are encouraged to take at least one college course before graduation.
- In Senior Humanities, students prepare for life after graduation and complete a customized senior project, the Senior Expedition.
- Crew is students' family during their time at CBHS. Crews and crew advisors meet 2 ½ hours weekly, focusing on holistic student development as well as college and career preparation.

<b>Graduation Requirements</b>	<b>Offerings and Typical Year of Enrollment</b>
English: 4 Years (8 credits)	Humanities 1 (9 <sup>th</sup> ), Humanities 2 (10 <sup>th</sup> ), Humanities 3 (11 <sup>th</sup> ), Senior Humanities or AP English (12 <sup>th</sup> ) or College Courses (11 <sup>th</sup> or 12 <sup>th</sup> )
Social Studies: 3 Years (6 credits)	Humanities 1 (9 <sup>th</sup> ), Humanities 2 (10 <sup>th</sup> ), Humanities 3 (11 <sup>th</sup> ), Senior Humanities, AP US History (12 <sup>th</sup> ), or College Courses (11 <sup>th</sup> or 12 <sup>th</sup> )
Math: 3 Years (6 credits)	Developmental Math, Math 1: Algebra and Statistics, Math 2: Probability and Geometry, Math 3: Quantitative Relationships (Algebra 2), Math 4: Pre-Calculus, Calculus or College Courses
Science: 3 Years (6 Credits)	Physical Science (9 <sup>th</sup> ), Biology (10 <sup>th</sup> ), Chemistry (11 <sup>th</sup> ), Physics (12 <sup>th</sup> ), AP Environmental Science (12 <sup>th</sup> ) or College Courses (11 <sup>th</sup> or 12 <sup>th</sup> )
Arts: 1 Year (2 Credits)	Visual Arts (9 <sup>th</sup> ), Arts Intensives or College Courses
Health: ½ Year (1 Credits) Physical Education: 1 Year (2 Credits)	Outward Bound Course (9 <sup>th</sup> ), Wellness (Health and PE, 10 <sup>th</sup> ), Casco Bay Quest (12 <sup>th</sup> ), Outdoor Leadership or Personal Fitness (12 <sup>th</sup> ) or PE Intensives



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**Learning Expeditions: Rigor, Relevance, and Relationships**

CBHS is intentionally small so that we can get to know each student deeply, and so we can better personalize instruction that will help students become their best selves. Our instruction is driven by Learning Expeditions that result in quality work about genuine problems for a real audience. Learning Expeditions are long-term, in-depth studies of a single topic that explore compelling social-justice questions, incorporate vital standards, involve fieldwork, and culminate in an authentic project, product or performance. The Class of 2010 completed an expedition last spring: "What is the impact of generation?" through an interdisciplinary investigation that included a public policy research paper, a presentation to a panel of experts, an action project and a week of building affordable housing in Mississippi.

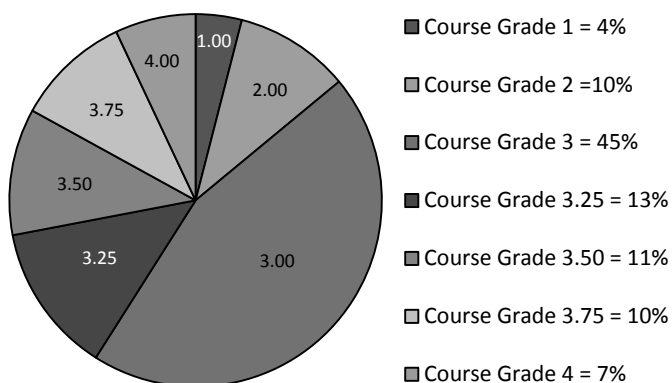
- Intensives - Compact expeditions where students complete specialized electives during one 30-hour week. Intensive offerings range from boat-building to biogenetics.
- Freshmen Outward Bound Expedition - A wilderness high school orientation conducted in collaboration with Outward Bound.
- Sophomore Passage - Public presentations when sophomores individually address who they are, how they're doing, and their plans for the future.
- Junior Year Internship - 30-hour internships in a career area of interest.
- Casco Bay Quest - A three night, four day expedition in kayaking and personal writing that launches senior year.
- Senior Expedition - A Senior Humanities expedition in which each senior designs and actualizes his/her own long-term project and formally presents his/her learning.

**Standards-Based Grading**

To earn credit at CBHS, a student must fundamentally master content, meeting each of ten to fifteen course standards. A course standard is a description of a learning target that can be achieved during a particular course; it represents the essential things that all students must know or be able to do in a course. CBHS does not rank students or weight GPA's.

- 1 = Does Not Meet the Standards
- 2 = Approaches the Standards
- 3 = Meets the Standards: *This is a rigorous standard and a passing grade.*
- 3.25 to 4 = Exceeds the Standards
- H = "With Honors": *This is earned with a trimester grade of 3.75 or higher.*

**Class of 2010 Course Grade Distribution (08-09)**



**Class of 2009 Junior SAT Scores**  
 (95% Participation)

Critical Reading: 485 Writing: 472 Math: 448

**The CBHS Faculty**

67% Hold Advanced Degrees, 100% Dedicated

**Co-Curriculars**

CBHS students participate in sports or activities offered at Deering or Portland High Schools. We also offer a variety of co-curricular activities on our campus, ranging from Model UN to Drama Club.

**College Acceptances**

Students in the Class of 2009 were accepted to 54 different post-secondary institutions, from highly selective private colleges to major public universities. 75 percent of the class were accepted to 4-year universities.

**"They say our school broke the mold, but I think we just made a new one."**

- Alex Lyscars, CBHS Class of 2009