



SCHOOL PROFILE 2026-2027

CEEB Code 060249

The Vanguard School is a tuition-free charter school with a classically based, college-preparatory curriculum designed to develop academic excellence, virtue, and leadership. The school's rigorous and meaningful program has led to being consistently highly ranked by *U.S. News and World Report*. In 2025, The Vanguard School was ranked the number three performing public high school in Colorado and the number one public high school in Colorado Springs. (The state of Colorado did not submit College Board data to *U.S. News & World Report* in 2026.)

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of The Vanguard School is to help guide students in development of their character and academic potential through academically rigorous, content-rich educational programs.

STUDENT BODY

For the academic year of 2025-2026, The Vanguard School enrolled 295 students in grades 9 through 12, and approximately 53 percent came from minority groups. 36 percent of our high school students qualified for free or reduced lunch. Students are enrolled according to priority grouping, and are sourced from fifteen school districts in and around Colorado Springs.

The teacher to student ratio is 1:10. Teachers are distinguished by their content knowledge, virtue, active citizenship, and dedication to securing the success of every student. Of our high school teachers, thirty-two percent hold advanced degrees.

CURRICULUM

Vanguard's coherent, classical, and content-rich curriculum challenges students to excel. The enduring principles of Western civilization undergird instruction. The teachers anchor students, investing in them an inheritance of ideas and stories that have shaped the Western world. Emphasis is placed on exegesis of primary sources, etymology and ancient languages, analytical thinking, and participation in the Great Conversation. The result is students who passionately pursue the good life.

CHARACTER EDUCATION

Excellence in virtue is the seed that bears success in all areas of life. Character development takes precedence at Vanguard and is the underlying current that integrates cross-disciplines. Students are challenged to live reflectively and intentionally in service to others.

CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

The expansive extracurricular activities offered at Vanguard provide students with the opportunity to develop their talents and interests and engage with faculty where common passions overlap. In addition to concerts, plays, musicals, art exhibits, and dances, there are over 25 clubs available, including National Honor Society, American Rocketry Challenge (ARC) club, student government, and Matchwits.

Each spring, students have the opportunity to participate in educational trips abroad. This cultural and educational experience profoundly enriches the lives of our students.

ATHLETICS

The Vanguard School offers interscholastic athletics for boys and girls in cross country, golf, tennis, soccer, volleyball, basketball, track, lacrosse (boys only), cheerleading, and flag football (girls only).

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Minimum Semester Credits for Graduation: 46

English	8	World Language	6
History	8	Fine Arts	2
Mathematics	8	Academic Electives	8
Science	6		

All students must complete Latin 1 in either junior high or high school.

The Vanguard School is known for its rigorous and demanding curriculum. To properly acknowledge the academic level of our course work, we weight Honors classes, CU Succeed Dual Enrollment classes, Advanced Placement classes, and Calculus III. Honors, CU Succeed, AP classes, and Calculus III are identified on transcripts and weighted appropriately.

GRADING SCALE

Grade	Un-weighted	Honors Weight	AP, CU Succeed, & Calc III Weight	Percentage
A	4.0	4.5	5.0	90-100
B	3.0	3.5	4.0	80-89
C	2.0	2.5	3.0	70-79
D	1.0	1.5	2.0	65-69
F	0.0	0.0	0.0	0-64

ACADEMIC STANDING

The Vanguard School does not report student rankings. The following grade distribution shows the range of cumulative weighted GPAs attained by seniors in 2026.

Scale	# of Students
4.0 and above	33
3.50 - 3.99	20
3.00 - 3.49	12
2.50 - 2.99	5
2.00 - 2.49	0
2.00 and below	0

STANDARDIZED TEST SCORE AVERAGES
SAT School Day

Class	% Tested	ERW	Math	Total Score
2027	96%	634	612	1246

ADVANCED COURSE OFFERINGS

Students who wish to take Advanced Placement classes must complete prerequisite classes with grades of B or higher, or with AP teacher approval. Freshmen were only eligible to take one AP class—AP Biology. Typically, all students who take an AP class must take the corresponding exam.

Advanced Placement Courses

Calculus AB	Drawing
Calculus BC	2-D Art & Design
Computer Science (added 26-27)	3-D Art & Design
Statistics	Biology
English Lang & Comp	Chemistry
English Lit & Comp	Physics 1
European History	Physics C: Elect & Magnetism
Microeconomics	Physics C: Mechanics
Psychology	French (added 26-27)
U.S. Gov & Politics	Spanish Lang & Culture
U.S. History*	Human Geography*
	*Not taught every year

113 students took a total of 343 exams in 20 AP subjects. Students earned a score of 3 or higher on 92% of exams.

AP Scholars	
Testing Year	2026
AP Scholars	21
AP Scholars with Honors	8
AP Scholars with Distinction	40
Total AP Scholars (Avg.)	69 (3.96)

Dual Enrollment Courses

CU Succeed Latin IV	CU Succeed Latin V
CU Succeed U.S. History**	CU Succeed African American His.*
CU Succeed American Military History*	

*Not taught every year

**CU Succeed US History was taught in lieu of AP US History in 25-26

Honors Courses

In addition to 22 AP courses, we offer 16 Honors courses

CLASS PROFILE

There were 70 graduates in the Class of 2026.
55 students matriculated to four-year colleges or universities
13 students matriculated to two-year colleges
2 students—gap year/employment/other

NATIONAL MERIT RECOGNITION—Class of 2026

National Merit Commended Students — 5
National Merit Finalist — 1
National Merit Finalist & Scholarship Winner — 1

COLLEGE MATRICULATION
Classes of 2022-2026

Based on declared enrollment and official final transcript submissions.

Adams State University	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Arizona State University	Rice University
Baylor University	Rochester Institute of Technology
Belmont University	Saint Leo University
Black Hills State University	San Diego State University
Boston College	Sarah Lawrence College
Boston University	Savannah School of Art & Design
Brigham Young University, Provo	South Dakota State University
Brigham Young University, HI	Stanford University
Brigham Young University, ID	Temple University
Brown University	Texas A&M University
Case Western Reserve University	The University of Texas, Austin
Cedarville University	The University of Texas, Dallas
Central Texas College	U.S. Military Academy West Point
Colorado Christian University	University of Arizona
Colorado College	University of Arkansas
Colorado Mesa University	University of California, San Diego
Colorado School of Mines	University of Central Florida
Colorado State University, Fort Collins	University of Colorado, Boulder
Colorado State University, Pueblo	University of Colorado, Colorado Springs
Cornell College	University of Colorado, Denver
DePaul University	University of Denver
Drury University	University of Jamestown
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, FL	University of Maryland
Emory University	University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Florida State University, Panama City	University of Michigan
Georgia Institute of Technology	University of Mississippi
Grinnell College	University of Missouri
Harding University	University of Nebraska
Hartwick University	University of Northern Colorado
Illinois Institute of Technology	University of North Florida
John Brown University	University of Notre Dame
Johns Hopkins University	University of Oklahoma
Kansas State University	University of Oregon
Le Tourneau University	University of Pennsylvania
Lewis and Clark University	University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras
London South Bank University, U.K.	University of Puget Sound
Louisiana State University	University of Tennessee
Maine Maritime Academy	University of Toronto
Marquette University	University of Tulsa
Metropolitan State University	University of Washington
Michigan State University	University of Wyoming
Michigan Technological University	Utah Valley University
Montana State University	Vanderbilt University
New Mexico State University	Wake Forest University
New York University	West Valley College
Northeastern University	Western Colorado University
Oral Roberts University	Western Washington University
Paul Mitchell School of Beauty, Colorado Springs	Westmont College
Paul Mitchell School of Cosmetology, Orlando	Wheaton College
Pepperdine University	Willamette University
Pikes Peak State College	York University
Purdue University	