



Jill Crafts, Head of School ~ x512 ~ jcrafts@risingtide.org
 Michael O'Keefe, Assistant Head of School ~ x511 ~ mokeefe@risingtide.org
 James Simons, Upper School Principal ~ x521 ~ jsimons@risingtide.org
 Maureen Chapman, Academic Director ~ x509 ~ mchapman@risingtide.org
 Meghan Foster, College & Future Planning Counselor ~ x588 ~ mfoster@risingtide.org

School Profile 2017-2018

59 Armstrong Road, Plymouth MA 02360
 P. (508) 747-2620 ~ F. (508) 830-9441 ~ www.risingtide.org
 CEEB Code: 221788

Accreditation: Massachusetts Board of Elementary and Secondary Education
 MA Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) Accountability and Assistance Level: **Level 1**
 Overall School Performance Relative to Other MA Public Schools in Same School Type: **95th Percentile**
 Recipient of Charter School Program Grant for Dissemination of Effective Practices

School Overview

Rising Tide Charter Public School (Rising Tide) is a college preparatory public school serving grades 5-12. Founded as a middle school by a group of Plymouth community members in 1998, Rising Tide expanded to include the upper grades in 2011. Rising Tide students in the class of 2018 will be the school's fourth group of high school graduates. Rising Tide is driven by its mission to provide a strong academic program rooted in the history of Plymouth, Massachusetts and cultivate within its students a sense of place and belonging. Rising Tide provides students with a structure of supportive relationships in a small-school environment that is physically, emotionally, and intellectually safe. In such a setting, students develop a love of learning and high achievement, take creative and intellectual risks, build increasing personal and academic responsibility, and develop an understanding of themselves and others.

Approach to Teaching and Learning

At Rising Tide, teachers use an inquiry and skills-based approach to foster personal and academic growth in students. This approach encourages students to reflect, take responsibility, ask questions, and think critically. Through curriculum design and implementation, Rising Tide fosters the development of skills, the exploration of content knowledge, and the deepening of understanding. The curriculum at Rising Tide is aligned with the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks, and guided by the school's Mission, the four Schoolwide Objectives and Benchmark Skills, the Grade Level Guiding Questions, and Essential Questions within each discipline. For further explanation of the curriculum at Rising Tide, please see the Program of Studies on the website.

Schoolwide Objectives and Benchmark Skills

Communicator	Self-Directed Learner
Receptive Skills	Self-Awareness Skills
Expressive Skills	Skills in Taking Responsibility

Investigator	Community Steward
Inquiry Skills	Skills in Awareness of Others
Innovation Skills	Collaboration Skills

Upper School Guiding Questions

Overall: Who am I?
 Grade 9: How can we recognize and demonstrate courage?
 Grade 10: How can we recognize and demonstrate integrity?
 Grade 11: How can we be mindful of and prepare for the future?
 Grade 12: What is my place in the world?

2017-2018 Student Enrollment

Total Enrollment, Grades 5-12: 664
 Upper School Enrollment, Grades 9-12: 298
 Size of Senior Class: 72

2017-2018 Upper School Teaching Faculty

Student-Teacher Ratio: 10:1
 Teachers with Advanced Degrees: 70%

Class of 2017 (69 Students) Test Scores

SAT class participation: 96%

SAT Scores	EBRW	Math
RT 75th Percentile	650	610
RT 50th Percentile	590	550
Rising Tide Mean	597	566
MA Mean	553	550
National Mean	538	533

SAT Subject Tests	AP Exams
Class participation: 23%	Class participation: 45%
(16 students completed 36 tests)	(31 students completed 67 tests)
615 Average Score	3.12 Average Score

Class of 2017 National Merit Scholars

1 National Merit Scholar Commended Student

Class of 2017 Graduates

College-Bound: 94%
 Attending 4-Year Colleges: 91%
 Attending 2-Year Colleges: 3%
 Career, Military, Gap Year: 6%

Graduation Requirements

Twenty-eight (28) credits are required for graduation from the Upper School at Rising Tide. Full-year courses are one (1) credit; semester courses are a half (.5) credit.

Unique to Rising Tide, the Arts is considered a core discipline that supports student growth toward the Schoolwide Objectives and Benchmark Skills.

Each student must meet the Competency Determination standard set by the Massachusetts DESE in English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science & Technology/Engineering. Students must also complete a semester of Physical Education each year.

Core Courses

Arts	3 credits
English	4 credits
Mathematics	4 credits
Science	4 credits
Social Studies	3 credits
World Languages	3 credits in one language

Schedule

The Upper School operates on a four-term rotating block schedule. Students are expected to take eight (8) courses per semester. Each day consists of four (4) 85-minute blocks with courses meeting on alternate days.

Program Rigor and Grading

All students are held to high standards and are provided with a rigorous program. We consider the majority of the courses at Rising Tide to be honors-level courses in comparison with courses at traditional public schools in the region; however, courses at Rising Tide are not leveled and therefore have no designated level on the transcript.

Each student is able to participate in more rigorous course pathways in Mathematics, Science, and Latin. A student may also choose to participate in courses that extend beyond the minimum graduation requirements of a discipline, and choose elective courses that demonstrate individual interests.

A student's grade point average (GPA) is not weighted, and students are not ranked. A grade of B+ or above exceeds standard expectations for a course. All completed core and elective courses, for grades 9-11, are included in the GPA.

Grading Scale

A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+
4.0	3.7	3.3	3.0	2.7	2.3
C	C-	D+	D	D-	F
2.0	1.7	1.3	1.0	0.7	0

Additional Program Components

Academic Support

All students are provided two 45-minute blocks each week in which they can meet with faculty members for additional support or extension. During the block, students can engage with teachers in one-on-one work or small-group practice and exploration; students can also engage with one another through peer tutoring or academic collaboration. Academic Support is not a credit-bearing course.

Advisory Program

Each student has a faculty Advisor, the primary advocate for the student within the school. Students meet in grade-level Advisory groups of around 12 students two to three times a week. In Advisory, students explore a curriculum connected to a Guiding Question that addresses orientation to the school, student skills, community-building, wellness, and service learning. Advisory is not a credit-bearing course.

Elective Courses

Each student can select up to three semester-long elective courses per year. Offerings are based on faculty expertise. Fall 2017 elective offerings are the following courses: Astronomy, Author Study: M. Robinson, Bioethics, Chamber Ensemble, Child Dev, French 1A, German 1A, Greek Tragedians, History of Food, Human Physiology, Lit Study: Jane Eyre, Marine Bio, Music & Western Soc, Nonfiction Storytelling, Paleobiology, Playmaking, Public Speaking, Robotics, Rocketry, Slavery & the Civil War, Sociology, Vis Art: Portfolio, West African Dance, and Women in Latin America.

Internship Course

Seniors can participate in a semester-long course that combines academic, skills-based learning with an internship in the field of their choice. Fall 2017 placements are with the following organizations: Congressman Bill Keating, Cozby & Co. CPAs, Destination Plymouth, DJX, the *Duxbury Clipper*, the Hoxie Center, Long Pond Physical Therapy, PACTV, Peter McMahon CPA, Pilgrim Memorial Hall, Pine Hills LLC, the Plymouth Antiquarian Society, Plymouth Sheriff's Department, South Shore Resource and Advocacy Center, and the Whale and Dolphin Conservation.

Physical Education

Each student participates in a semester-long fitness course each year at Plymouth Fitness, a local fitness club and partner organization. Students rotate through modules within the course, including HD Fitness, Spinning, and Pilates, with a focus on setting and achieving individual fitness goals. Fitness is a credit-bearing course.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Athletics

Rising Tide is a member of the Cape & Islands League within the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA). The Rising Tide Herons compete at the varsity level in baseball, basketball, cross country, golf, soccer, softball, and tennis. As of 2017-2018, students also compete at the varsity level in football and hockey cooperatives.

Clubs

Each student can participate in the following 2017-2018 clubs: Chess, Community Action, Current Events, Dance, Debate, Gaming, Junior Classical League, Model UN, Music, National Honor Society, Newspaper, Philosophy, Rising for Equality, Science, Student Government, and Yearbook.

Theater Productions

Rising Tide runs two to three after-school theater productions per year and is a member of the MA Educational Theater Guild. Recent productions include *Twelfth Night* and a student-written production, *L.I.O.N.H.E.A.R.T.*

College Acceptances for the Class of 2016, Class of 2017

Adelphi University	Hofstra University	Skidmore College
Allegheny College	Holyoke Community College*	Smith College
American Academy of Dramatic Arts	Ithaca College	Southern New Hampshire University
American International University London	James Madison University*	Springfield College
Anna Maria College*	Johnson State College	SUNY Morrisville State
Arizona State University*	Juniata College*	Stonehill College*
Assumption College	Keene State	Suffolk University*
Bard College*	La Grange College	Syracuse University
Bay Path University	Lasell College*	Towson University
Becker College	Lawrence Technological University*	Trevecca Nazarene College*
Bentley University*	Lesley University*	Unity College*
Boston College*	Lynchburg College	University of California Berkeley
Boston University	Maine College of Art	University of California San Diego
Brandeis University	Maine Maritime Academy	University of California Santa Barbara
Brenau University	Marquette University	University of Connecticut
Bridgewater State University*	Massachusetts College of Art & Design*	University of Delaware
Brown University*	Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts*	University of Hartford
Bryant University	MCPHS University*	University of Maine*
Bryn Mawr College	Massachusetts Maritime Academy*	University of Maine Fort Kent*
Cape Cod Community College*	McGill University	University of Mary Washington
Carnegie Mellon University*	Merrimack College	University of Maryland Baltimore County*
Catholic University	Mitchell College	University of Massachusetts Amherst*
Champlain College	Murray State University	University of Massachusetts Boston*
Clark University	New England College	University of Massachusetts Dartmouth*
Coastal Carolina University	New York University	University of Massachusetts Lowell
Colby-Sawyer College*	Newbury College	University of Michigan*
College of Charleston	Northeastern University*	University of New England*
College of Wooster	Ohio University*	University of New Hampshire
Colorado College	Paul Smith's College	University of North Carolina Asheville
Connecticut College	Pennsylvania State University	University of North Dakota
Curry College*	Pine Manor College*	University of Rhode Island*
Dean College*	Providence College	University of Richmond
Delaware Valley University*	Purdue University	University of Tampa
Drexel University	Quincy College*	University of the Sciences
Eastern Nazarene College	Quinnipiac University	University of Vermont*
Eckerd College	Reed College	University of Washington
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University*	Regis College*	Ursinus College
Emerson College	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	Virginia Tech
Emmanuel College	Rhode Island School of Design	Wellesley College
Endicott College	Rochester Institute of Technology	Wells College
Fisher College	Roger Williams University	Wentworth Institute of Technology*
Fitchburg State University*	Rutgers University	Westchester Community College*
Flagler College	Saint Anselm College	Westfield State University*
Florida Institute of Technology	Saint John's University	Westminster College
Framingham State University*	Saint Joseph's College (Maine)*	Wheaton College*
Franklin Pierce University*	Saint Michael's College	Wheelock College*
George Mason University	Saint Olaf College*	Wilson College*
Gettysburg College*	Salem State University	Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Gordon College	Salve Regina University*	Worcester State University
Goucher College	Savannah College of Art and Design	Xavier University
Hampshire College	Seton Hall University	
Haverford College*	Simmons College	

*Denotes matriculation